

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

**Minutes of July 21, 2011**

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

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Alva, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Jacques Franco \*, Department of Resource Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition  
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD)  
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Eugene Sun, Council Member, City of San Marino  
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program  
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Rafael Garcia, Republic Services  
John Kaddis, Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Kay Martin, Bio Energy Producers Association

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:**

Ron Goodman, represented by Gary Bautista, Southern California Gas Company  
Alex Helou, represented by Miguel Zermeno\* City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Traecey Anthony, Alternative Resources Inc (ARI)  
Becky Bendikson, SCL-CAC for City and County of LA  
Frank Caponi, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Chip Clements, Clements Environmental  
Carrie Ferrier, Clements Environmental  
Matt Gallagher\*, Cerrell Associates  
Susan Higgins\*, ARI  
Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

\*designates participants over the telephone

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 2011**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of June 16, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **II. CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS**

Ms. Tobie Mitchell provided an update on the 3rd Annual Waste to Clean Energy Finance and Investment Summit that was held July 12-14, 2011 in Newport Beach CA. Ms. Mitchell spoke on a panel entitled "Municipalities' Plans for Future Waste to Energy Projects". Mr. Ron Goodman participated in the "Utility Perspectives on Acquiring Energy from WTE".

Mr. Coby Skye provided a summary of the July 6, 2011 briefing by JFE Engineering, a Japanese company that designs solid waste ecoparks. Representatives from JFE discussed their company's various engineering and technology ventures as well as shared information about their Kawasaki Eco-town. It was noted Mr. Skye will be speaking at WASTECON next month in Nashville, TN. This year's conference includes a special showcase of conversion technologies.

### **III. SUMMARY OF THE SOUTH COAST AQMD ENERGY POLICY JULY 14, 2011 STAKEHOLDER MEETING**

Mr. Coby Skye provided an update regarding South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD's) draft Energy Policy. In June, the Task Force agreed with the Subcommittee's recommendation to send a letter requesting additional review and stakeholder comment on the draft policy. As a result of this and other feedback from stakeholders, the AQMD agreed to conduct a number of stakeholder meetings to further discuss the draft Policy, the first of which was held on July 14, 2011.

Mr. Skye noted the meeting was helpful to clarify the AQMD's intent in pursuing the policy, and their challenge in achieving compliance with Federal Clean Air mandates while only being able to regulate stationary sources, which account for only a small fraction of the air emissions generated in the basin. At the same time, AQMD staff was reluctant to make changes to the document regarding the areas of concern to the ATAS and Task Force. For example, when it was noted the draft policy may have unintended consequences in pursuing "maximum" mitigation measures through the CEQA process for fossil fuel power plants, staff rather than

softening the provision broadened the policy to include *all* power plants, regardless of fuel type. This seemed counterproductive to the stated goal of promoting emission reductions within the basin since new power plants, especially those powered with alternative fuel sources, provide the best opportunity to displace older, more polluting technologies and thereby result in a net reduction of emissions.

Upon further discussion, Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to have the ATAS request the Task Force send a letter of concern regarding the development of the AQMD's draft Energy Policy, encouraging revisions to the Policy that would promote rather than unintentionally hinder new technologies such as conversion technologies. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **IV. CAP-AND-TRADE AND MANDATORY REPORTING PROPOSED REGULATION**

Ms. Tobie Mitchell provided a summary of the July 2011 discussion draft of the proposed cap and trade regulations that the Air Resources Board are currently developing. Ms. Mitchell shared specific sections of the discussion draft that applied restrictive gasification language from state statute to all conversion technologies. Mr. Frank Caponi provided additional remarks on the discussion draft. The Subcommittee voted unanimously to request the Task Force send a letter of concern to the Air Resources Board on this issue, and have staff work with LACSD on the draft letter.

#### **V. UPDATE ON PHASE III & IV CONTRACT**

Ms. Traacey Anthony provided an update to the Subcommittee on Phase III & Phase IV efforts. There have been no new developments on the Phase III demonstration projects. Ms. Anthony reported that as part of Phase IV efforts, Public Works issued two Requests for Expressions of Interest (RFEIs) for technology and financial services. Responses are due July 28, 2011. Staff will continue to update the Subcommittee on the results of these RFEIs. Staff is also developing a number of online resources for stakeholders, including technology and financial services database and an economic model to estimate tipping fees of different technologies.

#### **VI. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN**

Mr. Matt Gallagher reported on Cerrell's outreach activities during the previous month, which included efforts to conduct public outreach with state agency representatives, environmental groups and other key stakeholders.

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated that if conversion technologies are going to be developed in California, our educational efforts need to be more successful in effecting changes to legislation and regulations. Mr. Gallagher noted that the outreach team had met with several influential people in Sacramento informing them of the County's program, but pointed out that they cannot lobby, only educate. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to request staff to return in 1-2 months with a work plan that would revise the current public outreach strategy to focus on conversion technology legislation. Mr. Jeff Yann seconded the motion. Mr. Paul Alva asked for clarification the motion, which Mr. Mohajer restated. The motion passed with Paul Alva voting no.

#### **VII. OPEN DISCUSSION**

There was no open discussion.

#### **VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 18, 2011.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.