

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

Minutes of November 17, 2011 Meeting

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
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:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tony Augello, Golder Associates
Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Becky Bendikson, City/County Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory
Committee
Zach Granat, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Bahman Hajjaliakbar, 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
Virginia Pajarito, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Pat Proano, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Nicole Stetson, Waste Management Inc.
Scott Sumner, Waste Management Inc.
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2011 MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2011 meeting was unanimously approved subject to the following revisions in section VII, Open Discussion/Public Comment: Revise the paragraph to read:

“Mr. Mohajer stated that CalRecycle’s Strategic Directive 6.1 establishes a goal for jurisdictions to reduce the amount of organics in the waste stream disposed of in 2008 by 50 percent by 2020 and that the Water Board is working on the development of a General Order for composting facilities to be used in lieu of Waste Discharge Requirement Permits. As a part of Strategic Directive 6.1, Mr. Mohajer would like to see other alternatives for organic material that are not compostable, other than composting.”

III. CONSIDERATION OF FINDING OF CONFORMANCE FOR THE ANTELOPE VALLEY PUBLIC LANDFILL EXPANSION

Ms. Linda Lee conducted a presentation ([attached](#)) on the consideration of a Finding of Conformance (FOC) for the Antelope Valley Public Landfill (AVPL) Expansion. Ms. Lee explained that Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) submitted an application for the FOC on September 27, 2011.

Ms. Lee stated that staff reviewed the application in accordance with the guidelines of the Countywide Siting Element. Based on the review, staff finds the AVPL Expansion to be in conformance with the Countywide Siting Element and recommends the approval of the FOC.

After some discussion, the subcommittee passed a motion to approve the FOC with the following recommended changes within Section VIII, Conditions of Approval:

- Condition No. 3 – Revise to describe the permitted types of Alternative Daily Cover materials to be those as approved by the Conditional Use Permit and Joint Technical Document and as amended.
- Condition No. 4 – Revise to read “recyclables and other beneficial use materials may be accepted for processing and reuse on- and off-site.”

- Condition No. 7 – Revise 2) to read “Failure of the Permittee to obtain a CUP to continue to operate the facility upon the City’s 10 year review from the current CUP...”
- Condition No. 8 – Revise to add “regional.”
- Throughout the FOC, revise the addressee of the FOC submittals to the Task Force.

IV. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON/CITY COUNTY LANDFILL

Ms. Lee provided the subcommittee with an update on the Third Quarter Vegetation at Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill. Ms. Lee presented a map of the landfill ([attached](#)) and explained the weed abatement event which occurred during the third quarter. Ms. Lee added that Republic Services Inc. (Republic) continues to discuss various revegetation approaches that may yield more positive results and that Republic anticipates submitting a revised vegetation plan in the fourth quarter.

Ms. Lee stated that on the County side of the landfill, native plant coverage is good within the vegetated areas, and plant coverage is moderate in the southern, lower half of the County sage mitigation area. The majority of the northern and upper portions of the sage mitigation area continues to have minimal plant growth. ESA Biological recommended that native species be planted on the upper portion of the slope visible to the public, the existing irrigation system be extended to the container plants on the upper slopes, a soil amendment or mulch with high organic content be incorporated, and a weed control program be continued as needed.

Ms. Lee continued her report by stating that on the city side of the landfill, germination from hydroseeding is poor and generally undistinguishable on the lower deck. Non-vegetated areas predominantly consist of heavily compacted and disturbed soils that inhibit seed germination and overall plant growth. ESA Biological recommended continuing to investigate ways to import a soil layer to create a root penetration and saturation zone to enable plant growth, implementing a fall weed control program, and incorporating a soil amendment or mulch with high organic content to improve soil texture, drainage, porosity, and aerobic conditions.

Ms. Landis inquired about the landfill’s use of leachate. Ms. Lee went on to make a presentation regarding leachate management at the landfill ([attached](#)).

Ms. Lee explained how grey water is treated onsite at various treatment plants and used onsite for dust control and irrigation. She stated that the landfill is no longer discharging grey water to a sewer line on the city side. The State Water Resources Control Board's Waste Discharge Permit requires the grey water to be treated onsite and used onsite. If it is not treated, it must be trucked offsite to a waste water treatment plant.

Mr. Wayde Hunter stated he was assured by the Water Board that leachate would not be inserted back into the landfill. Ms. Lee recommended that Mr. Hunter bring up his concern at the TAC meeting or directly to the Water Board.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wayde Hunter stated that the City Fire Department and Paramedics have been running drills at the landfill and that he would like to know where in the environmental document such activity is permitted. Ms. Landis asked Mr. Hunter to address his concerns with the City Fire Department.

Mr. Hunter asked the subcommittee if a letter can be sent from the Task Force to AQMD in support of AQMD staff's position on the Stipulated Order for Abatement. The subcommittee agreed to bring the item before the Task Force for consideration.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.