

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

Minutes of November 18, 2010

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mary Ann Lutz, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association (Formerly GLASWMA)
Eugene Sun, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Carl Clark, rep. by David Thornburg, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Gail Farber, rep. by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Stephen Maguin, rep. by Charles Boehmke, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Enrique Zaldivar, rep. by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, rep. by Cindy Chen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Greig Smith, rep. by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Michael Conway, City of Long Beach
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Christina Dixon, City of Huntington Park
Wilson Fong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Daren Grilley, City of San Gabriel
Michael Harvey, City of Compton
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Michelle Leonard, HDR
Howard Levenson, CalRecycle
Heather Maloney, City of Monrovia
Cara Morgan, CalRecycle
Mark Patti, City of Santa Clarita
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Steve Uselton, CalRecycle
Cynthia Vant Hul, GHG Climate Team
Lena Wiegard, CalRecycle

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:11 p.m.

Ms. Mary Ann Lutz introduced and welcomed new alternate member David Thornburg representing the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries.

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to add a presentation on the Overview of U.S. Navy's Conversion Technology Best Management Practices Tour by Eugene Tseng to the end of the agenda after Item VII.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2010

A motion was made to approve the minutes of October 21, 2010, as corrected. The motion passed.

III. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE (PEIS)

Mr. Mike Mohajer reported the subcommittee considered several articles from the Cities of Rancho Palos Verdes on their new waste collection program; Huntington Park on their composting program; Santa Clarita on their stormwater cleanup program and collection of sharps; the County of Los Angeles on an environmental workshop for teachers; and County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works on tire collection titled "Old Bald Guys," proposed closure, postclosure, and financial assurance fee (currently on hold), update on CT Project and preliminary siting element, sharps collection program; and an article coming from CalRecycle.

Mr. Mohajer also reported the subcommittee is considering a transition to paperless publications of the ISW Newsletter.

IV. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Mr. Coby Skye reported the subcommittee updates on ongoing efforts for phases 3 and 4 of the CT projects and continued efforts to obtain funding for phase 3 of the project. Mr. Skye noted that the Subcommittee received an informative presentation by Eugene Tseng regarding his efforts working with the US Navy and Federal Government to develop CTs, which he will be providing to the Task Force later today.

Mr. Skye also mentioned CR&R is expected to submit a grant request for funding for Phase 3 of the CT project, and the Subcommittee recommended the Task Force send a letter of support if CR&R's grant request is in line with the MOU. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion for the Task Force to send a letter of support, as needed and if the request is consistent with the guidelines in the MOU. It was seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. After a brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Betsey Landis provided an update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill indicating that staff provided three presentations regarding activities at the Landfill. Because so much is going on at the Landfill, the subcommittee believes continued regular updates are necessary. Ms. Landis made motion to send a letter to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) advising them that the Task Force has been closely monitoring the Landfill's activities and would like the TAC to keep the Task Force apprised of the meetings and actions of the TAC. Mr. Mike Mohajer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORT FROM CALRECYCLE

Representatives from CalRecycle's Sacramento office Mr. Howard Levenson, Deputy Director of Materials Management and Local Assistance Division, and Ms. Cara Morgan, Chief of the Local Assistance and Market Development Branch, addressed a few of the Task Force's concerns below.

- CalRecycle's Merger/Realignment and Operation – Mr. Levenson indicated there have been a lot of changes and streamlining of functions. One specific change to the Local Assistance Division is they are now handling all of the recycling and 99 percent of all the grants CalRecycle offers. They have gained more staff; however, staffing changes haven't been made as far as regional territories.
- Impact of Proposition 26 – Mr. Levenson indicated only that there is concern about the possibility of increasing CalRecycle's \$1.40 per ton "tipping fee." With the passage of carpet and paint stewardship legislation earlier in the year, their staff's initial analysis is that the current language in the law is adequate to continue working on programs and start the implementation of other programs.

- CalRecycle's Jurisdictional Review Tool (JRT), Enforcement Policy Part II, and Updates Regarding SB 1016 – Mr. Levenson stated a newsletter with erroneous information on the JRT was inadvertently sent out. He maintained the JRT is not a new requirement; it is an internal way to compile information about programs relating to AB 939. According to Mr. Levenson, there have been other informal tools used in the past, and this tool doesn't change anything. He added that the passing of SB 1016 "codified" their approach.

Mr. Levenson further stated the JRT is a tool that his staff uses to compile information for review by upper management. He is the executive that determines if a jurisdiction is in compliance, has made a good faith effort, or warrants a compliance plan of action.

- Mandatory Commercial Recycling – Mr. Levenson stated that under AB 32, CalRecycle is obligated to put forth a commercial recycling regulation. CalRecycle doesn't have the statutory authority to adopt the regulation, so they are working with the Air Resources Board (ARB) who will adopt the regulation once CalRecycle develops it. Once the regulation is adopted, CalRecycle will implement it.

According to Mr. Levenson, there have been several public workshops on the draft regulation and comments received have been taken into consideration. A new version of the draft regulation is coming mid December reflecting several changes addressing topics such as definitions, language on transformation and dirty MRFs, and diversion activities. The new draft regulation will have a clarified definition of businesses and will give monitoring options for businesses that are not recycling. CalRecycle will continue to hold workshops on this subject.

- CalRecycle's lifecycle analyses of organics diversion alternatives – Mr. Levenson stated all environmental and economic analyses will be available for public review when they start the formal rulemaking period. This is anticipated to start in late January. In December they will release the revision of the HFH cost model.
- The role of conversion technologies (CT) – CalRecycle continues to work in this area. They are working with the California Energy Commission (Commission) in particular to ensure technologies that take organics are able to get renewable credits. They are also working with the Commission on grants – especially in regards to AB 118. They have staff assigned to sit on the Commission's review panel for grant solicitation. They want to broaden the criteria to make sure CT projects are both available and

sought after. CalRecycle is not able to write a letter of support for CT projects because they are on the grant review panel, and it would be a conflict of interest. Mr. Levenson will be serving on the Commission's bioenergy working group, which also works on policy making.

There was a brief question and answer period with the Task Force members and the audience. With regard to the management of organics, Mr. Levenson stated there are many issues associated with managing organics, which leads to the need for conversion technologies. He added that in some cases CTs have not been treated as disposal. The Task Force had additional concerns previously presented to CalRecycle, but in the interest of time, Mr. Levenson and Ms. Morgan agreed to address those concerns at a later date.

Mr. Mike Mohajer thanked CalRecycle and their representatives for being more open than other state and local agencies and coming to speak to the Task Force. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz also expressed the Task Force's strong appreciation to Steve Uselton and thanked him for his attendance at the meetings and relaying information from CalRecycle.

Ms. Morgan mentioned the Yvonne Hunter of the Institute of Local Governments will be hosting a webinar on adopting a commercial recycling ordinance on December 16 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and encouraged everyone to listen in.

VII. PROPOSED AZUSA TRANSFER STATION AND MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY

Mr. Michael Hammer of Waste Management gave a presentation about the proposed Azusa Transfer Station and Material Recovery Facility ([see attached](#)). The facility will be located on a 300-acre site and will perform three major functions - recycling (residential and commercial), green waste processing, and transfer capability. Mr. Hammer mentioned that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) being prepared for the project will also analyze the impact of a potential household hazardous waste (HHW) facility that may be located at the site pending arrangements with the County of Los Angeles. The City of Azusa is planning to release the draft EIR in early 2011.

VIII. OVERVIEW OF U.S. NAVY'S CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TOUR

Dr. Eugene Tseng provided a summary of the recent tour he took with the Navy in their efforts to use conversion technology as a means to reduce their waste. Using the Navy base in San Diego as a test study, Mr. Tseng provided the following facts. Currently 50% of the base waste is recycled through source

separation; the other 50% is landfilled, accounting for approximately 150 tons per day. The Navy's goal is to further divert waste by using front end MRFs to recover additional materials for recycling; separate wet, organic materials that can be put through anaerobic digestion for energy production, and also use a thermal conversion technology to produce electricity and/or fuel from the remaining residual waste.

Mr. Tseng looked at several integrated MRFs and conversion facilities from around the world, including Germany, Spain, France, Indonesia and Japan. Facilities in Europe service a region that incorporates several cities at one time whereas facilities in Japan tend to be community based.

All the facilities visited put a strong emphasis in community integration with education and the benefits of waste to energy. Educating the community on recycling and the importance of waste reduction is seen in the actual facility design that includes community rooms in which outreach information is provided. The facility in Spain has the monitoring system displaying emissions of the operation connected live to the World Wide Web thus making transparency of operations accessible to the public, the monitor displaying emissions shown to the facility is the same as the one the public can view on-line ([see attached](#)).

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

Due to the Holiday season, the December meeting will be held only if there are critical/pressing issues to discuss. If there is a meeting in December, Ms. Margaret Clark requested to hold it at 10 a.m. so the Institute of Local Government's commercial recycling ordinance webinar can be viewed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

TS

P:\epub\ENGPLAN\TASK FORCE\Minutes\2010 Minutes\TF Minutes November 2010--Approved.doc