

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

Minutes of August 21, 2014

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
Mayor Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Gail Farber, rep by Pat Proano, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep by Jeanee Biehler, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Chan, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep by Ed Pupka, South Coast Air Quality Management District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lena Wiegand, CalRecycle
Primitivo Nunez, CalRecycle
Kevin Best, Real Energy
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Karlo Manalo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Anna Gov, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
David Coscia, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Curtis Williams, City of Santa Clarita
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC

Stephen Betz, Real Energy
Jon Emerson, City of Redondo
Cesar Leon, Tetra TechBAS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:08 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 17, 2014, MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the June 19, 2014, minutes as corrected. The motion passed with two abstentions from Mr. Chris Salomon and Mr. Sam Perdomo.

III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported that the next Inside Solid Waste newsletter will be coming out by the end of next week. It will include articles on AB 1126, update on CalRecycle, Green Leadership Awards, HHW campaign, Waste Free Future, Legislative Update Table, and the City of Santa Clarita's website page. For the October articles, there is the EPR update, the US EPA's proposed regulations regarding methane and other emissions at landfills, updates on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, Chiquita Canyon Landfill expansion, and the Golden Place project, Thanksgiving holiday information, America Recycles Day, Holiday messages, the Task Force seminar on organic waste management as well as conversion technology, the legislative table, and specific articles on AB 1826, AB 1954, and an article on Athens proposed recovery facilities.

IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Coby Skye reported that the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ATAS) had a short meeting. Mr. Skye shared that Senate Bill 498 passed both the Assembly and Senate and it's on its way to the Governor. Governor Brown has 30 days to sign it into law. Ms. Margaret Clark commended Public Works staff on their hard work. Mr. Mike Mohajer added that this is only one small step forward and staff will need to continue with all efforts. We just can't sit back and say "mission accomplished." Mr. Pat Proano commented that Senator Lara, who is the author of SB 498, has taken a lot of interest and is willing to carry additional legislation in the future if needed. Per Mr. Skye, a sample letter of support for SB 498 is available on the www.SoCalConversion.org website, and

both organizations and individuals were encouraged to send letters to the Governor.

The ATAS also talked about other bills related to organics. Lastly, Mr. Skye reported that the ATAS received a presentation from Mr. Miguel Zermeno on an item on the City of Los Angeles' Public Works agenda related to the SERRF waste to energy plant in Long Beach. There is interest by the City of Los Angeles to see if they can develop a partnership with the City of Long Beach and the County Sanitation Districts regarding the use of SERRF and potentially utilizing the air pollution control technology from Green Conversion.

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

Ms. Betsey Landis reported that the FPRS had a long discussion on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed Irwindale Materials Recovery Facility and Transfer Station (MRF/TS). Ms. Landis made a motion to send a letter to the City of Irwindale regarding the Revised Draft EIR for the Proposed Irwindale MRF/TS, Mr. Mohajer seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Ed Pupka abstaining.

Ms. Landis also reported the FPRS considered the Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Five-Year Review Report (Five-Year Report). Based on comments received on the Five-Year Report, there were major revisions made in the following two areas:

- Revised disposal tonnage and population data from 2012 to 2013 figures.
- Highlighted the regional and City efforts regarding conversion technology, alternative technology, and household hazardous waste.

Ms. Landis made a motion to accept the Five-Year Report as revised, Mr. Mohajer seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Pupka, Mr. Chris Solomon, and Ms. Jeanee Biehler abstaining.

Ms. Landis gave an update on the odor complaints received at Sunshine Canyon Landfill. In comparison with June, the number of odor complaints received by the South Coast Air Quality Management District in July increased by 196 percent (from 28 to 83 complaints). Compared to July of 2013, the number of complaints in July 2014 increased by 28 percent (from 65 to 83 complaints).

Ms. Landis reported that the revegetation working group met on August 12, 2014, to discuss ongoing revegetation efforts at Sunshine Canyon landfill. Growth of vegetation in the Sage Mitigation Pilot Project Area was doing well. Ms. Landis

also reported that the 2nd Quarter, 2014 Vegetation Report was still being finalized by Republic Services, Inc.

Ms. Landis also gave an update on the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element. Ms. Landis reported that staff is considering updating the base year of the Preliminary Draft Siting Element from 2010 to 2013 and will also consider the changes and impacts of pending and future legislation and regulations.

VI. REVISED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED IRWINDALE MRF AND TRANSFER STATION

See item V. Report from the Facility Plan & Review Subcommittee.

VII. UPDATE ON THE COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT

Mr. Patrick Holland provided an update to the Task Force on the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (Siting Element). Mr. Holland stated that the Initial Study and Notice of Preparation (NOP) were circulated to Responsible Agencies for review on June 16, 2014, and the comment period ended on July 28, 2014. Six scoping meeting were held throughout Los Angeles County. Staff received comments on the Initial Study and NOP from the Task Force as well as the following nine agencies: County of Los Angeles Fire Department, County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, California Native America Heritage Commission, Southern California Association of Governments, and Southern California Edison.

Mr. Holland mentioned that these comments will be considered when preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), which is currently being developed by the County's consultant HDR Engineering, Inc. Mr. Holland re-stated plans to update the Siting Element to change the base year from 2010 to 2013, as well as take into consideration new legislation and regulations. Staff will submit the Preliminary Draft Siting Element and the DEIR to the Task Force, and is anticipated to be released for public review in Spring 2015.

Mr. Mohajer expressed concern over the impacts of the legislation, specifically AB 1826, which would dramatically reduce disposal of organics at landfills and the impacts this may have on the Preliminary Draft CSE and the Draft EIR. Mr. Mohajer stated that while revisions to the Preliminary Draft Siting Element are being made such as changing the base year from 2010 to 2013 and considering the impacts of AB 1826, the preparation of the DEIR should be put

on hold. However, Mr. Mohajer suggested staff to consult with County Counsel on this matter. Mr. Proano concurred to place the preparation of the DEIR on hold pending the preparation of the Preliminary Draft CSE Update to address the issues brought up by Mr. Mohajer. Additionally, in response to Mr. Proano's question to Cesar Leon of Tetra Tech, Mr. Leon indicated that he does not see any problem with delaying their activities in preparation of the DEIR pending preparation of the Update.

Ms. Reina Pereira inquired if the Task Force will be given additional time to review the Preliminary Draft Siting Element before the release of the DEIR. Mr. Holland clarified that as soon as the update to the Preliminary Draft Siting Element is completed, both the Preliminary Draft Siting Element and DEIR will be provided to the Task Force for review prior to its release for public review. Ms. Pereira made a recommendation that the Preliminary Draft Siting Element be reviewed by the Task Force separately prior to the release of the DEIR.

VIII. DRAFT TASK FORCE LETTER ON THE CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL EXPANSION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Mr. Carlos Ruiz recapped previous discussions regarding the Task Force's draft letter commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for proposed Chiquita Canyon Landfill expansion project. Mr. Ruiz mentioned staff circulated the draft letter and received comments from Task Force members. Staff incorporated these comments into the draft letter and forwarded it to the Task Force members on August 15, 2014 for their review. Staff is now seeking the Task Force's approval to send the letter.

Mr. Ruiz briefly discussed key points of the letter, which required the DEIR to provide in-depth discussions substantiating the need for expansion of the landfill and address impacts from various legislative proposals and statutes already in effect. Mr. Ruiz mentioned the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update would phase out organic material from landfills and affect the projection of waste disposal at landfills. The letter also addresses the need for infrastructure to assist local jurisdictions with managing the organic materials.

After further discussion, Mr. Mohajer made the motion to approve the letter, and Mr. Solomon seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Pupka abstaining.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Coby Skye provided the following legislative update:

AB 1094 - This bill will phase out the diversion credit for green waste used for alternative daily cover by 2020. The Task Force had taken an oppose position on. If it makes it to the Governor, the Task Force will send a letter based on the prior position.

AB 1699 - This bill would regulate the sale of products containing plastic microbeads. The language has been changing, and it's recommended to watch this bill.

AB 1826 – This bill would establish a mandatory organics diversion program similar to AB 341's mandatory recycling program. The bill has gone to the Governor and it is very likely the Governor will sign it.

SB 270 – This bill would establish a prohibition on single-use plastic bags similar to the Ordinance adopted by Los Angeles County, City of Los Angeles and dozens of other cities and counties in the State. The bill is now with the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Staff will continue to monitor this bill.

SB 498 – This bill would include thermal conversion technologies in the definition of biomass conversion, thereby allowing cleaner non-combustion technologies to be used to make fuel or energy from biomass materials. A letter was prepared in support of the bill based on the Task Force's support.

SB 1014 – This is a bill related to pharmaceuticals, it was originally a producer responsibility bill. The author, Senator Jackson, attempted to pass a watered down version of the bill related to the Federal Regulations on pharmaceuticals, but there were a lot of concerns on the voluntary program that would be established by the bill, as a result the author decided to pull the bill entirely and will be introducing an EPR bill next year.

AB 2371 – Mr. Mohajer recommends a watch position on this bill. This bill would additionally exclude from the definition of "pharmaceutical waste," for purposes of regulation under the act, any over-the-counter human or veterinary drug or dietary supplement that is, among other things, characterized and managed as a hazardous or solid waste and, with respect to an over-the-counter human or veterinary drug, is not disposed of on land within the state.

X. CONSIDERATION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT WITH COMMENTS RECEIVED

Mr. David Coscia updated the Task Force regarding the comments received to date on the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Five-Year Review Report. As a result of comments received, two major changes were made: updating figures to 2013 disposal reporting numbers, and including additional information about regional efforts and efforts by cities, as appropriate. Those and other minor changes were incorporated into the latest version of the report and to the discussion items.

A motion to accept the Five-Year Report as revised, passed during Ms. Landis' FPRS Task Force update (see Item V).

XI. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Lena Wiegand reported on the following:

- The 303 reporting has been open since August 2, 2014, and will be closed October 1, 2014.
- There will be a Tire Workshop on October 21, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Sacramento.
- The Illegal Disposal Site Abatement Grant Program will open November 5, 2014, and February 4, 2015.
- The Waste Tire Clean Up Grant will open October 2014.
- The Rubberized Pavement Grant Program tentatively be open on September 2014

Lastly, the Southern California HHW Information Exchange meeting is on August 27, 2014, in Anaheim from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mr. Mohajer welcomed Ms. Wiegand to the Task Force.

XII. UPDATE ON PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM IN RELATION TO LA COUNTY HHW PROGRAM

Ms. Armine Kesablyan reiterated to the Task Force her previous updates on the Paint Stewardship Program. Ms. Kesablyan mentioned it's been six months since the County has been in partnership with PaintCare and staff has monitored the process through our programs and is happy to report that from March to June there has been a cost reduction of approximately \$200,000.

Ms. Kesablyan presented the [attached](#) slide, which illustrates the way the Paint Stewardship Program works. The partnership does not increase the County's liability.

XIII. UPDATE ON MATTRESS EPR PROGRAM

This item was postponed for next month.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Kevin Best of Real Energy had a public comment. Mr. Best introduced himself and his company and wanted to make three points.

1. Charging the taxpayer rather than the generator may not only be inefficient but unfair.
2. Real Energy is developing four organics management plants, and hopes to receive materials from 14 existing transfer's stations that represents over 20 cities.
3. Money has never been an issue, prices are reasonable.

Real Energy is designing organic transfer stations that are located at existing transfer stations.

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2014, in the Conference Room B.

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

fm

P:\epub\EA\EA\TF\TF\Minutes\2014 Minutes\TF Minutes August 21 approved