

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

**Minutes of September 21, 2017**

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  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Ron Saldana, California Waste and Recycling Association  
Sam Pedroza, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:**

Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works  
Wayne Nastri, rep by Laurance B. Israel, South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Craig Beck, rep by Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department  
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Cynthia Harding, rep by Dorcas Hanson Lugo, 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  
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita  
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle  
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Caren Alvarez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Saeid Shirzadegan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Gerald Ley, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Bonitto Housen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Kimberly Lyman, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Kristin Keating, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Morena Guardado, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Ms. Margaret Clark.

**II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 15, 2017, MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Margaret Clark to approve the July 20, 2017, and accept the August 17, 2017, minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer and passed with abstentions from Mr. Sam Pedroza and Mr. Carlos Ruiz.

Mr. Mohajer introduced Mr. Laurance B. Israel to the Task Force as a new alternate member appointed by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

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

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided a report from the ATAS meeting. He gave a summary of the presentation provided by Mr. William Skinner of Hitachi Zosen Inova regarding their Anaerobic Digestion Project in San Luis Obispo. Mr. Ajwani conveyed that the project will process 100 tons per day of green and food waste from San Luis Obispo County, digesting the material to create electricity and compost.

Mr. Ajwani reported the following events are upcoming events:

- October 3-4, 2017: Renewable Energy from Waste (Virtual Conference)
- October 25-26, 2017: US Biogas 2017 Conference (San Diego)
- November 8, 2017: Southern California Waste Management Forum (Pomona)

Lastly, Mr. Ajwani stated the ATAS recommends the Task Force send a letter inviting the County Chief Sustainability Officer to provide a presentation regarding his role. Ms. Betsey Landis made a motion to send the letter seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Betsey Landis provided an update on the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting. She reported the total number of complaints made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline regarding odors at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) from July 2017 to August 2017 increased by 114 percent from 14 to 30 complaints. In comparison

with August 2016, the number of complaints decreased by 65 percent from 85 to 30 complaints. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD since 2009 was 10,890. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD in 2017 was 917. The total number of Notices of Violation (NOV) issued to SCL by SCAQMD since 2009 is 214. As of September 18, 2017, SCAQMD has not issued any NOVs to SCL in the month of August.

Ms. Landis also commented on the alternative daily cover and intermediate cover enhancement projects. Both experiments on grids take place at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL). There will be a full report regarding the projects in the future.

Ms. Landis reported that the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee considered the information pertaining to the request for a Finding of Conformance (FOC) for the Calabasas Landfill and voted to recommend to the Task Force to grant the FOC. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to grant the FOC seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed with one abstention by Mr. Sam Shammas.

Lastly, Ms. Landis provided the Task Force with an update on the Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL). She mentioned the new CUP for CCL was approved in July 2017, and they have 90 days to apply for a Finding of Conformance (FOC). In addition, she stated legal action was filed against CCL by three different organizations.

## **V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ms. Caren Alvarez provided an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached legislative table.

**AB 109** (Ting) – Budget Act of 2017: The bill amends the Budget Act of 2017. It specifically appropriates \$40M from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to CalRecycle for Waste Reduction and Management. Staff sent letters to the Governor and legislators on behalf of the Task Force to request additional funding for waste management. The bill was chaptered on September 16, 2017.

**AB 954** (Chiu) – Food Labeling: Quality and safety dates: The bill requires the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the Department of Public Health (DPH) to publish information to encourage voluntary uniform quality and safety dates on food labels by 2018. The bill enrolled on September 15, 2017. Staff sent a letter to the Governor on behalf of the Task Force on September 20, 2017, requesting his signature on the bill.

**AB 1158** (Chu) – Carpet Recycling: The bill would formalize the advisory committee, stipulate a 24% recycling rate goal by 2020, and authorize CalRecycle to adjust the recycling rate. Among other things, the bill would prohibit the stewardship organization from spending assessment funds for incineration, penalties, and litigation against the State. The bill enrolled on September 19, 2017. Staff sent a letter to the Governor on behalf of the Task Force on September 21, 2017, requesting his signature on the bill.

**AB 1219** (Eggman) – Food Donations: The bill would expand the California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to persons and gleaners who donate food and authorize food facilities to donate food directly to end recipients. The bill enrolled on September 15, 2017. Staff sent a letter to the Governor on behalf of the Task Force on September 20, 2017, requesting his signature on the bill.

**SB 458** (Wiener) – Beverage Container Recycling: Pilot Projects. The bill would authorize five recycling pilot projects for the State to improve beverage container redemptions in unserved convenience zones. The bill enrolled on September 19, 2017. Staff didn't recommend a position on the bill, as it was only discussed as an informational item.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding current recycling uncertainties due to a potential ban on the export of various scrap material into China. Mr. Ron Saldana suggested inviting a representative from the recycling industry to provide a presentation to the Task Force regarding the status of the China ban.

## **VI. SUMMARY OF CALRECYCLE'S INFORMAL RULEMAKING STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP FOR SB 1383 REGULATIONS**

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar delivered a presentation summarizing CalRecycle's SB 1383 Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) Informal Rulemaking Stakeholder Workshop held on September 20, 2017. She presented on regulatory concepts regarding Capacity Identification Planning and Market Development, Biogas, and Prohibitive Policies and Ordinances.

Mr. Mohajer commented on the disparity between the amount of organic waste disposed and the State's capacity to recycle this organic waste. Ms. Margaret Clark and Mr. Ron Saldana inquired whether CalRecycle responded to the Task Force's request to provide additional information to allow jurisdictions to assess the impact of implementing SB 1383 regulations. Ms. Vazifdar stated CalRecycle has provided concepts through informal workshops, and the actual regulations are still being developed.

**VII. CONSIDERATION OF FINDING OF CONFORMANCE FOR THE CALABASAS LANDFILL**

See Item IV above.

**VIII. SUMMARY OF AUGUST 2017 STAFF REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPOSTING OPERATIONS**

Mr. Nam Doan provided a summary of the August 2017 Staff Report on the Implementation of General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations. Mr. Doan provided a brief background of the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations and mentioned the State Water Board's main concerns of the cost to comply with requirements, the impact on composting industry, and the green material directed to land application. Currently 36 facilities are in the process of enrolling in the Composting General Order with 9 facilities in tier one and 15 in tier two. To date, all composting operations enrolled under the Composting General Order have proposed compliance schedules within the six-year timeframe.

The Resolution has directed the Water Board staff to coordinate with organic management and land application facilities to provide education and outreach of uncomposted green material and engage in the Healthy Soils Initiative, which promotes the development of healthy soils, innovation of farm and ranch practices, and the building and retaining of soil organic matter. As a result of the outreach efforts, an additional 29 chip and grind facilities have enrolled under the Industrial General permit as of July 25, 2017, and notifications were sent by the State Water Board to several land application locations with potential water quality issues.

Lastly, Mr. Doan discussed the September 19, 2017, update provided by the Water Board, which addresses the implementation of the general waste discharge requirements. He stated there's an increased cost to comply with the requirements, but there's also collaboration to provide enrollment options for facilities by monitoring the actual cost. The State Water Board will periodically update this report to reflect the current activities related to organic materials management and the Composting General Order.

Mr. Mike Mohajer commented on the facilities' groundwater contamination and made a motion to send a letter to Water Board requesting a written response to

the Task Force's previous comments. The motion was seconded by Ms. Landis and passed unanimously.

## **IX. CALRECYCLE UPDATE**

Ms. Wallin gave information about the upcoming grant due dates and events scheduled by CalRecycle. She informed the Task Force program updates will be provided upon request from now on.

Ms. Wallin provided the following list of grants and scheduled events:

- Tire-Derived Aggregate Grant Program (FY 2017-18).  
Due: November 1, 2017
- Illegal Disposal Site Abatement Grant Program (FY 2017-18).  
Due: November 2, 2017
- Legacy Disposal Site Abatement Partial Grant Program (FY 2017-18).  
Due: November 2, 2017
- Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program (FY 2017-18). Due: November 7, 2017
- CalRecycle Packaging Reform Workshop.  
Date/Time: October 10, 2017, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Public Hearing – Proposed Regulations Amending the Electronic Waste Recycling Program.  
Date/Time: October 11, 2017, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Future of Electronic Waste Management in California - Part 4.  
Date/Time: October 11, 2017, 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Informal Rulemaking Stakeholder Workshop for SB 1383 Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP).  
Date/Time: October 30, 2017, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Informal Rulemaking Stakeholder Workshop for SB 1383 Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP) –  
Date/Time: November 2, 2017 – Southern California location: TBD

Mr. Mike Mohajer commended the good work done at the Informal Rulemaking Stakeholder Workshop in Riverside. He also requested an update on the organic plans submitted August 1, 2017. Ms. Wallin informed the Task Force that a correspondence was sent out to the local government contacts notifying them that the information submitted by each jurisdiction through the 2016 Annual Report regarding education, outreach, and monitoring efforts related to AB 341 and AB 1826 implementation will be posted online. This information will be available online December 1, 2017. Mr. Carlos Ruiz inquired on the accuracy and effectiveness of the information obtained by the jurisdictions regarding

percentage of waste reporting. Mr. Ruiz expressed that the requirements will make an impact on the reporting. Mr. Saldana inquired whether CalRecycle reports their support or opposition to different issues. Ms. Wallin stated that CalRecycle's role regarding legislation is neutral.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments

**XI. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 2017, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

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