

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**Minutes of December 18, 2003**

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Joe Massey, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries  
Michael Miller, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Margaret Clark, rep. by Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division  
Thomas L. Garthwaite, rep. by Virginia Maloles, County of L.A. Dept. of Health Services  
James A. Noyes, rep. by Shari Afshari, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works  
David Roberti, represented by Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Jim Stahl, rep. by Charles Boehmke, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Director of City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, represented by Karen Coca  
Ben Wong, rep. by John McTaggart, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Deaton, City of Los Angeles Appointee  
Christopher J. Garner, City of Long Beach  
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee  
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, County of L.A. DPW  
Paul Alva, County of L.A. DPW  
Maria Aquino, City of Arcadia  
Toyasha Black, City of Arcadia  
Kit Cole, Waste Management  
Tammy Evans, City of Monrovia  
Duane McDonald, Athens Services  
Michelle Nicholls, SCS Engineers  
Fred Pfaeffle, County Counsel  
Martin Rosen, City of L.A. LEA  
Carlos Ruiz, County of L.A. DPW  
Isabel Schleif, City of Covina

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2003**

The minutes of November 20 2003, were approved unanimously with the following changes: Page three, second paragraph of item seven should read "A motion was made to send a letter to the Permitting and Enforcement Committee chaired by Michael Paparian"; page four, third paragraph of item seven, second sentence should read "Task Force members decided that the letter to the Governor should be in reference to waste management issues that concern the Task Force only"; in that same paragraph the following sentence should read: "Task Force members agreed to provide input to a list of concerns developed by staff which will be included in the letter to the Governor..." The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

**III. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Albert Avoian chaired the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meeting. He explained that the Nondisposal Facility Elements (NDFE) for the City of Los Angeles and the City of Glendale were reviewed in the meeting. The Subcommittee requested including tonnage in the existing capacity field for American Waste Industries on the report for the City of Los Angeles. The Subcommittee voted to recommend Task Force approval of both NDFEs with the recommended changes.

**IV. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT**

Mr. Albert Avoian stated the Subcommittee recommended the Task Force approve the City of Los Angeles' Nondisposal Facility Element with recommended changes. A motion was made to approve the amended NDFE. The motion passed with Ms. Karen Coca from the City of Los Angeles abstaining.

**V. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF GLENDALE NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT**

Mr. Albert Avoian stated the Subcommittee recommended the Task Force approve the City of Glendale's Nondisposal Facility Element. A motion was made to approve the amended NDFE. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. STATUS OF RESPONSE TO TASK FORCE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON BRADLEY LANDFILL**

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works stated that the requested information had not been received as of this date. Ms. Kit Cole, the new Director of Programs at Waste Management, Inc. was present in place of Mr. Corcoran and informed the Task Force that the packet of information requested was placed in the mail that morning. Task Force members expressed their indignation at the continued lack of compliance by Waste Management and requested County Counsel explain the recourses the Task Force has in order to obtain the required information which Waste Management had not yet provided.

Mr. Fred Pfaeffle, of County Counsel, recommended the Task Force include this item on the January meeting agenda to allow staff time to review the information reportedly sent by Waste Management. The agenda item should be listed as a closed door session so that legal options may be discussed if the information received is not what was requested.

A motion was made to place the item on the January 2004 meeting agenda as a closed door session to discuss implications of Waste Management issues and legal options if necessary to obtain the required information. The motion passed unanimously.

It was requested that Ms. Kit Cole convey the Task Force's disappointment to Waste Management and requested Waste Management compose a written explanation for their lack of compliance due to staff by the first week of January 2004.

**VII. STATUS REPORT ON AB 939 REGIONAL AGENCY FORMATION**

Ms. Karen Coca from the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation provided a brief history on forming the AB 939 Regional Agency. The effort has been going on for two years. At the Waste Board's meeting in Sacramento in November, the Waste Board Chair, Linda Moulton-Patterson, appointed Mr. Mark Leary to serve as a facilitator between Waste Board staff and cities in order to resolve remaining issues to enable the approval of the Regional Agency in January 2004. Since that date, Ms. Coca has met with member cities and Waste Board staff to discuss their goals and positions.

Ms. Coca stated a consensus was reached and the Waste Board's legal counsel advised the Waste Board that if a letter was drafted by the member cities stating their position, the Waste Board's legal counsel would not have any issues against the proposal. Letters of support for the formation of the

regional agency were also submitted by waste haulers and hauler associations. The City of Gardena is being excluded from the Regional Agency at this time due to present Waste Board fines and problems with their existing haulers. Once those issues are resolved Ms. Coca stated that the City of Gardena is welcome to join. The next meeting in Sacramento is scheduled for January 2004.

**VIII. STATUS REPORT ON CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD'S PROPOSED SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE RULE**

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated there are problems with the November 23, 2003 draft regulations for solid waste collection vehicles. He discussed the draft which showed his recommended changes (attached). The problems include the California Air Resources Board (CARB) wanting cities and counties to enforce some of the requirements of the new regulations, the reporting requirements for municipalities, having to renegotiate existing agreements with local waste haulers, and having municipalities subject to penalties. Mr. Mohajer stated CARB will release the draft regulations for the 15-day public comment period in January 2004.

Mr. Mike Miller stated the League of California Cities has taken the position that these regulations should not be a burden on cities, that the municipalities should not be subject to penalties, that cities cannot guarantee the accuracy of information provided by waste haulers, and that the rate regulating should be left to the municipalities.

A motion was made for the Task Force to send another letter to the CARB reiterating the Task Force's position and attaching the November 23, 2003 draft with recommended changes as the Task Force's official comments. The motion passed unanimously.

**IX. REPORT FROM THE CIWMB**

Mr. Steve Uselton from the Waste Board was unable to attend the meeting.

**X. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Paul Alva provided a copy of the draft comments compiled by staff for recommendations to streamline the State's regulatory processes regarding solid waste management (copy attached). Mr. Alva went over the ten sections which included:

- Developing partnerships with local governments
- Compliance measurement on waste diversion mandates

- Disposal Reporting System deficiencies
- Conversion technologies
- Beneficial use of depleted gravel pits
- Changes in rules, regulations, policies, guidelines and procedures
- Markets for diverted materials
- Solid waste facility permitting and enforcement process
- Clean Water Act enforcement
- Enhancing coordination within CalEPA

Recommendations were made by the Task Force members to keep the bold numbered items clear and to the point. Each section should also include specific examples of conflict in order to illustrate the present problems encountered. Mr. Mike Miller, Mr. Mike Mohajer, and Mr. Joe Massey will work with staff to develop the final draft of the letter and list. Task Force members recommended copies of the letter and list be sent to the CARB, CalEPA, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control.

In regards to the Task Force emails, Ms. Betsey Landis requested not to be sent scanned documents because some people are unable to open them and her server is unable to accept large documents.

**XI. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 15, 2004.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.