

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

Minutes of March 29, 2004

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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
Albert Avoian, Business/Commerce Representative
Ben Wong, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Margaret Clark, rep. by John McTaggart, League of California Cities-L.A. 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
Christopher J. Garner, rep. by Charles Tripp, City of Long Beach
Michael Miller, rep. by Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-L.A. Division,
after Mr. Miller's departure subsequent to the start of the meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Deaton, City of Los Angeles Appointee
David Kim, City of Los Angeles Appointee
Rita Robinson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Martins Aiyetiwa, County of L.A. DPW
Paul Alva, County of L.A. DPW
Vanessa Tubales, City of Hidden Hills
Travis Langer, City of Santa Clarita
Saynne Redifer, City of Palmdale
Roger Mangrum, Sustainable Solutions
Toyasha Black, City of Arcadia
Maria Aquino, City of Arcadia
Javier Peraza, City of Diamond Bar
Carlos Ruiz, County of L.A. DPW
Doug Corcoran, Waste Management, Inc.

Anita Jimenez, City of Santa Fe Springs
Melinda Barrett, County of L.A. DPW
Marsha McLean, Task Force Alternate
Heather Merenda, City of Santa Clarita
Isabel Schleif, City of Covina
Michelle Nicholls, SCS Engineers
Brandy Jakobsen, County of L.A. DPW
Leonard Grossberg, City of Vernon
Debra Parsons, County of L.A. DPW
Coby Skye, County of L.A. DPW

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2004

A request was made to amend Section V, line 5 of the minutes to replace "approval" with "concurrence" and replace "a change in tonnage" with "an increase in current maximum daily tonnage of 1,920 tons per day." A request was also made to amend Section VI to replace "approve" with "concur," replace "for" with "to include" and to add at the end of the first sentence, "with current maximum daily permitted capacity of 1,920 tons per day."

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 19, 2004, as amended and passed unanimously.

III. SENATE BILL 1387

Mr. Mike Miller and Mr. Paul Alva provided an overview and distributed the County Sanitation Districts' Resolution in Opposition to Senate Bill 1387 (attached). This Bill prohibits the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County from acquiring or developing land, or placing improvements upon land, to develop the 4,000 ton per day Puente Hills materials recovery facility project, unless it is approved by a ? vote of the affected district. Moreover, the vote would take place at the next regularly scheduled general election.

After some discussion, a motion was made to send a letter in support of the County Sanitation Districts' resolution to oppose the Bill. The motion was passed with one member abstaining and one opposing.

IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Paul Alva provided a summary of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee meeting. He also provided background information on the creation of the Subcommittee and the goals and objectives associated with the project. Mr. Alva shared with the Task Force the recent finalization of the Scope of Work, which will be used for a pilot conversion technology facility study in southern California.

V. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Al Avoian provided a summary of the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Avoian stated the Subcommittee had a number of questions regarding the City of Los Angeles Planning Department's process for land use, and their Building and Safety Departments' code specifications for gas migration for new/existing structures adjacent to landfills. Mr. Avoian further stated that the Subcommittee requested additional information regarding questions raised during the Subcommittee meeting. He reported that the Subcommittee recommended sending letters to the City of Los Angeles Planning Department, the Building and Safety Department, and to Waste Management, Inc., to pose questions concerning the issues raised at the Subcommittee meeting.

A motion was made to send letters to the City of Los Angeles Building and Safety Department, the City of Los Angeles Planning Department, and Waste Management to request information pertaining to the questions raised at the Subcommittee meeting. A 30-day response deadline was requested for each letter. The motion was passed unanimously.

VI. STATUS ON SB 20 IMPLEMENTATION

Mr. Alva conducted a PowerPoint presentation (attached) that included an overview of emergency regulations for SB 20 and a press release from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). During the presentation questions were raised concerning the direct payment process from the Waste Board, public education funding, origin of covered electronic devices, and how the generator limits would be determined.

After the presentation, a motion was made for Task Force staff to compile a list of concerns regarding the proposed regulations, draft a letter, and send to the Task Force chair for review. The letter is also to indicate that local agencies should be able to receive direct payment from the State as collectors. The motion was passed with one member abstaining and one opposing.

VII. REPORT FROM THE CIWMB

A representative of the Waste Board was unable to attend, however, a copy of the Waste Board March 2004 Update provided by Mr. Steve Uselton of the Waste Board was distributed to the Task Force members (attached).

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Alva stated there are nine Bills that are of interest to the Task Force (attached).

- AB 1808 – Introduced by Yee

Mr. Alva provided a handout on AB 1808 regarding an increase in fines for illegal dumping and littering onto any body of water and would establish a beach clean-up fund. The Bill would impose a fine between \$200 and \$1,000 for the first offense on a beach under State Department of Parks and Recreation's jurisdiction. A portion of the penalties or fees collected would go towards the newly created Beach Cleanup and Litter Abatement Fund. The Fund would distribute monies to jurisdictions containing State beaches to enhance their litter prevention efforts for those beaches.

A motion was made for the Task Force to send a letter supporting AB 1808. The motion was passed unanimously.

- AB 1873 – Introduced by Hancock

Mr. Alva provided a handout on AB 1873 regarding the sunset clause in the Waste Board's Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program, designed to provide low interest loans to the business community. The RMDZ program provides incentives to eligible businesses that use recycled materials to manufacture new products or reduce the waste resulting in the manufacturing of a product. The program is scheduled for sunset on July 1, 2006. The proposed law would remove the sunset clause and make the RMDZ Program permanent.

A motion was made for the Task Force to send a letter supporting AB 1873. The motion was passed unanimously.

- AB 2166 – Introduced by Hancock

This Bill would prohibit the mass mailing of CDs and DVDs for commercial purposes unless prior consent is given or a postage paid return mailing envelope is provided.

A motion was made to support the Bill. Due in part to concerns expressed by some Task Force members regarding the Post Office being a federal activity and not subject to State legislation, the motion failed with five in favor and seven opposed. The Task Force will not send a comment on this issue, but will continue to monitor it.

- AB 2176 – Introduced by Montanez

This Bill would require the Waste Board to make available a model ordinance for local jurisdictions to adopt a new program or enhance their existing recycling program at large venues. This would impact venues that charge a fee for admission and attract over 2,000 daily visitors. These would include parks, zoos, amusement parks, and fairgrounds.

In addition, local jurisdictions would be required to provide the Waste Board with a report listing their top 10 percent of large venues. If findings identify less than 75 percent of the facilities have implemented the recycling programs, then the Waste Board must submit a report to the Legislature recommending legislative changes to mandate recycling programs in this industry. Local jurisdictions would be prohibited from issuing a land use permit, CUP, or variance to large venues unless they incorporate a waste reduction and recycling program in their design plan and operational procedures.

A motion was made to oppose the Bill and send a letter in opposition. The motion was passed unanimously.

- AB 2657 – Introduced by Nunez

The Bill would establish the Small Business Solid Waste Reduction loan program to be administered by the Waste Board. Staff was requested to continue to monitor this Bill.

- AB 2826 – Introduced by Canciamilla

The Bill would require State agencies that propose any substance to be prohibited from being disposed of at a landfill could only be done if the State agency identifies the infrastructure necessary to ensure the substance is treated in the safest manner possible.

Mr. Ben Wong stated the wording “safest manner possible” is a term that is not often agreed upon. Mr. Mike Mohajer stated the Bill will be substantially revised, but should be conceptually supported by the Task Force.

A motion was made to send a letter in support of the Bill with modifications to include clarification of the term “safest manner possible” and to be more specific regarding the handling of the material. The motion was carried with five opposed and six in favor.

- AB 2901 – Introduced by Pavley

This Bill would require DTSC to prohibit the sale or offer of cell phones previously banned by the European Union. The alignment of regulations would take place effective after January 1, 2007. The Bill would also prohibit retailers from selling cell phones after January 1, 2005, unless they have a Waste Board-approved plan for collecting, and recycling or disposing of used cell phones. The plan must include a take-back component, and a toll free hotline and Internet Web site to provide cell phone recycling information. Retailers found in non-compliance may be subject to fines up to \$2,500 by the Waste Board. In addition, the Superior Court may also fine non-compliant retailers up to \$5,000 for each cell phone sold.

A motion was called to monitor this Bill's progress. The motion was passed unanimously.

- SB 1159 – Introduced by Vasconcellos

The Bill proposes to provide regulations governing the management of household generated sharps. Jurisdictions would be required to identify a program for safe collection, treatment, and disposal of sharps generated by residents. In addition, beginning January 1, 2005, the Bill may also require jurisdictions to provide program description in their annual HHWE report.

The motion was called to monitor this Bill's progress. The motion was passed unanimously.

- SB 1180 – Introduced by Figueroa

The Bill would authorize DTSC to impose a fee (at point of purchase) on each florescent lamp sold in the State to offset the cost of recycling florescent lamps. Existing law has a February 6, 2006 provision that will classify florescent lamps as hazardous waste due to their mercury content.

A motion was made to monitor this Bill's progress. The motion was passed unanimously.

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Alva provided a brief update regarding the County of Los Angeles' progress in preparing the Five-Year Review report of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan. Mr. Alva stated that County staff will be working with the Waste Board to determine the best course of action since over a dozen cities have not responded to a survey necessary for the

preparation of the report. He further stated that a presentation will be conducted during the April meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Mohajer for staff to prepare a draft recommendation on issues that need to be updated on the Siting Element and the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, and to add this item to the April 2004 Task Force and the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee agendas. Ms. Afshari made a comment regarding the consistency with the Brown Act of such a motion, non-agendized, being made during the open discussion/public comment section of the meeting.

A discussion ensued and the vote was subsequently taken. The motion passed with one member opposing.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.