

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

**Minutes of August 15, 2013**

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association (Formerly GLASWMA)  
Eugene Sun, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:**

Grace Chan, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Mitchell Englander, rep by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles  
Gail Farber, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep by Pete Oda, County of Los Angeles Department of  
Public Health  
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep by Ed Pupka, South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.  
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department  
David Kim, City of Los Angeles  
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles  
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Becky Bendikson, SCL-CAC  
Frank Chin, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Apollo Fraicany, CalRecycle  
Maria Hernandez, CSC  
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC  
Mika Yagi Kim, Gensler  
Krishna Nand, Environmental Management Professionals  
Primotivo Nunez, CalRecycle  
Mark Patti, City of Santa Clarita  
Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts  
Chris Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Bereket Tadele, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 18, 2013, MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion passed with one abstention from Eugene Sun.

**III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported the subcommittee considered two articles for the next edition of the Inside Solid Waste Newsletter. He would also like staff to include the following articles in the next edition as well: Paint Stewardship Update, Carpet Stewardship Update, Sunshine Canyon Landfill Update, Odor Recommendations-Task Force Comments, AB 32 Scoping Plan with Task Force Recommendations, Proposed MRF Standards, Composting Regulations, Siting Element Update, City Los Angeles Alternative Technology Program Update, Christmas Tree Recycling Program, Legislative Table, and Regulatory Update. Mr. Mohajer stressed that he would like Public Works to ensure the quarterly ISW issues are completed in a timely manner.

**IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY PLAN & REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)**

Ms. Betsey Landis reported on the presentation of Sunshine Canyon Landfill made by the Landfill's General Manager, Mr. Anthony Bertrand, which covered status of re-vegetation, odor control measures, and SCE's plan to use methane to generate electricity. She also summarized Staff's report on re-vegetation efforts and the efforts of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Interagency Task Force to implement odor mitigation measures at the Landfill. Ms. Landis also reported the subcommittee reviewed an amendment to the Non-disposal Facility Element (NDFE) for the City of Glendale. At the recommendation made by Staff, Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter of appreciation to the City for submitting the NDFE and request the facility owner/operator to submit monthly reports on a quarterly basis to the Department of Public Works to track the flow of materials to the Glendale Recycling Center. Mr. Mike Mohajer seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. A brief report on the Countywide Siting Element (CSE) was given stating the County Board of Supervisors approved a three year contract with a consultant to assist and support the CSE document and CEQA process.

**V. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)**

Mr. Coby Skye reported that the subcommittee received the following three presentations: (1) Back to Earth Technologies developed a system to produce bio plastics from organic materials and are developing a pilot project; (2) City of Los Angeles' presented their curbside residential green waste collection RFP. They are seeking innovative ways to manage the material; and (3) Waste Management's partnership with the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County to deliver 84 tons per day of source-separated food waste as slurry to the waste water treatment plant in Carson to mix with raw sewage to be treated at the anaerobic digestion system there. It will be a two-year pilot program.

**VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Chris Sheppard presented the [attached Legislative Summary](#) and reported on the legislative bills listed below.

AB 1126 – There have been two revisions to the bill (1) clarifying that the tires and biomass will not be included in the per capita disposal rate calculations and base rate calculations of the bill and (2) adding a provision that once solid waste is converted at a transformation facility and meets the new requirements of the EMSW, those facilities will be considered EMSW facilities. This could affect existing waste to energy facilities that process less than 500 tons per day. Because the bill doesn't address any of the Task Force's recommended changes, staff recommends the Task Force maintain its position of oppose. The Task Force also sent a letter to all the cities in Los Angeles County encouraging them to also send a letter of opposition to this bill. To date, the Cities of Torrance, Vernon, and Whittier have also sent letters of opposition. Mr. Mike Mohajer requested the Task Force receive a copy of the city letters and stated the bill was a step back for conversion technologies.

SB 254 – The bill has been amended adding a representative from local government to a consulting group that would work with mattress stewardship organizations to develop a take-back plan; however, the local government representative would have no voting rights. The bill was also amended to state that only permitted facilities would be required to accept mattresses. This addresses the Task Force's concern with the previous requirement that all solid waste facilities accept mattress. The Task Force's concerns with the visible fee and bug-contamination were not addressed. Staff suggested the Task Force continue its position to oppose unless amended.

Mr. Mike Mohajer brought forth SB 731 and requested it be added for discussion at the next meeting. The bill promotes infill development and transportation. Mr. Wayde Hunter inquired about SB 804 and asked if the Task Force should send another letter. Mr. Skye noted the bill was recently amended, and the Task Force agreed another letter should be sent.

#### **VII. 2012 COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Joe Bartolata provided the attached [presentation](#) on the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, 2012 Annual Report. Mr. Mohajer added that because of the franchise agreements the County and cities have with waste haulers, it's the responsibility of the haulers to dispose of the waste, and local jurisdictions do not control where the waste is disposed. This should be considered in the County's disposal plans, and discussions should take place to see what their disposal options are as well.

#### **VIII. CALRECYCLE**

Mr. Primitivo Nunez reported the following:

- The 2012 AB 939 annual report was submitted by most California jurisdictions. To date only 20 reports are outstanding and only four of those are from Los Angeles County. CalRecycle staff will review the reports and comment back to local jurisdictions as necessary. Addition follow up will be done for Mandatory Commercial Recycling activities and jurisdictions' efforts to comply with the law.
- The new 303 Forms are now available online from August through October only. A training webinar on how to complete the Form is available on the CalRecycle website.
- CalRecycle will be hosting a Public Meeting on August 20. Public Meetings will be held on a monthly basis and will inform the public of upcoming pending decisions, updates on projects, and opportunity for public comment. One specific item on the August 20 agenda will be consideration of approval of the California Carpet Stewardship Plan (CSP). CalRecycle has received the annual report for the California Carpet Stewardship Program, and the Plan and annual report are available on CalRecycle website.
- The Used Oil Life Cycle Analysis webinar will be held on August 22.
- HHW Grant Program – Workshop will be held on August 28 in Sacramento from 1 to 5 p.m. The 2013-14 HHW grant awards will be announced in October.

- A Tire Incentive Program meeting will be held on September 17 in Sacramento.
- The Waste Management Sector Scoping Plan workshop will be held on September 17 in the afternoon in Sacramento, hosted by CalRecycle and the Air Resources Board. The draft Plan documents will be available.
- The next HHWIE will be hosted by the City of Culver City on September 26.
- Used Oil payment awards for Fiscal Year 2013-14 will be announced in September.
- The 2013 HHW training conference will be held from October 28 through October 31 and will be hosted by CalRecycle and DTSC.
- Jurisdictions are encouraged to visit the CalRecycle grant website.

Mr. Mike Mohajer commented that the Task Force sent a comment letter to CalRecycle regarding the AB 341 plan and report over a year ago and, to date, the Task Force has not received a response. The question of stakeholders having the opportunity to review the draft report before it is submitted to the State Legislature needs to be answered.

He also stated that the Waste Management Sector Scoping Plan workshop falls on the same day as the opening of the annual SWANA conference, so many Task Force members won't be able to attend the workshop. However, he commended the City of Los Angeles for its comments on the draft Scoping Plan, which has been posted on CalRecycle's website and suggested for members to read the City's comments. Mr. Mohajer also asked if AB 341 requires jurisdictions to submit a summary of their mandatory commercial recycling activities in their AB 939 annual reports beginning 2012 or if that is a requirement imposed by CalRecycle. Mr. Nunez explained the regulations took effect July 1, 2012, so whatever activities by a jurisdiction took place after that date should be included in its annual report with the understanding that not all jurisdictions were able to implement a program by the end of that year. Finally Mr. Mohajer requested that a summary of CalRecycle programs be sent to the Task Force to be published in the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Betsey Landis expressed a complaint on the lack of response she received from staff after inquiring about the Task Force's level of involvement with the Calabasas Landfill with regard to a letter she received from County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky ([copy attached](#)) and her subsequent request to have the item placed on this month's Agenda. She again asked that the item be placed on the

next agenda along with a discussion on the staff responsiveness as well as the process for Task Force members getting items placed on the agenda.

Ms. Landis also brought forth the [attached article](#) regarding radioactive demolition material being disposed at local landfills by Boeing and a subsequent lawsuit filed by Consumer Watchdog and Strumwasser & Woocher LLP against the Department of Substances Control and the Department of Public Health. She asked that this item be placed on the next meeting agenda to discuss if Task Force involvement is necessary. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz stated the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board is the lead agency on the Santa Susana Field Laboratory cleanup project and recommended a Regional Board member come to address their involvement in the project.

#### **X. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2013, in Conference Room C; however, many members may not be available, so a determination of a quorum will be made to determine if the next meeting will be canceled.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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