

Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of January 15, 2009

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force*
Dave Hauser, Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc.*
Paul Alva, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Fernando Berton, California Integrated Waste Management Board
Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association
John McTaggart, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Eugene Tseng, Eugene Tseng and Associates
Christine Urbach, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health*
Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Virginia Jauregui, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Angélica SantaMaría, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Ben Gibson, Cerrell Associates
Peter Zorba, City of Lancaster
Rogelio Gamiño, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Sue Higgins, Alternative Resources, Inc.*

*designates a call-in attendee

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25 AND OCTOBER 21, 2008

The approval of the September 25 and October 21 2008 minutes were postponed until the next meeting date.

III. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS

Mr. McDannel mentioned that the biosolids reduction technology pilot facility is under construction and should be up and running within the coming weeks. Mr. Skye mentioned that he will be moderating a panel discussion on conversion technologies at the GreenXchange Global Marketplace Conference on January 26. The conference will bring together leaders from clean and green technology market-makers from the business, finance, government, research, and environmental NGOs communities.

IV. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTRACT

Mr. Gibson provided an update regarding the public outreach contract. It was noted that Mr. Skye will be meeting with the CA Chamber of Commerce regarding the County's project and conversion technologies the week of January 16th. Mr. Gibson added that Cerrell Associates is in the process of preparing a facility specific outreach plan for the County's project, and has met with representatives of the County of Riverside's Department of Waste Management to discuss this issue.

V. UPDATE ON TECHNICAL EVALUATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Skye provided an update on technical evaluations and negotiations. Once the technical evaluations have been completed, meetings with the proposers will be scheduled in order to develop agreements for the Board of Supervisors' approval. Because of President Obama's commitment to expanding green technologies in his New Energy for America Plan, the Subcommittee voted to send a letter to the Obama transition team regarding the County's project and the need for conversion technologies.

VI. PHASE III/IV RFP

The RFPs for Phases III/IV were released in November 2008. The due date for the RFP proposals is February 9th. It is expected that an evaluation committee will be meeting in February to look over the proposals received and provide a recommendation for selecting a contractor for the next phase of the project.

VII. DRAFT CEQA GUIDELINES FOR GHG

Ms. Mitchell mentioned that the Governor's Office has drafted amendments to the CEQA guidelines that would take into account the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions. AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions act of 2006, now requires the state to include greenhouse gas emissions in CEQA documents. The guidelines are very general at this point, and a lot of discretion is given to the agencies. Public Comments are due January 26. Discussion on AB32 and projects ensued. Consensus was reached to make a recommendation to Task Force to direct staff to review the guidelines to compare with Task Force policy on lifecycle analysis. Mr. Alva made a request to the agencies involved with CEQA preparations to review and provide comments on the guidelines to County staff.

VIII. TELLUS INSTITUTE REPORT FOR MASSACHUSETTS DEP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGIES

Sue Higgins with ARI provided brief background on the Solid Waste Master Plan revision in Massachusetts. The intention of this report was to be a literature review that summarizes data and information on various approaches that the State might consider as it prepares its new Solid Waste Master Plan. Mr. Skye, was provided a copy of this report for review since the County's Phase II report was mentioned. The Tellus report was in some cases found to be incomplete or misleading, and in some cases comes to contradictory conclusions from the County's report. The Subcommittee recommended that the Task Force be asked to review the report and provide comments to the Massachusetts DEP. Staff will ask for a letter to be sent out by next Thursday.

IX. DISCUSSION REGARDING CONFLICT OF INTEREST REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (FORM 700)

Mr. Alva provided information on this item as it pertains to the Subcommittee. In recent meetings with the Executive Office, it was determined that subcommittee members will now need to provide a complete Conflict of interest Form (Form 700). This form will be further discussed at the next Subcommittee meeting.

X. DISCUSSION REGARDING SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, PARTICIPATION, AND 2009 GOALS

Mr. Alva wanted to inform the members that Mr. Theroux has resigned ATAS effective 12/31/2008. The Subcommittee greatly appreciates Mr. Theroux's contribution to the Subcommittee and conversion technology development and he will continue to be active in other capacities regarding conversion technology development. If committee members have any recommendations for candidates to fill this vacancy, please forward those to Mr. Alva.

The committee was also asked for any suggestions to increase participation by committee members, such as meeting dates changing to accommodate any new schedules. This year the focus will be to establish goals for the ATAS and continue our successful efforts to advance conversion technologies.

XI. OPEN DISCUSSION

No comments.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for February 26, 2009

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.