

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

May 21, 2026

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Debra Bogdanoff, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Barbara Moore, City of Long Beach Energy and Environmental
Services Department
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works
Felicia Truong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

David Fahrion, California Waste and Recycling Association

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Caruso, Waste Management
Brenda Eells, Waste Connections
Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Michael Stewart, Republic Services
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program/City of Los Angeles Local
Enforcement Agency
Alexander Castro, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, 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
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Christopher Sheppard called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 16, 2026, SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Wayde Hunter made a motion to approve April 16, 2026, Subcommittee meeting minutes, and Ms. Debra Bogdanoff seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL (CCL)

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, reported on CCL's Notices of Violation (NOVs):

Odor Complaints and NOVs

- The Landfill Operator submitted their [Sixtieth Monthly Update](#), dated May 1, 2026, which included updates 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 various regulatory agencies.
- CCL received 22 NOVs in April 2026 related to air quality from Southcoast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), up from 11 NOVs in March 2026 and 8 NOVs in April 2025.
- CCL entered into a Stipulated Order for Abatement (SOA) with AQMD on September 2, 2023, that was last modified on [December 9, 2025](#), to address and abate the odors resulting from the reaction at CCL.
- The next status update and modification hearing on the SOA is scheduled for May 28, 2026.
- On April 8, 2026, CCL received a NOV from AQMD alleging they failed to submit a final report detailing the results of a feasibility study conducted to assess the viability and functionality of adding gas flow rate and composition to CCL's remote monitoring system as parameters. CCL missed the March 27, 2026, reporting deadline because a cyber-attack disabled access to monitor data. CCL requested an extension from AQMD but received no response. After regaining access to monitor data, CCL submitted their final report on April 8, 2026.

Mr. Larry Israel, Supervising Inspector with AQMD, provided the following update on odor complaints at CCL:

- During the month of April 2026, AQMD received over 1,140 odor complaints, which is the most received in a year and a half.
- To date in May 2026, AQMD has received approximately 255 odor complaints and issued 5 nuisance violations.
- The total number of odor complaints for this year is approximately 2,670 with the issuance of 47 nuisance violations and on top of the order for abatement violation.
- Next week's status hearing is set for Thursday at 9:30 a.m. The primary focus will be engineering and permitting conditions, specifically source testing and protocols for CCL's portable toxic units.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL (SCL)

Mr. Israel provided the following update of order complaints for SCL:

- Correction: the [odor complaints summary from AQMD for April 2026](#) should note 11 nuisance of violations in March, not 10.
- During the month of April 2026, AQMD logged approximately 94 odor complaints and issued 3 nuisance of violations.
- To date for May 2026, AQMD has logged approximately 35 odor complaints and issued no nuisance violations.
- A status hearing was held in late April 2026.

Mr. Hunter noted the community's ongoing frustration with persistent odors and the need for a timeline for a resolution. Mr. Israel indicated that odor complaint numbers are declining and that progress is being made on mitigation measures.

Implementation of Stipulated Order for Abatement

Mr. Eugene Tseng with the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) provided a [presentation](#) and noted some key points from the April 30, 2026, hearing with AQMD regarding modifications to the SOA.

Mr. Hunter inquired about the landfill gas collection efficiency at SCL. Mr. Tseng clarified that the goal for SCL is approximately 75 percent landfill gas collection efficiency for an operating landfill. Discussion ensued about the odor emissions.

Mr. Hunter asked about the microbiology-based mitigations being implemented at SCL. Mr. Tseng explained that Methanotrophs bacteria are used to oxidize methane, helping to reduce landfill gas emissions. These bacteria are incorporated into soil, hydroseed mixtures, and compost to create a living biofilter in the soil that promotes the breakdown of methane and other compounds. He further explained

that Phytoremediative bacteria associated with established vegetation can help reduce odors as plants germinate and grow.

Mr. Sheppard noted that 10 percent of the gas extraction wells are pinched due to land movement and asked about the steps taken to reactivate them. Mr. Tseng confirmed that all affected wells have been replaced.

Mr. Sheppard asked if the wells in the Legacy area have pneumatic pumps in them. Mr. Tseng confirmed they did and that approximately 300 wells are being replaced due to unprecedented rainfall. He also noted that the LEA and AQMD asked Republic Services to look into high capacity pumps which offer about 25 to 26 times the pumpable volume. Because many landfills were not designed for wet weather, Mr. Sheppard asked if there are additional best management practices (BMPs) implemented at other eastern and northern landfills that operate in wet conditions. Mr. Tseng indicated that many of the BMPs being utilized came from other parts of the world. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Sheppard mentioned there may be a future presentation by students at either the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee or Alternative Technology Subcommittee meeting that are working on a project related to landfill mitigation measures. Mr. Tseng indicated that science related to technology is moving very quickly because of artificial intelligence (AI) and that NASA funded a research center at Cal State Northridge, where students and professors are collaborating on solid waste and environmental sustainability projects, in which Mr. Tseng was appointed to guide the research students and professors.

He also informed that a presentation has been created on current AI research aimed at improving trash processing, data analysis, and analytics. NASA scientists, students, and professors are reviewing the raw background data.

V. ANTELOPE VALLEY LANDFILL FINDING OF CONFORMANCE

Mr. Alexander Castro, staff to the Task Force, provided the following update on the Antelope Valley Landfill Finding of Conformance (FOC) application:

Following the landfill expansion approved by the Palmdale Planning Commission in November 2025, the Task Force requested Waste Management on January 27, 2026, under the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (CSE), to submit a FOC application for the expansion. The project expands the permitted landfill footprint from 185 to 351 acres, increases the disposable area from 125 to

181 acres, and authorizes limited Sunday drop-off hours for residential municipal solid waste.

On April 13, 2026, Waste Management submitted its FOC application. Task Force staff had 30 days under the CSE to review its completeness and subsequently returned the application to the Landfill Operator on May 12, 2026, to request additional information. Once the application is complete, staff will prepare a report with a recommendation for the Subcommittee to review, triggering a 60-day window for the Task Force to approve the finalized FOC application.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comment.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2026, at 11 a.m.