

Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**Minutes of April 21, 2005**

**Commerce City Hall  
2535 Commerce Way  
Commerce, CA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
John McTaggart, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Michael Theroux, Theroux Environmental Consulting  
Ed Wheless, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Fernando Berton, California Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Kay Martin, Bioenergy Producers Association  
Chris Mastro, County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services  
Eugene Tseng, Eugene Tseng and Associates  
Jeff Yann, Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brian S. Appel, Changing World Technologies, Inc.  
Shapoor Hamid, URS Corporation  
Virginia Jauregui, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Dan Predpall, URS Corporation  
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MARCH 17, 2005 MINUTES**

Due to the lack of quorum, approval of minutes will be considered at the next Subcommittee meeting.

## **III. CONTRACTOR UPDATE AND DELIVERABLE STATUS – SHAPOOR HAMID**

Mr. Shapoor Hamid, of URS Corporation, provided the Subcommittee with an update covering the company's activities for the month of March.

Mr. Hamid addressed the following deliverables:

1. URS has started the evaluation of the conversion technology suppliers and has received 29 responses in total.
2. Ranking criteria for evaluation of conversion technologies and conversion technology suppliers/vendors was submitted to the County.
3. URS received an averaged weight for each criterion from the County.
4. A fatal flaw criteria to screen the conversion technology suppliers was developed and approved
5. The conversion technology suppliers were screened based on the fatal flaw criteria, and the screening was justified.

URS has begun evaluating conversion technology suppliers and has received 29 responses in total. Of these responses, 15 remain after being screened using the fatal flaw criteria which were approved by the Subcommittee. The average weight assigned to each ranking criteria was averaged and rounded to the nearest number. Mr. Hamid asked the Subcommittee to provide rationales for the numbers assigned to each performance level.

Mr. Hamid also discussed the status on the conversion technology suppliers' evaluation and told the Subcommittee that it is in its last stage and almost complete. When the numbers for these evaluations are agreed upon by the Subcommittee, they will be added and reviewed. After this is finished, the next

step for URS will be to analyze of the most suitable combination, market analysis, siting analysis, and prepare the draft final report.

Mr. Theroux raised concerns related to the analysis of the ranking criteria. Because the ratings were not consistent, he was concerned that recent assessments and changes by the Subcommittee might change the protocol, and therefore reassess the initial assumptions after being reevaluated. Mr. Hamid asked if URS should establish a performance level that would be assigned to the ranking criteria that would establish a consistent rating from 100 to 0 for all criteria. Following discussion, the Subcommittee reaffirmed the need to have a consistent threshold throughout the table, so that each threshold will have the lowest rating of 0 and the top rating of 100.

#### **IV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Skye discussed briefly AB 177, AB 727, and AB 1090. Of most concern to the Subcommittee is AB 1090, which was heard in committee the week of April 18, 2005 and will be addressed in committee hearing in summer 2005. Mr. Skye provided a report regarding the Waste Board's *Conversion Technology Report to the Legislature*. The Waste Board approved a motion at their April 19, 2005 meeting that would remove all information from the report that was not specifically mandated by AB 2770; this would include eliminating any reference to recommendations supporting diversion credit for conversion technologies, and it may likely include any reference of the relationship between conversion technology and recycling and/or composting.

Mr. Skye urged support for the March 15, 2005 version of the report, and asked members of the Subcommittee to testify at the next Waste Board meeting on May 11, 2005 held in Anaheim. There was a unanimous consensus from the Subcommittee which asked the Task Force to forward a letter addressed to legislators Kuehl, Lowenthal, and Hancock concerning their recommendations on *The Conversion Technology Report to the Legislature*.

#### **V. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr. Theroux commented that he is working on modifying the core messages for the *Public Outreach Plan*. He also discussed that SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments) has agreed to work with the Subcommittee on identifying potential stakeholders.

**VI. PRESENTATION ON THERMAL DEPOLYMERIZATION -- MR. BRIAN S. APPEL OF CHANGING WORLD TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**

Mr. Brian Appel of Changing World Technologies provided the Subcommittee with a PowerPoint presentation on his company's thermal chemical conversion process. This process takes discarded pieces from nearly 30,000 Missouri Butterball turkeys, and uses 250 tons of their feathers, beaks, and other types of offal to create clean fuel and specialty chemicals, resulting in a daily output of approximately 400 barrels of oil.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE, TBA**

The next meeting is scheduled on May 19, 2005 at 10:00 am. at the Department of Public Works.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.