

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

Minutes of January 26, 2017

County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles
1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Pedroza, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Craig Beck, rep by Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department
Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Maurice Pantoja, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles
County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Joe Vitti, SCL-CAC
Wayde Hunter, SCL-LEA
Jeanne Biehler, LA County LEA
Kumari Gossai, LA County LEA
Suk Chong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Saeid Shirzadega, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Caren Alvarez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Trishena Robinson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Esparza, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Michael Harmon, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:13 p.m. by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 20, 2016

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Mohajer and seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis to approve the October 20, 2016, minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis provided an update on the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. Ms. Landis reported that the agenda had many concerns related to Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill (SCL) most of which were a continuation of problems in progress. Ms. Landis also stated that Los Angeles County Department of Public Health issued a notice of violation to Republic Services on November 9, 2017, requesting them to correct the odor problem at the Landfill by March 30, 2017. Republic Services was also required to submit a corrective action plan to Public Health by January 15, 2017, which was submitted to Public Health on January 13, 2017. Ms. Landis made a motion to have the Task Force request staff to review the corrective action plan, prepare comments or recommendations, if necessary, and circulate a comment letter to the Task Force members for approval before sending the letter to Public Health. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer and passed unanimously.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Gabriel Esparza provided the Subcommittee with a brief overview of AQMD's Final Order for Abatement for the Landfill. The Abatement Order was voted on by the AQMD Hearing Board on December 15, 2016, and was signed on January 10, 2017.

The Abatement Order is intended to help reduce air emissions impacts to the nearby communities, implement steps to reduce any public health impacts that may exist, and alleviate odors.

Some of the main conditions the Abatement Order requires the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Owner and Operator, Republic Services, to comply with, are the following:

Regarding Hours of Operation at the Landfill, the Order:

- Prohibits the dumping of transfer trailer loads from all Republic Services transfer stations and from all third parties, including the City of Los Angeles, from occurring before 9am.

- Requires Republic Services to submit a Traffic Mitigation Program to address the traffic potentially resulting from the change in the operational hours.
- Requires Republic Services to provide funding for independent third party odor monitoring near the Van Gogh Elementary School between 6am through 9am.
- Requires Republic Services to submit (within 45 days of the Order) a proposed plan to prohibit the unloading of route collection trucks at the Landfill from 6am to 9am.

The Order requires Republic to implement a Food Waste Diversion Program for the purposes of increasing the diversion of such disposal at the Landfill.

Regarding Landfill Cover, the Abatement Order requires

- Republic to continue the use of the Alternative Daily Cover throughout the duration of the approved pilot project period, which began back in October 2015.
- Republic shall implement the intermediate cover enhancement demonstration project, which proposes the use of a spray-on Posi-Shell material on identified intermediate cover Grid locations.
- The Order also requires Republic to Implement the intermediate cover enhancement demonstration project, which proposes the use of a spray-on Posi-Shell material on identified intermediate cover Grid locations.
- Republic must also submit a proposal for other methods of upgrading and improving the intermediate landfill cover.

The Order requires Republic to dewater the landfill gas collection wells impacted by liquids.

Republic Services must conduct integrity testing of all vertical gas wells at the Landfill, and correct any wells identified as ineffective

Republic Services must submit a proposal for additional best management practices to control and treat fresh trash odors as well as conduct a feasibility study on installing physical barriers and dust/odor containment structures.

Mr. Esparza also stated that a draft Task Force letter, commenting on the Final Order of Abatement, was circulated to the Task Force Members for review and comment. Comments were received and the letter was finalized and sent to the AQMD Hearing Board on January 25, 2017.

Mr. Esparza also provided an update on the following items Board of Supervisors' Memo and Report filed on October 27, 2016, Los Angeles City Council's Motion Approved on October 11, 2016, Department of Regional

Planning (DRP) Notice of Violations (NOV) issued on October 25, 2016, and Department of Public Health (DPH) NOV issued on November 9, 2016. Mr. Esparza stated on October 4, 2016, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a motion regarding the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) odor nuisance, and directed the DPH, and DRP, in consultation with County Counsel, and Department of Public Works (DPW), to investigate actions and conditions the Departments can take to address the odor nuisance impacting the surrounding communities of the Landfill. The Motion directed DPH and DRP to report back to the Board with findings and recommendations. The Departments reported back to the Board in reports dated October 27, 2016 and November 10, 2016. In general, the reports provided some background information on the SCL, descriptions of the regulatory authorities of DPH, DPW, and DRP, DPH's determination that the odor problem at the Landfill and surrounding community represents a nuisance affecting the health and well-being of residents, and provided a summary of recent actions and steps taken by the Departments to address the odor nuisance.

Mr. Esparza also stated that two of the main action items reported to the Board, included an issuance of an Order to Abate issued by DPH to Republic Services and DRP issuance of a NOV to Republic Services on October 25, 2016. Mr. Esparza stated that the NOV issued by DRP was based on a referral made by DPW, due to Republic Services lack of response to odor mitigation requirements imposed by DPW in a letter dated March 30, 2016. Subsequently, on November 8, 2016, Republic Services requested an extension from DRP to comply with the violation notice. On, November 9 and 28, 2016, DPW and Republic Services met to discuss the pending items from the March 30, 2016 letter. DRP denied Republic Services request for an extension on January 10, 2017. On January 25, 2017, Thomas M. Bruen, law firm counsel to Republic Services sent a letter to DRP appealing the NOV and Request for a Hearing.

Mr. Esparza also stated that as a result of the County's October 4, 2016, Board Motion, on October 11, 2016, the City of Los Angeles City Council passed a motion for the City Attorney, other City of Los Angeles Departments, and the Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency to provide assistance as necessary in support of the County's inquires on public health relative to the SCL and to look into other possible action.

Finally, Mr. Esparza stated that on November 4, 2016, the City Council passed another motion requesting the City of LA Bureau of Sanitation to prepare an RFP for alternative disposal sites, and to report to the City Council with an Alternate Disposal Plan, so the City may be prepared in the event of a CUP Revocation by DRP. The Motion also requested the City Attorney to advise on legal recourse for the surrounding communities suffering from odors. Lastly, staff has reached out to the Bureau of Sanitation for a status and is awaiting their response.

V. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR)

Mr. Saeid Shirzadegan reported on the Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL) DEIR. Mr. Shirzadegan stated that the current CUP expired in June 2016. On March 17, 2016, the Director of Regional Planning issued a Clean Hands Waiver permit, allowing CCL to continue operations until July 31, 2017. On July 10, 2014, Department of Regional Planning (DRP) released the initial DEIR for public comments. The Task Force provided comments to the DEIR to DRP on August 25, 2014.

Mr. Shirzadegan stated that due to new or clarified information, DRP recirculated six chapters of the DEIR to the public on November 9, 2016. Those chapters are Introduction, Project Description, Biological Resources, Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emission and Climate Change, and Project Alternatives. The Task Force provided comments to the new Partially Recirculated DEIR (PRDEIR) on January 9, 2017, which are as follows:

Chapter 1: introduction:

- Update introduction Chapter to address SB 32 and SB 1383.
- Incorporate discussion on how Proposed Project meets siting criteria specified in June 1997 Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element.
- Clarify in the PRDEIR that the Project will not be accepting any solid waste from sources out of Los Angeles County for disposal.

Chapter 2: Project Description:

- Clarify that the maximum elevation of 1,573 feet includes the final cover.
- Identify materials that are proposed or may be prohibited from being accepted at the Landfill.
- Include description on how radioactive waste and odiferous loads will be checked and screened.

Chapter 11: Air Quality:

- Change references from the “California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB)” to CalRecycle.
- Discuss how odors will be managed and contained if the practice of peeling back of daily cover is practiced. Elaborate on measures to prevent odor nuisances.

Chapter 18: Project Alternatives:

- If the landfill's operation and working face are visible, include comments addressing the significant and unavoidable impact. Visual Resources impacts are not less than significant, but they are significant and unavoidable.

Mr. Shirzadegan also provided the CEQA schedule for projects, which are as follows:

- November 9, 2016: DEIR Released for Public Review
- February 16, 2017: Publish FEIR
- March 1, 2017: Regional Planning Commission Hearing #1, the RPC Hearing date has been scheduled for March 1, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at Rancho Pico Junior High School in the City of Stevenson Ranch.
- April 2017: Regional Planning Commission Hearing #2
- July 2017: Appeal to Board

Finally, Mr. Shirzadegan provided an update on the Board motion regarding CCL. On November 1, 2016, the Board of Supervisors, by motion, instructed DRP, in consultation with County Counsel and the Department of Public Works (DPW) to review the Conditional Use Permit for the CCL and identify any and all Conditions of Approval and enforcement tools to eliminate landfill odors migrating beyond the property boundary and impacting the surrounding communities, and instruct the DRP, DPW, and Department of Public Health to report back to the Board in 30 days with findings and recommendations. County staff prepared a report which states that based on the information received from AQMD, there is no history of significant odor complaints and or violations. County staff submitted the report to the Board and it was filed on December 1, 2016. Task Force questioned the statement on "significant odor complaints".

VI. SCHOLL CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Saeid Shirzadegan reported on the Scholl Canyon Landfill. Mr. Shirzadegan stated that the LEA received a 5-Year Permit Review application from the Scholl Canyon Landfill Operator for review on July 18, 2016. Also, on December 13, 2016, the LEA sent a letter to CalRecycle regarding the findings of the 5-Year Permit Review Report, in which the LEA has concluded that the facility is in compliance with the state minimum standard for Solid Waste Handling and that the operator is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the Solid Waste Facility Permit.

Mr. Shirzadegan also stated that the LEA also required the applicant to submit an application for Report of Facility Information Amendment, which will be used to

incorporate updates submitted by the operator to the 5-year review report and the JTD. Some of the information requested in the RFI are updated traffic patterns for the access road to the site and disposal area, current elevation for the site, and update the handling of odorous green load. According to LEA, based on their finding of the 5-year review application, there is no need for a permit revision.

Finally, Mr. Shirzadegan provided a status on the proposed expansion at Scholl Canyon Landfill; he stated that the Draft EIR for the Landfill was released on April 1, 2014. Comments were received and LACSD has completed preparation of written responses to the DEIR comments. Further action on the EIR is pending review by the City of Glendale and a decision on the project by the City Council. Staff will monitor the news and notify the Task Force of any new information once it becomes available.

VII. UPDATE ON CALABASAS LANDFILL FINDING OF CONFORMANCE

Mr. Michael Harmon provided an update on the Calabasas Landfill Finding for Conformance (FOC). Mr. Harmon stated that staff previously reported that the LEA issued a revised Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) for the Calabasas Landfill on April 4, 2016, and it was determined that an FOC is required for the Calabasas Landfill. In mid-August 2016 the Sanitation District had submitted the County Wide Siting Element Facility Siting Criteria Evaluation checklist form and provided hard copies of additional supporting information. Mr. Harmon stated that Staff has completed the review of the Calabasas Landfill FOC package and expect to put the item on the next Task Force meeting agenda for consideration.

VIII. UPDATE ON AB 901

Mr. Russell Bukoff provided an update on AB 901: new reporting requirements for recyclers, composters, and solid waste facilities. Mr. Bukoff stated that CalRecycle published a second draft of Regulations to the public on November 4, 2016; CalRecycle held a teleconference on November 22, 2016, between themselves, the Sanitation Districts, the Task Force, and the Department of Public Works; and held two workshops on December 12 and 13, 2016. CalRecycle addressed many concerns of meeting participants, such as the Task Force's concern that counties be able to collect information from recycling and composting operations, and transporters and brokers. It is stated in Section X.1 Scope and Purpose that "Nothing in this Article shall prevent an agency, district, jurisdiction, or CalRecycle from requiring a Reporting Entity to supply additional information on activities related to disposal, diversion, composting, or recycling based upon their own authority to impose requirements.

Mr. Bukoff also stated that the Task Force also sought clarification on how CalRecycle plans to define an “end user” with respect to recyclable and compostable materials. Mr. Bukoff stated that in the regulation end user categories include producers of intermediate and finished products, users of energy, fuel, and chemicals, consumers, and land application and fill. End users can be reported individually, or as a group. For example, an end user can be reported as “100 small producers of finished products.”

Finally, Mr. Bukoff stated that these were the last informal workshops CalRecycle will be holding. CalRecycle will be sending out surveys to Counties and facilities to help them develop reporting forms that will best capture disposal/recycling data. Mr. Bukoff also stated that Public Works has received and submitted a survey for the County. Mr. Bukoff also stated that the formal rulemaking process is projected to be completed by 2018 and the online reporting system will be developed in 2018.

After an extensive discussion in regards to the Task Force’s concerns over AB 901, Ms. Betsey Landis made a motion to have staff review letters previously sent to CalRecycle to determine if issues surrounding the transportation of green materials affected by pests and pathogens from quarantined areas have been addressed, and address other concerns identified at today’s meeting in a letter to CalRecycle, if applicable. For example, the draft regulations state that self-haulers would be required to report the origin of waste/recyclable materials they are handling and its source sector. Based on industry experience, it would be difficult for self-haulers to record and report on source sector information. The motion was seconded by Ms. Margaret Clark and passed unanimously.

IX. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Caren Alvarez gave an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached [legislative table](#). Ms. Alvarez stated that there are a number of bills today but staff makes no recommendation for action at this time as many of the bills are either spot bills or early in their development. She also stated the last day to introduce bills will be Feb. 17, 2017.

AB 18 (Garcia) – California Clean Water, Climate, and Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018: with voter approval would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3 billion to finance programs that create new and improve existing parks and recreation areas. Specifically, \$50 million for projects that provide feedstock for compost, energy, or alternative fuel facilities, and \$10 million for projects that improve carbon soil sequestration.

AB 96 (Ting) – Budget Act 2017: makes appropriations for 2017-18. Over \$100 million appropriated to CalRecycle for Waste Reduction and Management from several funds.

AB 151 (Burke and Cooper) – California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: a spot bill with intention to safeguard the Cap-and-Trade emission control program in the future.

AB 178 (Eggman) – California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act under “finds and declares” would remove the reference to “experience in this state and others”. Appears to be a spot bill for now.

SB 5 (De Leon) – California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018: with voter approval would authorize issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3 billion. This bill has the same language as AB 18 but with different funding appropriations.

SB 53 (Hueso) – Natural Gas Vehicles: would adopt a vehicle weight exception for natural gas vehicles up to 2,000lbs which is already adopted by the federal Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 but only applies to federal interstate highways.

SB 60 (Glazer and McGuire) – Beverage Containers Recycling: would exempt from the requirement that each convenience zone be served by at least one certified recycling center if one of the specified criteria is met.

SB 72 (Mitchell) – Budget Act 2017 makes appropriations for 2017-18. Over \$100 million appropriated to CalRecycle for Waste Reduction and Management from several funds.

SB 168 (Wieckowski) – Beverage Containers Reporting - would explicitly authorize CalRecycle to require the information to be submitted electronically.

Mr. Mike Mohajer requested that AB 33 also be included in the legislative table and Mr. Ron Saldana requested that more information be provided for AB 53.

X. TASK FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE CLARIFICATION

Mr. Carlos Ruiz reported on this item. Mr. Ruiz stated that there is a lot of activity in terms of regulations and the new legislative session, and some situations have arisen with regard to complying with the Brown Act in the sending of letters. For example, if a letter/comment is due prior to the next Task Force meeting, he asked if the Task Force would grant delegated authority for the Chair/Vice Chair, under defined parameters, to review and comment on the document or

request an extension so that the Task Force could consider the item, take action, and offer comments.

Also, based on Task Force direction, when the Task Force has already adapted a position on an issue or bill, staff normally prepares follow up correspondence, circulates the draft letter for Task Force review, and then forwards the letter to the appropriate agency. Now, there are some situations such as when a bill is moving through committees and shows up on a committee schedule, and it's essentially the same bill and position the Task Force has already taken, but because of timing it would not be possible to send the draft letter out to the members for review. In these unusual instances, Mr. Ruiz asked if the Task Force would delegate authority to the Chair/Vice Chair to send a letter out stating the Task Force position or providing comments (as established previously by the Task Force) to meet the committee deadline without the customary review of the draft letter?

Ms. Julia Weismann, County Council, was in attendance and stated the Task Force has the authority to send out letters with a consistent position. After an extensive discussion, Mr. Ron Saldana made a motion that as long as the Task Force has already taken a position and a letter or correspondence has to go out and it is consistent with a position the Task Force has taken, the letter can go forward without any further Task Force action. The motion was seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis and passed unanimously.

XI. OVERVIEW OF THE CALRECYCLE JANUARY 10, 2017, LETTER ON AB 341 AND AB 1826 ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Suk Chong provided a [PowerPoint presentation](#) on the Overview of the CalRecycle January 10, 2017, Letter on AB 341 and AB 1826 Enforcement.

XII. UPDATE TO THE COUNTYWIDE ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Ms. Trishena Robinson provided an update on the Countywide Organic Waste Management Enforcement. Ms. Robinson stated that staff has reviewed and considered all comments and all applicable comments have been incorporated into the document. The next steps include soliciting comments from the cities. The documents will be sent to all cities for a 30 day comment and review period. The goal is to send the document out by late March 2017.

XIII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following CalRecycle update:

Jurisdiction Review

Local Assistance and Market Development staff are preparing for the upcoming Jurisdiction Review. This will include all reporting jurisdictions not currently on a compliance order – both those in 4-year cycle (2012-2015) and those that were considered a good faith effort (GFE) in previous review cycle, and those that are now on a 2-year cycle (2014-2015). The 4-year and 2-year Jurisdiction Review Request for Approvals (RFAs) are scheduled for the April Public Meeting on April 18, 2017. There will be another group of jurisdictions that are being referred specific to Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR) implementation. This RFA is expected to be included as part of the March 21, 2017 meeting. LAMD staff will be giving their jurisdictions notice about which RFA they are part of. Jurisdictions do not need to attend the meetings, but are welcome to listen in.

Conference Call and Site Visits

CalRecycle's Local Assistance and Market Development (LAMD) Branch staff are now beginning to schedule and conduct conference calls and site visits with all cities and counties. Expect your LAMD representative to contact you shortly. LAMD staff has been working towards having all conference calls and site visits done in the first half of the year.

RMDZ Zone Designation/Re-Designation

CalRecycle is seeking to add new zones to its Recycling Market Development Zone program to expand local recycling markets and create new jobs. The program provides low-interest loans, technical assistance, and product marketing to zone-based businesses that use recycled materials to manufacture their products. The local jurisdiction benefits from increased revenues brought by new and expanding businesses and the jobs they create, and from decreased costs of sending materials to landfills. The application process will run from April 1 to October 30, 2017, and applicants will need to complete a California Environmental Quality Act review.

GRANTS

2016–17 Organics Grant

The purpose of this competitive grant program is to lower overall greenhouse gas emissions by expanding existing capacity or establishing new facilities in California to reduce the amount of California-generated green materials, food materials, or alternative daily cover being sent to landfills. Due date is March 9, 2017.

Greenhouse Reduction Loan Program

The purpose of this non-competitive loan program is to lower overall greenhouse gas emissions by providing loans to expand existing capacity or establish new

facilities to process California-generated waste materials into new value-added products. The loan application due date is continuous.

2016–17 Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grants

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program, which provides up to \$1 million annually in grants for the cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. A site may be eligible for funding if the parcel(s) is(are) zoned for agricultural use, where unauthorized solid waste disposal has occurred, and where the site(s) is(are) in need of cleanup in order to abate a nuisance or public health and safety threat and/or a threat to the environment. Sites are not eligible for funding if the site is located on property where the owner or local agency is responsible for the illegal disposal of solid waste. Due date is February 2, 2017.

SB 1383 (Chapter 355, Statutes of 2015) Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions-Stakeholder Workshop

Northern CA:

Start Date: February 14, 2017 9:00AM

End Date: February 14, 2017 5:00PM

Location: Cal/EPA Building, Coastal Hearing Room, 2nd floor, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Southern CA:

Start Date: February 16, 2017 9:00AM

End Date: February 16, 2017 5:00PM

Location: South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, Ca 91765-4178 Auditorium

Contact(s): Marshalle Graham & Chris Bria

This is the first of what will be a series of workshops intended to provide an opportunity for informal stakeholder feedback on the creation of regulations related to SB 1383. CalRecycle staff will provide an overview of the law, topics for which regulations are needed, and preliminary questions for consideration and comment. A workshop will also be held in Southern California on February 16th for those unable to attend in Sacramento (both will be broadcast).

Ms. Wallin also stated there will be Greenwaste Pest Prevention University workshops throughout the state and the focus is mainly with the County Agriculture Commissioner and LEA staff.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

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