



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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February 11, 2020

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE:

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Mark Pestrella
Director of Public Works

BOARD MOTION OF OCTOBER 29, 2019, AGENDA ITEM 62-C ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR COMMUNITY NEAR EASTERN HILL LANDFILLS WEEKLY REPORT

This is the weekly progress report in response to the Board's motion of October 29, 2019, Agenda Item 62-C, which directed Public Works in coordination with the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel to:

- Expedite implementation of any mitigation required by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD);
- Explore implementation of other mitigation above requirements by SCAQMD;
- Schedule a series of community meetings with relevant State and local agencies that are conducted in a culturally competent and linguistically sensitive manner to provide regular updates to the community members living, working, or attending school in the area surrounding Eastern Hill Landfills; and
- Report back weekly on the above directives until implementation is complete.

Mitigation Required by SCAQMD

On February 4, 2020, the Board approved the project plans for the landfill gas (LFG) extraction system. Public Works will release the adopted plans and specifications for bids to be received no later than March 31, 2020.

Additional Mitigation

Landscape enhancements, traffic improvements, and road repair were identified as items that would benefit the project. Public Works continues to evaluate the road conditions and identify the scope of the road repairs for the nearby Sheriff Road and to develop a landscape plan for the immediate area next to the LFG extraction system.

A work plan to address fissure conditions at the site until the landfill gas extraction system is installed was approved by the Local Enforcement Agency on December 18, 2019. In addition, the Agency requested a Postclosure Maintenance Plan be submitted by February 18, 2020, identifying permanent measures that will be taken to prevent landfill gas emissions and maintenance of the repairs at the site, including Sheriff Road. In order to develop a thorough Postclosure Maintenance Plan and the time to conduct internal review of the final plan, Public Works has requested an extension from the Local Enforcement Agency to March 30, 2020. A Notice to Proceed has been issued to the consultant team to perform the fissure repair work. The community was informed of the fissure repair work plan at the January 28, 2020, public meeting, and the repair work start date was delayed to February 11, 2020, and is anticipated to be completed by February 21, 2020.

Coordination with Public Health to Assess Human Health Risks

The Board's motion of October 29, 2019, directed Public Health in coordination with Public Works, Chief Executive Office, and County Counsel to:

- Review data to determine potential human health risks to residents living in the community surrounding Eastern Hill Landfills;
- Conduct outreach and provide any necessary services through Public Health Nurses and promotores;
- Identify internal or external sources of funding for this work; and
- Report back in 90 days regarding the above directives.

On November 18, 2019, Public Health requested that Public Works develop a work plan to:

- Review available data and provide a work plan to address the collection of additional data, including, but not limited to, expanded chemical testing of surface and subsurface vapors and routine environmental monitoring in the community surrounding the Cogen Landfill; and
- Conduct a comprehensive health risk assessment of community members living, working, or going to school near the Cogen Landfill.

On January 29, 2020, Public Health responded with a report to the Board on the directives from the October 29, 2020, Board Motion (attached). Concurrently, the draft work plan was completed on January 30, 2020. The final work plan will be submitted to Public Health in February for review and approval. Progress meetings between Public Works, Chief Executive Office, and Public Health are being conducted in the interim to complete the work plan.

Community Engagement

Community meetings continue to be a key component of the public outreach effort. The next outreach event will include a follow-up meeting with the community to review the details of the comprehensive health risk assessment once the assessment is completed and approved by Public Health. A newsletter to inform the community of the project progress will be distributed by Public Health on a monthly basis.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Rossana D'Antonio at (626) 458-4004 or rdanton@pw.lacounty.gov.

FG:rp

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Attach.

- cc: Chief Executive Office (Sachi A. Hamai, Amir Alam, Matthew Diaz, David Howard)
County Counsel (Casey Yourn)
Executive Office
Department of Public Health (Barbara Ferrer, Liza Frias, Cyrus Rangan)
- bc: Shari Afshari
Rossana D'Antonio
Massood Eftekhari
Environmental Programs (Skye), Project Management I (Moey, Perez, Ramos)



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County Health Officer

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Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

January 29, 2020

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director of Public Health *Barbara Ferrer*

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE COMMUNITY NEAR COGEN
LANDFILLS ON EASTERN HILL
(ITEM NO. 62-C, AGENDA OF OCTOBER 29, 2019)

This is in response to the October 29, 2019 Board motion directing the Department of Public Health (DPH) in coordination with Department of Public Works (DPW), Chief Executive Office and County Counsel to 1) review data to determine potential human health risks to residents living in the community surrounding Eastern Hills Landfills; 2) conduct outreach and provide necessary services through Public Health nurses and promotores; 3) Identify internal or external sources of funding for this work; and 4) Report back in 90 days regarding the above directives. This constitutes the 90-day report.

Review data to determine potential human health risks

DPH reviewed available historical records and environmental data collected between 2010 and 2019, including quarterly and monthly monitoring reports. Previous assessments indicate the landfill contains a mix of residential, construction and hazardous waste, including wood waste, bricks, newspaper, cans, glass, organic materials, cloth, asphalt, tire, and rubber. Primary chemicals of concern are typical landfill gases (e.g., methane and hydrogen sulfide) and other volatile organic chemicals, including hydrocarbons (e.g., benzene and toluene) and chlorinated solvents (e.g., vinyl chloride and Freon).

In October 2018, DPW added offsite locations to its monthly monitoring protocol. At these offsite locations, methane has been detected at concentrations up to 2,000 parts per million (ppm), which is substantially lower than the lower explosive limit for methane (50,000 ppm). Based on the

available offsite data and the 2018 Human Health Risk Assessment, the landfill does not pose an immediate risk to nearby residents. However, potential physical and chemical risks exist for underground fire due to high concentrations of methane above lower explosive limits measured in the fissures and crevices of the ground cover. The offsite data also suggests that landfill-related pollutants are migrating beyond the landfill property boundary and require further assessment.

DPH identified a significant data gap with respect to non-methane volatile organic chemicals in onsite and offsite surface and subsurface gases and has recommended to DPW that it expand the chemical testing for gas samples collected from its offsite monitoring locations. Additionally, DPH advised DPW to conduct a gas composition analysis of the landfill gas to guide future monitoring and assessment efforts.

DPH is advising DPW in the development of a draft workplan to expand chemical testing of surface and subsurface gases and extend environmental monitoring in the community surrounding the landfill. The resulting data will inform a comprehensive health assessment of potential long-term impacts to surrounding residents.

Conduct outreach and provide any necessary services

DPH developed a bilingual informational campaign to support community engagement for those living, working, and attending school near the landfill. The fact sheet developed contains information on the Cogen Landfill including ownership and regulatory authority. It also explains the situation regarding migrating gases and the next steps to protect public health (please see Attachment). The fact sheet is the first of a series designed to keep the community apprised of the County's ongoing efforts.

In coordination with Supervisor Solis and DPW, DPH staff delivered key messages to the community through parent meetings, community events, and multi-agency community meetings planned to provide health and regulatory information to community members. DPH and DPW participated in a total of seven outreach, education, and blood lead testing events during the months of November 2019 and January 2020:

- November 7, 2019
Supervisor Solis and staff from DPH and DPW hosted information tables at City Terrace Elementary School from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. Information regarding the landfill, including the progress of mitigation measures, was provided to concerned parents and faculty members. The attached Cogen Landfill fact sheet and Community Resources for Environmental Health flyer in English and Spanish were distributed.
- November 14, 2019
Supervisor Solis and staff from DPH and DPW hosted information tables at City Terrace Elementary School from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. The same information provided on November 7, 2019 was provided again to additional parents and faculty members.

SCAQMD hosted a community meeting at City Terrace Park from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. DPH provided the Public Health Outreach Vehicle, led the blood lead testing, and staffed a resource table to provide outreach and education to community members who attended the meeting. DPH conducted blood lead testing for 8 people.

- November 21, 2019
Outreach and education materials were provided from DPW and DPH outreach vehicles parked along Eastern and City Terrace streets from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. DPH conducted blood lead testing for 19 people.
- November 23, 2019
At the City Terrace Park Community Open House event from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, DPH provided the Public Health Outreach Vehicle, led the blood lead testing, and staffed a resource table for community members who attended the Open House. DPH conducted blood lead testing for 12 people.
- December 7, 2019
Outreach and education were provided from DPW and DPH outreach vehicles parked along Eastern and City Terrace streets from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. DPH conducted blood lead testing for 6 people.
- January 28, 2020
Supervisor Solis and staff from DPH and DPW hosted a community meeting at City Terrace Park from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. DPW presented an update on the project and progress to meet the objectives of the October 29, 2019 motion. The community was informed of upcoming temporary repairs at the Cogen site, the forthcoming recommendations to the Board of Supervisors to adopt the Cogen landfill gas extraction system plans and advertise for bids to construct the project, and the development of the comprehensive health risk assessment.

DPH and DPW are committed to providing ongoing outreach and updates to the community as the project is completed.

Identify internal or external sources of funding for this work.

Pursuant to direction from the Board on October 29, discussions have been initiated among the CEO, DPW, and DPH regarding recommendations on a funding plan for the work associated with addressing environmental justice near landfills on Eastern Hill. Further assessment of resource requirements will be conducted by DPH in consultation with DPW and the CEO.

Each Supervisor
January 29, 2020
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We will continue to inform your Board of significant developments. If you have questions or need additional information, please let me know.

BF:lf

C: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

Attachments: Cogen Landfill
Vertedero Cogen (*Spanish translation*)
Community Resources for Environmental Health
Recursos de Salud Ambiental para la Comunidad (*Spanish translation*)

Cogen Landfill

November 8, 2019



IMAGE OF PROPOSED LANDFILL GAS CONTROL SYSTEM (PROJECT)

WHAT IS THE COGEN LANDFILL?

The Cogen Landfill is located on McBride Avenue in the City of Monterey Park, near the 10 Freeway and the 710 Freeway. It operated from 1951 to 1958 as a facility for refuse disposal and closed in 1959. This facility no longer accepts waste of any kind. The Cogen Landfill operated prior

to modern-day permitting, regulations, and record keeping. Currently, the Cogen Landfill has three owners: Crown Enterprises (71%), Bar V Bar (17%), and the County of Los Angeles (12%).

WHO OVERSEES THE COGEN LANDFILL?

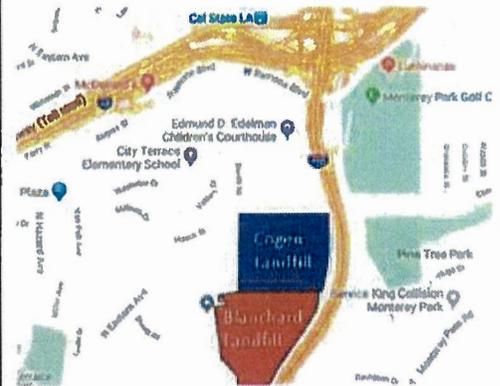
The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health), along with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and the State Regional Water Quality Control Board are responsible for ensuring the landfills comply with State and local laws. Public Health is also charged with protecting residents from health risks due to environmental exposures.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION AT THE COGEN LANDFILL?

Methane gas is a natural result of the break-down of material buried in the landfill. Regulating agencies have been monitoring underground methane gas levels for many years. Since 2010, methane has been intermittently coming to the surface. To control the landfill gases and prevent them from migrating, gas collection systems are needed. Crown Enterprises installed a gas control system in 2018 and DPW will install an additional system by 2020.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ENSURE GAS EMISSIONS DO NOT AFFECT PUBLIC HEALTH?

The regulating agencies continue to monitor air, gases, and ground water at the landfill. Based on available monitoring data, there is no immediate health risk to residents living nearby. However, more work needs to be done to fully evaluate potential long-term health impacts in the community. Further monitoring will be extended into the nearby community to ensure the health and safety of residents.



REPORT ODORS TO THE SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Call: 800-CUT-SMOG
(800-288-7664)

Online: cut_smog@aqmd.gov

FOR INFORMATION ON THE COGEN LANDFILL:

Call: Local Enforcement Agency
at (626) 430-5540

Online: swmp@ph.lacounty.gov

Visit the project website

https://pw.lacounty.gov/pmdl/eas_ternhilllandfill

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

Call: Los Angeles County
Department of Public Health at
(213) 738-3220

www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/community



Vertedero Cogen

8 de noviembre del 2019



IMAGEN DEL SISTEMA PROPUESTO DE CONTROL DE GASES DEL RELLENO SANITARIO (PROYECTO)

¿QUÉ ES EL VERTEDERO COGEN?

El Vertedero Cogen está localizado en la Avenida McBride, en la ciudad de Monterey Park, cerca de las autopistas 10 y 710. Estuvo en operación como basurero de 1951 a 1958, y fue cerrado en 1959. Esta instalación ya no acepta desperdicios de ninguna clase. El

Vertedero Cogen estuvo en operación antes de que existieran permisos, regulaciones, y archivos como se encuentran ahora. Actualmente, el Vertedero Cogen tiene tres dueños: Crown Enterprises (71%), Bar V Bar (17%), y el Condado de Los Ángeles (12%).

¿QUIÉN SUPERVISA EL RELLENO SANITARIO COGEN?

Los responsables por asegurarse de que los vertederos cumplan con las leyes Estatales y locales son: El Departamento de Obras Públicas del Condado de Los Ángeles (DPW) y el Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles (Salud Pública), el Distrito para la Administración de la Calidad del Aire de las Costa Sur (SCAQMD), y La Junta de Control de la Calidad del Agua Regional Estatal. Salud Pública también es responsable por proteger a los residentes de los riesgos a la salud debido a la exposición ambiental a sustancias tóxicas.

¿CUÁL ES LA SITUACIÓN ACTUAL DEL VERTEDERO COGEN?

El gas metano resulta naturalmente por la descomposición del material enterrado en el vertedero. Las agencias reguladoras han estado monitoreando los niveles de gas metano subterráneo por muchos años. Desde el 2010, el gas metano ha estado saliendo a la superficie de manera intermitente. Para controlar los gases del vertedero y prevenir que migren hacia la comunidad, se necesitan sistemas de colección de gases. Crown Enterprises instaló un sistema de control de gases en el 2018 y DPW instalará un sistema adicional para el 2020.

¿QUÉ SE ESTÁ HACIENDO PARA QUE LAS EMISIONES DE GAS NO AFECTEN LA SALUD PÚBLICA?

Las agencias reguladoras continúan monitoreando el aire, los gases, y el agua subterránea en el vertedero. En este momento no existe un riesgo inmediato para la salud de las personas que viven en los alrededores. Sin embargo, se necesita trabajar más para evaluar completamente la posibilidad de impactos a la salud de la comunidad a largo plazo. Un monitoreo adicional se extenderá a las comunidades cercanas para proteger la salud y seguridad de sus residentes.



REPORTE LOS MALOS OLORES A SCAQMD

Llame al: 800-CUT-SMOG
(800-288-7664)

En línea: cut_smog@aqmd.gov

PARA INFORMACIÓN SOBRE EL VERTEDERO COGEN:

Llame a la Agencia Local para el Cumplimiento de las Regulaciones al: (626) 430-5540

En línea: swmp@ph.lacounty.gov

Visite el sitio en internet del proyecto

<https://pw.lacounty.gov/pmd1/easternhilllandfill>

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE SU SALUD Y EL MEDIO AMBIENTE:

Llame al Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Los Ángeles al: (213) 738-3220
www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/community





Community Resources for Environmental Health



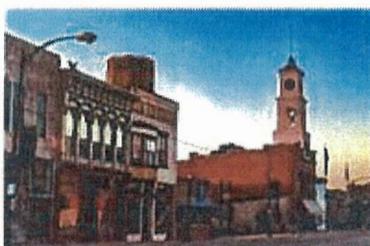
A website for community members:

publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/community

Problem in Your Home



Problem in Your Community



Environmental Health Equity



On the website you can learn:

- How to prevent and fix common environmental problems in the home and community
- Which agency to call for help with each issue
- Tips when calling agencies and asking for help

Topics on the website include:

- Air Pollution
- Asbestos
- Bad Smells and Dust
- Idling Trucks
- Indoor Air Pollution
- Lead Paint
- Mold
- Mosquitos
- Noise
- Pollution from Business
- Trash and Debris
- Rats/Mice
- How and Why to Report Problems



We all deserve clean and healthy places to live, work, and play.





Recursos de Salud Ambiental para la Comunidad

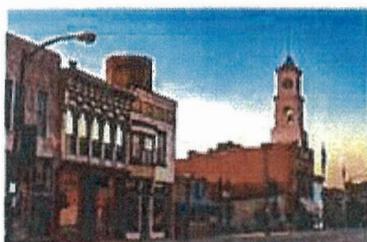


Página de información para miembros de la comunidad:
publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/community

Problema en su hogar



Problema en su Comunidad



Equidad en Salud Ambiental



En la página informática usted puede aprender:

- Cómo prevenir y eliminar problemas ambientales que son comunes en los hogares y en las comunidades
- Con quien comunicarse para pedir ayuda dependiendo del tipo de problema presente
- Consejos para reportar problemas de sanidad y salud ambiental a las debidas agencias

Temas que usted puede aprender en nuestra página informática:

- Contaminación del aire exterior
- Amianto
- Malos olores y polvo
- Vehículos en ralenti
- Contaminación de aire en interiores
- Pintura con plomo
- Moho
- Mosquitos
- Ruido
- Contaminación por los negocios
- Basura y escombros
- Ratas/Ratones
- Cómo y por qué informar sobre problemas



Escanéame

Todos merecemos lugares limpios y saludables para vivir, trabajar y jugar.



REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

October 29, 2019

Environmental Justice for the Community Near Cogen Landfills on Eastern Hill

Landfills have plagued the First District of Los Angeles County (County) for decades. These environmental hazards raise legitimate concerns about the health and safety of residents—and require complete and immediate mitigation and remediation. Remediation should accompany revitalization of the former landfills if safe and appropriate, such as the recreational opportunities and open space being created through the La Puente Hills Landfill Park Master Plan Project.

Former Cogen and Blanchard Landfills (hereinafter referred as Eastern Hill Landfills), owned in part by the County, is in unincorporated City Terrace of the First District. Although Eastern Hill Cogen Landfills has been out of commission since the late 1950s, the County must take immediate and appropriate action to protect the community near Eastern Hill Cogen Landfills, where there are residents, grade school students, and a workforce essential to the County's safety net programs.

Robust community engagement is the linchpin to this work. The County must apprise residents and other individuals to ensure they are aware and help inform the

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
BARGER	_____
HAHN	_____

County's remediation plan, which must be complete, transparent, and swift.

The public health and well-being of our residents is of utmost importance – and that priority extends to addressing environmental justice issues regardless of cost or convenience.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works, in coordination with the Chief Executive Office and County Counsel, to:

1. Expedite implementation of any mitigation required by the South Coast Air Quality Management District;
2. Explore implementation of other mitigation above what is required by the South Coast Air Quality Management District;
3. Schedule a series of community meetings with relevant state and local agencies, that are conducted in a culturally-competent and linguistically-sensitive manner, to provide regular updates to the community members living, working, or attending school in the area surrounding Eastern Hill~~Cogen~~ Landfills; and
4. Report back weekly on the above directives until implementation is complete.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Health, in coordination with the Department of Public Works, Chief Executive Office, and County Counsel, to:

1. Review data to determine potential human health risks to residents living in the community surrounding Eastern Hill~~Cogen~~ Landfills;
2. Conduct outreach and provide any necessary services through Public Health Nurses and promotores;

3. Identify internal or external sources of funding for this work;
4. Report back in 90 days regarding the above directives.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct County Counsel to evaluate legal and administrative options against the other current owners of the Eastern HillCogen Landfills, and the former owners and operators of the Eastern HillCogen Landfills.

#

HLS:ew