

Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of January 20, 2011 Meeting

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Traffic Management Center Conference Room (1st Floor – Annex Building)
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Gerardo Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Becky Bendikson, City/County Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory
Committee
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010

The Subcommittee instructed Staff to revise the Minutes of the November 18, 2010, Minutes as indicated below:

Section III, Page 3, 2nd Paragraph: Revise the paragraph to read as follows: "Ms. Landis pointed out that the Report erroneously identified *Telegraph Weed (Heterotheca grandiflora)* as a non-native plant." The correct description should be "native plant species."

A motion to approve the minutes with the above change was unanimously approved.

III. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Mr. Martin Aiyetiwa presented statistics on the number of odor complaints received by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) on Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill during 2009 and 2010. Mr. Aiyetiwa reported that the number of complaints in December 2010 rose substantially from the previous year (79 in 2010; less than 15 in 2009). As a result, Public works continues to work with AQMD and Republic Services (Republic) to determine what additional measures can be instituted to minimize complaints and provide relief to the community.

Ms. Betsey Landis inquired if complaints are coming from the same individuals. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that most of the complaints come from parents, students, and teachers at the Van Gogh Elementary School, which is located downwind from the Landfill. The complaints are made between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m., while students are being dropped off at the school by their parents.

Ms. Landis also inquired if weather contributes to the number of complaints made. Mr. Aiyetiwa stated that Republic will be studying this issue.

Discussion ensued regarding Public Works' requirement for soil to be used as daily cover at the Landfill, as indicated in its September 27, 2010, letter to Republic. Ms. Landis inquired about any established regulations that describe

when soil is to be used as landfill cover. Mr. Aiyetiwa indicated that State regulations contain a provision for an enforcement agency to direct a landfill operator to immediately cover the alternative daily cover with soil whenever the enforcement agency determines the application of alternative daily cover is not meeting State standards, such as inadequate odor control (Section 20690 of California Code of Regulations, Title 27).

Mr. Aiyetiwa reported that Republic has complied with Public Works' requirement, and the AQMD Hearing Board is considering modifying the March Order for Abatement to eliminate some of the studies on the working face. The studies may no longer be needed since soil is now being used as cover rather than tarp. The AQMD Hearing Board has continued its hearing to January 20, 2011, with a possible ruling to follow.

The discussion proceeded to the landslide incident of January 11, 2011. Mr. Aiyetiwa shared a report provided by Mr. Wayne Tsuda, Program Manager of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency, on January 12, 2011. The report stated, "Four to five acres near the County scales had fissured and portions of the access road to the County scales and adjacent hillside had slid forming an approximate 20 to 25 foot gap to a depth of approximately 3 to 25 feet deep. The BFI administration building, and the LEA and BFI staff trailers were evacuated. The access road to the scales is unstable and barricaded. Fallen power poles were de-energized and will be removed. There were no injuries and the area appears to be fairly stable with only slow movement along the fissures at this time."

Mr. Aiyetiwa reported that Republic had instituted their emergency plan to divert trucks to other landfills for the first few hours of the landslide situation, and the County scales would be abandoned. Since then, a County geologist, City's independent monitor, C2REM, and the Water Board had conducted site inspections. A technical memorandum by C2REM, Summary of Landslide Observations Conducted on January 12, 2011, at Sunshine Canyon Landfill, dated January 13, 2011, was distributed.

Mr. Wayde Hunter expressed his frustration that soil buttressing had not been implemented even though C2REM's memo made this recommendation. Mr. Mike Mohajer requested Public Works to continue monitoring the landslide situation and determine if soil buttressing is warranted to stabilize soil at the Landfill.

Mr. Aiyetiwa commented, as recommended in the November 2010 Subcommittee meeting, that the Task Force sent a letter to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) requesting that the TAC keep the Task Force apprised of the TAC's actions relating to resolving the odor issues at the Landfill. A written response had not been provided. The TAC had, however, directed the formation of a subcommittee to look into the odor issues, among other things.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.