

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

Unofficial Minutes for July 18, 2019

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Liz Reilly, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Barbara Ferrer, rep by John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Craig Beck, Long Beach Public Works Department
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
Jeff Farano, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Jack Hadjinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gideon Kracov, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Elijah Carder, Los Angeles County Public Works
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Margarita Quiroz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Ms. Landis.

II. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 20, 2019 MINUTES

Unable to approve the June 20, 2019 minutes due to lack of quorum. Ms. Landis stated if anyone had corrections, to please send them to Ms. Margarita Quiroz. The approval of the June 20, 2019, minutes was postponed until the next meeting.

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

Mr. Doan provided a report from the ATAS meeting. He reported that Ms. Norma McDonald, from Organic Waste Systems (OWS), gave a presentation including the background of OWS as an anaerobic digester developer. He stated that Ms. McDonald's presentation included background on OWS's proposed project, the Scholl Canyon Organics Recovery to Energy (SCORE). He stated that SCORE was designed to process source separated organics, including paper and municipal solid waste (MSW). He reported that SCORE included a material recovery facility and an anaerobic digester, along with the post-processing to remove containments from the digestate. He stated that SCORE is on hold indefinitely and OWS is currently looking at other potential sites for other anaerobic digestion projects within Los Angeles County.

Mr. Doan also reported an update from Alternative Resources Inc. (ARI), on conversion technology (CT) project development. He stated that ARI is developing various outreach documents, including factsheets, to highlight facility size and emissions of California-based CT projects. He stated that ARI has also completed the preliminary background work to demonstrate the benefits of converting organic waste into renewable natural gas. He reported that ARI is currently working with Public Works to develop a best management practices guideline for non-organic waste. He stated that details about upcoming conferences and events will be provided in the CT newsletter and the ATAS minutes.

Ms. Landis requested that ARI include a comparison of the respective acreages required for composting and alternative technology facilities in the outreach documents.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Landis reported that the subcommittee received the following information on odor complaints from South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). During the month of June, there were five complaints from the AQMD hotline and listed four of them as “no field response.” In comparison to May 2019, the number of complaints received in June increased from two to five. Compared to June 2018, the number of complaints compared to June 2019 decreased from nine to five complaints. The total number of complaints received this year is 129. As of July 9, 2019, AQMD has not issued any Odor Complaint Notice of Violations to Sunshine Canyon Landfill for the month of June 2019.

Ms. Landis also reported that there was a discussion on the perimeter monitoring wells regarding their emissions measuring below the regulatory limit. She also mentioned the subcommittee requested a construction map be provided, showing the location of cells to be constructed in the next ten years.

Lastly, Ms. Landis mentioned staff will work with Chiquita Canyon Landfill to generate the Finding of Conformance reports more accurately.

V. REPORT FROM THE GOALS AND PRIORITIES SUBCOMMITTEE (GPS)

Mr. Ruiz reported that the subcommittee has met a couple times and mentioned that they will provide a draft proposal for consideration to the TF sometime in October. He also reported that Mr. Kracov was elected to lead the subcommittee.

VI. UPDATE ON SENATE BILL 1383 REGULATIONS

Ms. Vazifdar gave a [presentation](#) on Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) which included the background of the bill, signed by Governor Jerry Brown in 2016, and the requirements of the associated regulations currently being developed by CalRecycle.

Ms. Vazifdar stated that the definition of “organic waste” as stated in SB 1383 differs from the definition of “organic waste” in existing state law, which includes solid wastes originated from petroleum, meaning that plastics would be considered organic waste. Ms. Vazifdar stated that, in the most recent comment letter, staff requested clarification from CalRecycle regarding whether plastics would not be subject to SB 1383 regulatory requirements.

Mr. Mohajer interjected to emphasize that the targets in SB 1383 are organic waste “landfill disposal” reduction targets and not just organic waste “disposal” reduction targets. Ms. Vazifdar responded that the targets are in fact organic waste “landfill disposal” reduction targets, and that the regulations limit “landfill disposal” reduction to specified technologies, such as composting, anaerobic digestion, and biomass conversion, and consider non-combustion thermal conversion of organic waste other than biomass to be “landfill disposal”. She added that staff will make sure to use this terminology in all future presentations.

Ms. Landis asked whether human and medical waste, such as diapers and feminine products, are subject to the regulatory requirements. Mr. Ajwani responded that the regulations state that human waste, including medical waste, is exempt.

Mr. Ruiz asked what materials are to be placed in the gray trash bin. Ms. Vazifdar responded that items that cannot be recycled through traditional recycling and any non-organic waste would go in the grey bin. Mr. Ajwani added that SB 1383 does not specify which materials are recyclable and must be placed in the blue recycling bin.

Ms. Reilly asked if every hauler can determine which materials are recyclable. Ms. Vazifdar responded that some jurisdictions specify which materials are recyclable and others allow the haulers to determine which materials are recyclable.

Ms. Landis requested that staff comment on concern regarding land application of recycled organic waste, including impacts to native soil and the potential to spread disease vectors, in any future letters to CalRecycle.

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Carder gave an update on the [Legislative Table](#). He reported that two bills were added since the last TF meeting and removed two bills. There are now 63 bills in total on the legislative table at this time. Mr. Carder mentioned that he will only print the active bills removing all possible second year bills from the table and will place them back if they become active again. The legislature Summer Recess began July 12, 2019. The legislature will reconvene on Monday, August 12, 2019. The last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the floor is Friday, August 30, 2019. Mr. Carder gave a summary and staff recommendations on seven key bills currently on the Legislative Table Cover Page. No motions were made as there is no quorum. To obtain more detailed information on the bills mentioned below, please click on the legislative table link above.

AB 1046 (Ting) – Air Quality Improvement Program: Clean Vehicle Rebate Project.

AB 1162 (Kalra) – Lodging Establishments: Personal Care Products: Small Plastic Bottles.

AB 1406 (O'Donnell) – Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program.

AB 1652 (Wicks) – Crimes: Littering.

AB 1770 (Frazier) – Tire Recycling Program: Rubberized Pavement.

SB 216 (Galgiani) – Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program: Used Heavy-Duty Truck Exchange.

SB 405 (Archuleta) – Solid Waste: Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement: Pilot Project: The County of Los Angeles.

SB 409 (Wilk) – Illegal Dumping.

VIII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

CalRecycle members were not present.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hunter stated that he did not see a copy of the letter that he wrote with cc to the Task Force dated July 11, 2019, to California Regional Planning about Sonoma Technology, Inc. (STI) for monitoring landfill in relationship to the elementary school. He believes that the STI report should have provided an assessment to the community about the complaints. Mr. Hunter received fact sheet results from Public Health and would like the STI interpretation form.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, 2019, in Conference Room D of Public Works Headquarters.