

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

Minutes of April 20, 2017 Meeting

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tim Hall, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)*

Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition

John Kaddis, County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health

Mark McDannel, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Rob Sherman, Republic Services, Inc.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Jim Stewart, for Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Tom Blank, Waste Management, Inc.

Jacques Franco, UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy*

Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles

Ron Kent, Southern California Gas Company

Benjamin Lucha, City of Palmdale Department of Public Works

Eugene Tseng, University of California, Los Angeles, Solid Waste Program

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

Daniel Dela Cruz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

Joe Vitti, Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee

Troy Weber, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)*

*Designates participants over the telephone

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 15, 2017 SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes of the March 15, 2017 Meeting was made by Mr. Mike Mohajer and seconded by Mr. Rob Sherman, and it passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION ON 2017 COUNTY CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP

Mr. Patrick Holland informed the Subcommittee that the proposed 2017 County Conversion Technology Legislative Workshop (Workshop) will be delayed from its previous target date of May 3, 2017 to an unspecified date at the request of Public Works Administration. Public Works Administration requested additional information in order to determine the level of priority this conference is, specifically in terms of contacting legislators and other regulators, as the Department of Public Works has a number of other priorities, such as transportation and water resources. Staff will present that information to Administration and hopes to host the Workshop later this year.

The Subcommittee expressed general frustration with the Workshop's delay. Mr. Mohajer interpreted Public Works Administration's response to the Workshop as indicative of a broader lack of interest in the advancement of conversion technologies (CTs).

Mr. Wayne Hunter expressed that the principal obstacle to the advancement of CTs has been political resistance, due to an absence of education about the technologies among legislators. He indicated that the Workshop could provide an opportunity for State legislative staff to learn more about the technologies and their viability and value in waste management. He further commented on the need to confirm a new date for the Workshop to sustain the event's progress.

Mr. Jim Stewart's asserted that leadership on CT advancement would more appropriately be assumed under CalRecycle, as it is the agency most tenably positioned to effectively engage and educate legislators on the viability and value of CTs. Mr. Mohajer asserted that CalRecycle is unlikely to accept waste diversion credit for CTs unless they are directed to do so by the legislature. Mr. Hall stated that he would discuss the Subcommittee's concerns with CalRecycle management and report back.

Mr. Stewart informed the Subcommittee of a recent study from the California Energy Commission (CEC) on how to maximize the use of various available feedstocks for the production of alternative energy, notably agricultural residues

and municipal solid waste. The results of the study are expected to be presented at a CEC workshop in June.

IV. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETING/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Mr. Clark Ajwani informed the Subcommittee of the following upcoming CT events:

- WasteExpo 2017, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA, May 8-11, 2017
- Southern California Waste Management Forum Annual Business Meeting, Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum, Yorba Linda, CA, May 17, 2017
- Renewable Natural Gas Symposium, University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA, May 17, 2017
- CalEPA Workshop SB 1383, Oceanside City Council Chambers, May 25, 2017
- California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) Annual Conference & Tradeshow, Paradise Point Resort & Spa, San Diego, CA, August 20-23, 2017
- Waste Conversion Technology Conference & Trade Show, Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina, San Diego, CA, August 21-23, 2017

Mr. Mark McDannel informed the Subcommittee that he will be attending a workshop hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy next month in Berkeley, CA. He will provide the Subcommittee with an update on the event at a future meeting.

V. RECAP ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Ajwani shared with the Subcommittee that staff recently met with County Sanitation Districts to discuss strategies to present to County Supervisorial District 3 staff regarding a potential anaerobic digestion project at the Calabasas Landfill.

Mr. Holland commented that staff will be considering a tour later this year of the CT project underway at Fort Irwin Training Center in the Mojave Desert of San Bernardino County.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Joe Vitti suggested the Subcommittee channel provide recommendations for CT advancement directly to the County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Mohajer commented that previous similar efforts were unsuccessful. Mr. Stewart posed

the idea for a consortium of county supervisors from various regions to meet, collectively, with the CalRecycle leadership to make the case for CT advancement in the State.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.