

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

**Minutes for February 17, 2022**

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

**WEB CONFERENCE**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities  
Eddie De La Riva, League of California Cities  
Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Jordan R. Sisson, Los Angeles County Disposal Association  
Jim Smith, City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles City Council 6<sup>th</sup> District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts  
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, Los Angeles County Public Health  
Eric Lopez, rep by Erin Rowland, Long Beach Public Works  
Mark Pestrella, rep by Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Michelle Chambers, League of California Cities  
Jeff Farano, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries  
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Charles Darensbourg, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens  
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Jennifer Wallin, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery  
Jeffrey Zhu, Los Angeles County Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Mr. Sam Shammass.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 20, 2022 MINUTES**

Ms. Bernadette Halverson made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Betsey Landis seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

**III. REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE (PEIS)**

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported that the PEIS reviewed five out of eight considered articles to be published in the next issue of the Inside Solid Waste Newsletter. Articles reviewed included Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) Implementation in Rancho Palos Verdes, Senate Bill 619 Administrative Civil Penalties Relief, Assembly Bill 1690, SB 1383 Implementation by Cities of La Verne and San Dimas, and CalRecycle Grant Opportunities. Due to time constraints, the Subcommittee will e-mail staff their respective edits on the remaining three articles: SB 1383 Update, South El Monte's new recycling services, and Mattress Recycling Programs.

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

Mr. Chris Sheppard reported that the ATAS received a [presentation](#) by Mr. Alex Lewis of Electro-Active Technologies about their technology which processes the liquid fraction of food waste to produce hydrogen. They are currently developing pilot scale projects in California, New York, Tennessee, and Korea.

There was discussion on Assembly Bill 1857, which will also be discussed during the Legislative Update.

Tetra Tech continues to support Public Works' efforts to analyze the feasibility of conversion technology facility development at several closed landfill sites. Public Works is aiming to release the Request for Proposal for the anaerobic digestion project at the Calabasas Landfill in March 2022.

There was an update on True North Renewable Energy obtaining permits to begin developing a facility in Kern County.

There was an update on upcoming conversion technology events and conferences that may also be found in the [Conversion Technology Newsletter](#).

- International Biomass Conference & Expo, March 14-16, 2022, Jacksonville, FL
- SWANA SOAR 2022, March 21-24, 2022, Kansas City, MO
- CEAC Spring Conference 2022, March 23-25, 2022, Monterey, CA
- SWANA 51st Annual Western Regional Symposium, April 4-7, 2022, Fish Camp, CA
- Tcbiomass, April 19-21, 2022, Denver, CO
- NACE Annual Conference 2022, April 24-27, 2022, Buffalo, NY
- Waste Expo 2022, May 9-12, 2022, Las Vegas, NV
- RNG Summit 2022, May 17-19, 2022, Houston, TX
- Biogas Americas 2022, May 23-26, 2022, Las Vegas, NV

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

Ms. Landis reported on the following discussed items at the FPRS meeting:

- The Subcommittee decided to have a special meeting on Friday, February 25, 2022, at 9 a.m. to discuss the Subcommittee's comments on the draft written responses to Task Force comments and the proposed revisions to the Los Angeles County Preliminary Draft Revised Countywide Siting Element.
- Discussion on Conversion Technology programs and the need for electricity. The Subcommittee requested more detail on the output for electricity.
- The two Chiquita Canyon Landfill lawsuits are ongoing.
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) had 158 odor complaints in January 2022, and 5 NOVs.
- The Subcommittee requested staff to find out what the maximum daily tonnage is at SCL for Municipal Solid Waste and beneficial use material.
- Discussion on the structure and funding of the Sunshine Canyon – Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) took place.

#### **VI. CONSIDERATION OF CONCURRENCE WITH THE FINAL DRAFT REVISED LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

No update was given due to the FPRS scheduling a special meeting on February 25, 2022, to discuss the comments related to the document.

## VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Sheppard provided the legislative update and noted key dates including January 31, 2022, was the last day for each house to move two-year bills out of their house of origin; February 18, 2022, is the last day for new bills to be introduced; and April 7, 2022, will begin the spring recess. For reference, the Assembly introduced 640 bills and the Senate introduced 260 in this next session, but not all are waste-related.

There were 69 bills on the [Legislative Table](#), four on the cover page, and 29 which will not be advancing during the second year of the session. The following six bills that the Task Force previously took positions on will not be moving forward:

- AB 96 - related to clean vehicle equipment technology program and funding
- AB 318 - related to reclassifying cannabis waste to hazardous waste
- AB 659 - related to illegal dumping
- AB 734 – related to edible food collection
- AB 842 – related to plastic pollution reduction
- SB 240 - related to food banks

Mr. Sheppard highlighted the four bills on the cover page:

- AB 1690 (Luz Rivas, Petrie-Norris, Stone) – The Smoking Waste Pollution Prevention Act. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to support if amended, and Ms. Betsey Landis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- AB 1817 (Ting) – Product Safety: Textile Articles: Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support if amended/oppose unless amended, and Ms. Margaret Clark seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- AB 1857 (Cristina Garcia) – Solid Waste. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to oppose unless amended, and Ms. Clark seconded. Motion passed with eight voting yes and three abstaining.
- SB 895 (Laird) – Solid Waste: Nonprofit Convenience Zone Recycler: Definition. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support in concept, and Ms. Landis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding Senate Bill 1857 and what oppose unless amended entails, the amendments necessary, and concerns from cities. Ms. Erin Rowland voiced her concerns of the current language in the bill. Ms. Clark pointed out, if amendments are not incorporated during the next revision of the bill, then the Task Force may consider an outright oppose position.

Mr. Sheppard stated the next hearing is scheduled for March 11, 2022, and the bill must still move through the committee, on to the floor, and to the Senate, so there is still a lengthy process and there will be multiple opportunities for the Task Force to send letters of opposition on the bill. Discussion ensued regarding the bill and its five recommended amendments.

There was also discussion regarding Senate Bill 895. Mr. Jordan Sisson recommended waiting to see what materializes so the Task Force knows exactly what is being supported. Mr. Mohajer commented to support in concept which means staff monitors the bill and if the language is updated to the point where a position can be made, then staff would bring it back to the Task Force for discussion. Mr. Holland requested clarification as to whether there was an actual position to take on this bill in terms of watching the bill or supporting in concept, which is not necessarily a position. Mr. Mohajer responded the motion is between a watch and taking a formal position on the bill due to the numerous legislations and at least four or five that are making major changes in recycling that may affect the language in this bill. He also confirmed no letter would be sent as staff is paying close attention to the bill both internally and externally.

Mr. Sheppard reminded Task Force members that staff could review, do an analysis, and present to the Task Force any bills they are interested in. Mr. Jim Smith flagged Assembly Bill 2048 that would require the State to create a database of all waste and recycling franchise agreements.

Ms. Clark mentioned attending a San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Energy and Environment Commissioner meeting the day before where Mr. Sheppard provided a presentation and talked about a bill that would penalize cities if they sent recyclables to China and wanted to know if that bill was dead. Mr. Sheppard responded that Assembly Bill 818 was already chaptered, and that the bill removes diversion credit from a material that is exported to other countries unless it is shown that the material is properly recycled in other countries in alignment with the Basel Convention. Ms. Clark conveyed her amusement over the fact that conversion technologies (CT) were wanted in the mid-1990s, but environmental organizations were against a bill that would have given cities credit for sending their trash to domestic CT companies.

Ms. Landis commented that Senate Bill 833 seems to be encouraging CT, but she is not certain about the details and would like staff to look into the bill. Mr. Sheppard responded that this bill is related to the Community Energy Resilience Act and that staff would take a closer look at it and would provide details at the next Task Force meeting.

### **VIII. SENATE BILL 1440 – CHARLES DARENSBOURG**

The Task Force received a [presentation](#) on the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proposed and pending decision on implementing Senate Bill 1440 (SB 1440), Biomethane Procurement Program, that would consider adopting specific biomethane procurement targets for each of the four largest investor-owned utilities that serve California: PG&E, SoCalGas, SDGE, and Southwest Gas. On February 24, 2022, the CPUC plans to hear and vote on the proposed decision to implement SB 1440 targets. The biomethane procurement quantities aim to align with the goals of SB 1383, by meeting short and mid-term targets:

- By 2025, the SB 1383 goal is to reduce organic waste disposed in landfills by 75 percent which will require an additional 8 million tons per year of organic waste processing capacity.
- By 2025, the CPUC's proposed procurement target would be based on the amount of biomethane produced from the additional 8 million tons per year of organic waste diversion.
- By 2030, the SB 1383 goal is to reduce methane emissions by 40 percent, which would require an annual procurement of at least 75.5 million British thermal units or 73 billion cubic feet of biomethane.
- By 2030 and beyond, the proposed decision requires each of the investor-owned utilities to procure 15 percent of their 2020 annual core customer natural gas demand which is collectively 88 billion cubic feet of biomethane.

Within one month of the effective date of this decision, the CPUC will host a workshop on cost effectiveness.

Mr. Mohajer requested that a link to the presentation be forwarded to all Task Force members.

### **IX. CALRECYCLE UPDATE**

Ms. Wallin reported the following from CalRecycle:

- I Recycle Smart Statewide Recycling Campaign is now on website, which provides resources and links to all jurisdictions websites statewide related to their specific programs.

- Recycled-Content and Recyclable Paper Certification form sample is now on website, which is related to the recycled paper procurement requirement and how it meets the requirements of SB 1383 regulations.
- SB 619 webinar is now posted online. Notice of Intent to Comply is due on March 1, 2022.
- There are currently no grant due dates.
- SB 1383 webinar today related to reporting tools and annual reports due this year.
- RDRS Reporting Requirements Webinar on March 1, 2022, which is facility-oriented.
- SB 1383 Webinar for Local Education Agencies on March 3, 2022, which will provide information to schools.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 1 p.m.