

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

May 16, 2024

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County Public Works
Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Maintenance District
Michael Stewart, Republic Services
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Khaled Alqam, Los Angeles County Public Works
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Alexander Fitchmun, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Cameron Jones, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dennis Lee, Los Angeles County Public Works
Omar Carrillo Maldonado, Los Angeles County Public Works
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Emiko Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 18, 2024, MEETING

Mr. Sam Shammas made a motion to approve the April 18, 2024, minutes, and Ms. Dee Hanson-Lugo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, reported on Chiquita Canyon Landfill's (CCL) Notices of Violations (NOVs) and status update on environmental mitigation measures:

- CCL received 21 NOVs in April 2024, all of which were air quality-related from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD).
- The Landfill Operator submitted their [Thirty-Seventh Monthly Update](#), dated May 1, 2024, in accordance with the [April 19, 2021, Task Force letter](#) requirements and subsequent request for additional updates on NOVs issued and mitigation measures imposed by regulatory agencies.
- The Conditional Use Permit (CUP) modification application, resulting from the [Settlement Agreement](#) between the County and CCL, was submitted to County Regional Planning on November 10, 2022, for consideration.
- CCL continues to work on securing permits required to begin construction of the new entrance along Wolcott Way, under Conditions 77 and 79 of the CUP.
- CCL reported that the source of odors from the Landfill is from a large and unexpected increase in production of landfill gas and liquids due to a reaction within an older portion of the Landfill's waste mass.
- On April 9, 2024, the California State Water Resources Control Board issued a NOV to CCL for alleged violations of their Industrial General Permit.
- An initial [Stipulated Order for Abatement](#) (SOA) as adopted by AQMD on September 6, 2023, to address the odors, and was most recently modified on April 24, 2024, but is not yet available to the public.
- The Local Enforcement Agency (LEA), with recommendations from CalRecycle, provided mitigation measures in letters dated [October 17, 2023](#), and [November 21, 2023](#), for CCL to implement to address odors.
- CCL continues to implement the measures required by AQMD and the LEA, and providing periodic reports to various regulatory agencies that can be found on their website.
- On April 9, 2024, the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) issued CCL an NOV for alleged violations of their Industrial

General Permit, and was granted an extension of May 16, 2024, to respond to the Water Board.

Odor mitigation efforts by various regulatory agencies:

- AQMD continues to receive and respond to odor complaints through their hotline, as well as receive and review periodic reports submitted by CCL as required by the SOA.
- A modification hearing on the SOA will be scheduled before the AQMD Hearing Board in August 2024.
- LEA continues to review various reports and data submitted by CCL as required by mitigation measures set by the LEA and CalRecycle.
- Public Works (PW) has been working with the Landfill Operator to expedite the necessary approvals and permits for a new flare. PW is also assisting with the processing permit requirements for proposed modifications to existing offsite air monitoring stations.
- Regional Planning continues to expand and update their [webpage](#) to post information such as contacts, documents, and resources for the odor incident.
- CalRecycle continues to assist the LEA with reviewing reports from CCL.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), who continues to monitor CCL, issued CCL a Unilateral Administrative Order that requires CCL to implement mitigation measures.
- The Multi-Agency Coordination Group, led by the USEPA, California, Environmental Protection Agency, and Los Angeles County Health Hazardous Materials Division was established to oversee immediate mitigation plans related to the leachate at CCL.
- PW staff updated the well temperature data and map for the months of [March and April 2024](#).

Mr. Larry Israel of AQMD announced that the AQMD Hearing Board will have a full status hearing either on August 17 or 24, 2024, and will be held in the community of Castaic at one of the elementary or middle schools. The status hearing will also be held on a Saturday, so more of the public may attend.

Ms. Thompson asked Mr. Israel if the status hearing entailed the Landfill Operator providing the status of conditions that were implemented as part of the SOA, which he confirmed. Mr. Israel further stated the AQMD will provide the status based on what they have observed, and the progress made. He also indicated that there will be ample opportunity for the community to provide comments.

Ms. Thompson also inquired if there is a virtual option to attend the status hearing, and Mr. Israel believed that such option will be available.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Odor Complaints and Notices of Violation

Mr. Michael Harmon, staff to the Task Force, provided an [update on the odor complaints from AQMD for April 2024](#) at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL):

- During the month of April 2024, 266 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 70 were classified as Trash, 95 were listed as No Field Response, 19 were listed as Landfill Gas Odors, and 82 were classified as None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to March 2024, the number of complaints received for April 2024, decreased from 272 to 266 complaints.
- Compared to April 2023, the number of complaints for April 2024 increased from 184 to 266 complaints.
- AQMD issued 6 NOVs related to odor for the month of April 2024.
- The total number of NOVs issued this calendar year is 41.

On March 26, 2024, PW issued an approval of a one-year Pilot Program for expanded use of Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) over the weekend. The ADC use was a component to odor mitigation recommendations from the SCL-LEA and AQMD. The Landfill Operator is required to present the program to several community groups and provide the community an opportunity to comment.

At the May 9, 2024, SCL-Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting, the Chair requested that a presentation on the extended use of the ADC material and the approval process be agendaized for discussion at the next SCL-CAC meeting that is scheduled for July 11, 2024.

Mr. Wayne Hunter asked who the committee members from the LEA and AQMD are that made the recommendation to use the ADC. Ms. Thompson responded that it was her understanding that it was not a committee making recommendations, but rather the SCL-LEA who developed a list of recommendations to mitigate odors at SCL, which included the extended use of ADC on Saturdays.

Mr. Hunter then requested for a copy of the document listing the recommendations. Ms. Thompson responded that staff would reach out to the SCL-LEA to see if the document could be made available. She further noted that several regulatory agencies acknowledge the fact that there is an odor problem and that it is in the public's best interest, as well as in the interest of regulatory agencies, to expeditiously chip away at all the various proposals to accumulatively reduce odor impact.

V. FINDING OF CONFORMANCE REPORTS

Mr. Dennis Lee, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the Finding of Conformance Reports and presented a [table](#) on the breakdown of the waste types for the Spring 2024 Waste Characterization Studies at respective landfills. The information did not reflect the incoming waste stream for the entire year, but rather for a one-week period when studies were conducted at each landfill.

Public Works staff received the following reports:

[CCL First Quarter 2024 Monitoring Report](#), dated April 15, 2024, noting:

- CCL disposed approximately 550,000 tons in the first quarter of 2024. Compared to the disposed 531,000 tons in the fourth quarter of 2023.
- The beneficial reuse material total was 94,000 tons for the first quarter of 2024. Compared to 91,000 tons in the fourth quarter of 2023.

[SCL First Quarter 2024 Monitoring Report](#), dated April 15, 2024, noting:

- SCL disposed approximately 600,000 tons in the first quarter of 2024. Compared to the disposed 602,000 tons in the fourth quarter of 2023.
- The beneficial reuse material total was 11,000 in the first quarter of 2024. Compared to 13,000 tons in the fourth quarter of 2023.

Mr. Hunter noticed that the Antelope Valley Landfill's (AVL) organics were considerably higher in comparison to the other landfills and asked if AVL has a program for collection separation. Mr. Lee responded he was unaware of a program but would look into and provide his findings at the next Subcommittee meeting.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 20, 2024, at 11 a.m.