

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of August 15, 2002

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Clarence Gieck, Greater Los Angeles Solid Waste Management Association
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
John McTaggart, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Ben Wong, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Fred Leaf, represented by Virginia Maloles, County of L.A. Dept. of Health Services
James A. Noyes, represented by Mike Mohajer, County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works
Jim Stahl, represented by John Gullede, County Sanitation Districts of L.A. County
Judith Wilson, represented by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ginger Bremberg, General Public Representative
Ron Deaton, City of Los Angeles
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Ed Shikada, City of Long Beach
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Melinda Barrett, County of L.A. DPW	Damian Skinner, Culver City
George De La O, County of L.A. DPW	Denisse Salazar, County of L.A. DPW
Tess Da Silva, SCS Engineers	Philip Tamayo, City of Pico Rivera
Carolyn Meredith, City of Pasadena	Cynthia Vanthul, City of Claremont
Mike Miller, Alternate, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division	Nicole Williams, County of L.A. DPW
Mary Goytia Strauss, City of La Canada Flintridge	

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 18, 2002, were approved as presented.

III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Clarence Gieck reported on the Public Education and Information Subcommittee meeting held earlier in the day. At the meeting, Subcommittee members discussed articles for the upcoming edition of *Inside Solid Waste*. Mr. Gieck stated that the new look of *Inside Solid Waste* is receiving positive comments. Additionally, the publication is now more reader friendly, and the question and answer section has become an effective way to dispense information in a readable yet informative format.

IV. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON AB 939 REGIONAL AGENCY FORMATION

Ms. Karen Coca stated that the final version of the Regional Agency agreement is being prepared and will be sent to jurisdictions for approval. Ms. Coca also stated that the City of Los Angeles will begin preparing the agreement for the approval process, and the City plans that the document will go before the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) by the end of 2002. Ms. Coca reported that it appears that approximately 25 to 35 jurisdictions will initially join the Regional Agency. However, the number cannot be better established until approvals of the agreement are received.

Ms. Coca also reported that Enrique Zaldivar has been appointed the new Assistant Director at the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Paul Alva distributed an updated legislation summary table (see attached) and stated that there were several bills for the Task Force to consider.

! AB 1482-Introduced by Richman

This Bill would have limited the penalty that could be imposed on a Regional Agency to \$10,000 per day. However, the Bill was amended to make the penalty

equivalent to the sum of the penalties that can be imposed on each member (\$10,000 per day) of the Regional Agency.

Mr. Alva stated that AB 1482, which the Task Force opposed in its current version, passed through the Senate. Task Force members added that the Bill allows a Regional Agency to decide how the fine will be apportioned to its members.

! AB 2308-Introduced by Chavez

Currently, all inert waste “disposed” at unclassified landfills that do not have a Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) is not counted as disposal for measuring AB 939 compliance. However, inert waste at unclassified landfills with a SWFP is counted as disposal for the same purpose. This spot Bill would address the inconsistency by allowing the exclusion of inert waste disposed of at an existing or former mining operation where the disposal occurs pursuant to an approved reclamation plan. Therefore, inert waste taken to these facilities would not be counted as “disposal.”

! AB 2770- Introduced by Matthews and Bogh (see attached)

This Bill would require zero emissions from conversion technology facilities, categorize materials managed through conversion in excess of the diversion credit limits as disposal even when these materials are returned to the marketplace in the form of useful products, require the up-front removal of “compostable materials...to the extent feasible,” and mandate flow control as a condition for granting a Solid Waste Facility Permit to conversion facilities.

Task Force members expressed concern that these changes would make it virtually impossible to develop viable alternatives to landfilling. Members stated that the terms “marketable,” “feasible,” and “compostable” are not clearly defined and could severely limit the availability of feedstock for conversion technologies. Members also expressed concern that consideration is being given to removing the ten percent diversion credit for conversion.

A motion was made for the Task Force to withdraw support for AB 2770 and write a letter stating that if these concerns are not significantly addressed, the Task Force will oppose AB 2770. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Alva also noted that SB 1526 and SB 1587 introduced by Senator Romero in response to the State Auditor’s Report, which the Task Force has opposed, were placed on the suspense file.

The Task Force also discussed SB 1882. Mr. Alva stated that the current version only

calls for a study of diaper recycling and does not divert money from the California Beverage Container Recycling fund. A motion was made to take a neutral position on the SB 1882. The motion passed unanimously.

VI REPORT FROM THE CIWMB

Mr. Steve Uselton presented a summary of the Biennial Review status (see attached) stating that the CIWMB has approved Biennial Reviews for approximately 172 jurisdictions statewide that have met, or exceeded, 50 percent diversion or were approved for good faith efforts. Mr. Uselton also stated that about 44 requests for time extensions were approved, and three jurisdictions received approval for an alternative diversion requirement. Mr. Uselton also stated that 29 Los Angeles County jurisdictions were approved for meeting or exceeding the diversion requirement or good faith effort.

Mr. Uselton also discussed the Electronic Annual Report stating that notices have been mailed to each jurisdiction to inform jurisdictions that the 2001 Electronic Annual Report (EAR) is online, however the EAR calculator function is temporarily unavailable due to the pending release of the Board of Equalization's complete 2001 taxable sales data. The CIWMB will announce when the EAR calculator is functional and will then announce the due date for the Annual Reports.

VII.UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION/INERT DEBRIS REGULATIONS

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that the revised Construction and Demolition/Inert Debris Regulations exempt public works projects. Mr. Mohajer also noted that grading activities that have the approval of the local building official have been addressed in the revised regulations. Additionally, the revised regulations state that if material remains at a processing facility beyond a certain number of days, it will be considered disposal only for the purpose of nuisance abatement. It will not be counted as disposal against the jurisdiction for the purpose of measuring waste diversion for AB 939. Mr. Mohajer stated that the revised regulations have addressed previous Task Force concerns, and he noted that Allison Reynolds of the CIWMB has been very responsive to local government concerns in regards to the regulations.

VIII. UPDATE ON AQMD PROPOSED RULE

Mr. George De La O provided an update on the proposed Rule 1133. Mr. De La O stated that the purpose of the Rule is to reduce the ammonia and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from being emitted from composting facilities. Mr. De La O reported that the AQMD Board met on April 5 and accepted their staff's recommendations to proceed with regulations and establish a Technical Advisory

Committee. The Board also directed staff to split the regulations into four components. Currently, Rule 1133 focuses on administrative requirements, 1133.1 focuses on chipping and grinding facilities, 1133.2 focuses on green waste composting operations, and 1133.3 focuses on co-composting operations. In addition, the Board directed staff to keep them updated by reporting through their Stationary Source Committee, evaluate odor impacts, and define emission factors and emission inventory numbers to ensure that there is no double counting.

Mr. De La O also stated that under the Rule, existing and new facilities would be subject to a one-time registration, annual reporting requirements, PM-10 controls, and all applicable AQMD rules, regulations, and permit conditions. New co-composting facilities with capacity greater than 100,000 tons per year, must enclose the facility for active composting and use aerated static pile for the curing process. Green waste composting facilities will be subject to a one-time registration, annual reporting requirements, PM-10 controls, and AQMD rules, regulations, and permit requirements. Chipping and grinding facilities will be subject to a one-time registration fee, annual reporting, PM-10 controls, and holding time restrictions.

Mr. De La O stated that the proposed Rule excludes woodchipping and grinding facilities as well as backyard composting, demonstration centers, community composting, and nurseries. However, the Rule would subject chipping and grinding facilities to holding time restrictions.

Mr. De La O stated that the AQMD Board informed stakeholders about the revisions to the Rule on May 2 and is taking comments for the regulations. The AQMD also informed stakeholders that it will provide workshops for jurisdictions to help with implementation. The public hearing for this Rule is estimated to be held in December 2002.

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Task Force members requested that the Sanitation Districts deliver a presentation to the Task Force regarding the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is tentatively set for September 19, 2002.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

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Attach.