



# AGENDA

## Conversion Technology Informational Workshop

Thursday, September 23, 2010 | 8:00AM – 1:00PM  
 Los Angeles County Department of Public Works HQ  
 900 S. Fremont Ave | Alhambra, CA 91803 | Conference Rooms A, B, C



<b>8:00-9:00AM</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>8:30-9:00AM</b>	<b>Media Interviews</b>	<i>Please sign up at the press registration table</i>
<b>9:00-9:05AM</b>	<b>Keynote</b>	Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District
<b>9:05-9:15AM</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	Gail Farber, Director, Los Angeles County Public Works Dept. Bob Spencer, Chief, Public Affairs, Los Angeles County Public Works Dept. (MC)
<b>9:15-9:20AM</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Margaret Clark, Vice Chair, Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force and Council Member, City of Rosemead
<b>9:20-9:40AM</b>	<b>Overview of Conversion Technologies &amp; Introduction to the County Program</b>	Pat Proano, Assistant Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Public Works Dept. Coby Skye, Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works Dept.
<b>9:40-9:50AM</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	Pat Proano, Coby Skye
<b>9:50-10:20AM</b>	<b>Panel Discussion: LA County Phase III Demonstration Projects</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> Eugene Tseng, UCLA Extension <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen Bertram, President, International Environmental Solutions</li> <li>• Paul Relis, Senior Vice President, CR&amp;R Incorporated</li> <li>• Bruce Shuman, CEO, Rainbow Disposal Company</li> </ul>
<b>10:20-10:30AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
<b>10:30-11:00AM</b>	<b>Panel Discussion: Municipal Perspective on Conversion Technologies</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> Paul Alva, Sr. Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works Dept., Chair, Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nicole Bernson, Sr. Policy Advisor, Office of Councilmember Greig Smith, City of Los Angeles</li> <li>• Jacques Franco, Climate Change and Technology Group, CalRecycle</li> <li>• Steve Zurn, Director, City of Glendale Public Works Dept.</li> </ul>
<b>11:00-11:30AM</b>	<b>Panel Discussion Industry Perspective on Conversion Technologies</b>	<b>Moderator:</b> Paul Alva <b>Panelists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Dewey, CEO, Mustang Renewable Power Ventures</li> <li>• Jeff Duhamel, Waste Systems Technology, Inc</li> <li>• Clint Knox, Project Manager, Komar Investments</li> </ul>
<b>11:30-11:50AM</b>	<b>Moving Forward: Participating in a Phase IV Commercial Project</b>	Jim Binder, Principal, Alternative Resources, Inc Sue Higgins, Director of Solid Waste Services, Alternative Resources, Inc Chip Clements, President, Clements Environmental Corp.
<b>11:50-12:00PM</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	LA County Conversion Technology Project Mgmt Team
<b>12:00-1:00PM</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>	<i>Lunch will be served in the Alhambra Room</i>

PowerPoint presentations from today's workshop will be available for download at [www.SoCalConversion.org](http://www.SoCalConversion.org)

**What are conversion technologies?** Conversion technologies are thermal, chemical, mechanical, and biological processes capable of converting post-recycled residual solid waste into useful products and chemicals, green fuels like ethanol and biodiesel, and clean, renewable energy

**What is anaerobic digestion?** This is a biological conversion technology, through which biodegradable, organic material is decomposed by microbes in the absence of oxygen, producing biogas and a compost-like material (called digestate).

**What is biogas?** This is the gas produced from the biological conversion of the biodegradable, organic fraction of MSW, primarily composed of methane and carbon dioxide gases. Biogas can be upgraded to pipeline-quality natural gas, converted into a product such as a transportation fuel, or converted to electricity by using it as a fuel in power generating equipment such as a reciprocating engine.

**What are thermal conversion technology processes?** These non-incineration technologies that use heat, under controlled conditions in a high-temperature chamber, to convert MSW into usable products. The organic fraction of MSW is converted to synthesis gas, and the inorganic fraction is recovered as products (e.g., metal, char, aggregate, vitrified aggregate, and other commodities). Examples include pyrolysis, gasification, and plasma gasification.

**What is synthesis gas or “syngas”?** This is a gas produced from the thermal conversion of the organic fraction of MSW, typically composed of hydrogen, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide gases. Syngas can be converted to a product such as methanol, or converted to electricity using it as a fuel in traditional boilers with steam turbines, reciprocating engines and combustion turbines.

**What is hydrolysis?** This is the chemical reaction of the cellulosic fraction of MSW (e.g., paper, wood waste, plant and vegetable waste) with water and acid to produce sugars, followed by fermentation and distillation to produce ethanol.

## Benefits of conversion technologies

- Long-term, reliable, and cost-competitive means of solid waste management
- Production of energy and other resources (e.g. electricity, transportation fuels, aggregate, compost, etc.)
- Reduced dependence on landfills
- Creation of local, green-collar jobs
- Environmental benefits such as reduced air emissions as a result of reduced truck traffic

## Helpful links

**County of Los Angeles Conversion Technology Homepage** – comprehensive guide to conversion technologies, links to technical studies and reports, updates on local and nation developments

[www.SoCalConversion.org](http://www.SoCalConversion.org)

**County of Los Angeles CLEANLA Portal** – guide to recycling and solid waste management in Los Angeles County

[www.CleanLA.com](http://www.CleanLA.com)

**Cal Recycle Organic Materials Management Website** – statewide guidance documents on conversion technologies, technology information, and conference updates

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/conversion/>

If you have any questions, please contact Coby Skye of Los Angeles County Department Public Works, [cskye@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:cskye@dpw.lacounty.gov) or (626) 458-5163