

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

Minutes of June 15, 2006

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Greig Smith, City of Los Angeles
Mark Waronek, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Dr. Bruce Chernof, rep. by Ken Murray, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Health Services
Gerry Miller, rep. by Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jim Stahl, rep. by John Kilgore, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep. by Jay Chen, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Don Wolfe, rep. by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Christine F. Andersen, City of Long Beach
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Rita Robinson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Siya Araumi, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles Task Force Alternate
Diego Cadena, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division Alternate
Louis Morales, City of Commerce
Mark Patti, City of Santa Clarita
Subodh Sinha, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Michael Sullivan, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

Ms. Margaret Clark introduced Mr. Mark Waronek, from the City of Lomita, who was appointed by the League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division, and Ms. Nicole Bernson who was appointed by the City of Los Angeles to be the alternate for Mr. Greig Smith.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2006

A motion to approve the minutes of May 18, 2006, was made. The motion passed unanimously.

III. COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS UPDATE ON MEASURE E-KEEP KERN CLEAN INITIATIVE

Mr. Michael Sullivan, from County Sanitation Districts, provided the update on Measure E, the ballot initiative that would ban the land application of biosolids in the unincorporated area of Kern County. Mr. Sullivan stated the initiative passed with 87 percent of the vote.

Mr. Sullivan provided a brief history of the biosolids issues in Kern County. He explained that biosolids facilities operated in remote, primarily agricultural areas. In 1999, an ordinance for a three-year phase-out of Class B land application was passed. Currently, there are only three operating biosolids land application sites. Within the last two years, there has been a fair amount of litigation, proposed ordinances, and State legislation, but not any concrete results. Measure E targets biosolids sites in the unincorporated areas of Kern County. Biosolids can still be taken to facilities located within incorporated cities.

The current members of Kern County's Board of Supervisors are opposed to biosolids. A discussion on the impact of where the City of Los Angeles and County Sanitation Districts will manage their biosolids ensued, which included existing facilities/sites in Kings and San Bernardino counties as options in the discussion.

IV. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Martin Aiyetiwa stated that on June 7, 2006, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) overturned a County Regional Planning Commission decision and voted 3 to 2 in favor approving a replacement Conditional Use Permit for the operation of Sunshine Canyon Landfill by Browning Ferris Industries, Inc. (BFI). With this approval, BFI will be able to

operate Sunshine Canyon Landfill as a combined City/County landfill for a period of up to 30 years. The permit will also allow BFI to increase its daily tonnage from 6,000 tons per day to 12,100 tons per day in either City or County areas when the landfill is operating as a combined City/County landfill.

Among other things, BFI also agreed to the following terms in the new permit: to maintain the site's environmental control systems in perpetuity; establish a \$1 per ton fund for the benefit of the neighboring community; allot \$0.50 per ton for traffic mitigation studies; pay a fee of \$0.25 per ton for additional waste diversion programs in the unincorporated County areas; provide \$200,000 a year which will be used towards assisting the County for developing an alternative technology facility. The permit also includes a \$0.50 per ton fee for natural habitat mitigation. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the adequacy of the permit's closure, post-closure and corrective action requirements.

V. REPORT FROM THE CIWMB

Mr. Steve Uselton was not able to attend today's meeting and an update from the Waste Board will be provided at next month's meeting.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Siya Araumi provided status on the following Legislative Bills ([see attachment](#)):

- AB 1966-Introduced by Garcia

This Bill would allow electricity producing power plants that utilize various renewable energy resources to qualify for Capital Investment Incentive funds. However, the latest Bill amendment specifically deletes municipal solid waste conversion technologies from qualifying for this incentive.

A motion was made to send a letter of opposition unless the Bill is amended to include the conversion technology language. The motion passed, with Mr. Jay Chen abstaining.

- AB 2118-Introduced by Matthews

This Bill is a conversion technology "spot bill" and is now in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. Staff will continue to monitor the status of this Bill, and update the Task Force.

- AB 2449-Introduced by Levine

This Bill would require a large grocery store to have an in-store recycling program that allows customers to bring in their plastic bags for recycling. Concerns with jurisdiction reporting, existing laws, the definition of "recycling program," and the redundancy of existing programs implemented by local jurisdictions were discussed. A motion to send a letter of opposition was made. The motion passed, with Mr. Jay Chen abstaining.

Mr. Araumi stated the Legislature would be in recess from July 7 to August 7, 2006. Ms. Betsey Landis requested that staff provide an update and a copy of AB 2144, introduced by Montanez, at the next Task Force meeting.

Mr. Mohajer provided status on the following bills:

- AB 1688-Introduced by Niello

This Bill would amend the Penal Code to authorize illegal dumping officers to use the power of arrest on illegal dumpers. The training of the officers was extensively discussed. A motion to send a letter of support for AB 1688 was made. The motion passed, with Mr. Jay Chen abstaining.

- AB 2211-Introduced by Karnette

This Bill would authorize the Waste Board to fund the cleanup of a publicly owned solid waste disposal sites, in addition to non-publicly owned sites, if it determines the public entity lacks the resources or expertise for the cleanup. The Bill would also allow funding to be used for cleanup of urban runoff from storm drains. The current program funding of \$5,000,000 would remain the same, as would the California Integrated Solid Waste Management Fee of \$1.40 per ton. A motion to watch this Bill was made. The motion passed unanimously.

- SB 1305-Introduced by Figueroa

This Bill, if passed, will take effect on September 1, 2008. It prohibits people from throwing sharps (hypodermic needles, syringes, or lancets) into their waste containers or recycling bins. Discussion ensued. A motion to send a letter of support was made. The motion passed unanimously (Mr. Carlos Ruiz being temporarily absent).

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2006 at 1 p.m.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mike Mohajer made the following suggestions for the next Task Force meeting:

- Invite Mr. Ben Wong to a future Task Force meeting, to recognize him for his years of service with the Task Force.
- Arrange a presentation/update from the California Air Resources Board regarding trash truck emissions and their diesel engines and the report that was released in June 2006.
- Set up a presentation and a summary of Bills related to green building.

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.