

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

**Minutes for June 20, 2019**

Los Angeles County Public Works  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Coyle, rep by Dennis Montano, Republic Services – Sunshine Canyon Landfill  
John Kaddis, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Tim Hall, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) \*  
Patrick Holland, rep by Clark Ajwani, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc.  
Ron Kent, rep by Dr. Paul Ghougassian, Southern California Gas Company  
Kay Martin, rep by Jim Stewart, Bioenergy Producers Association \*  
Kevin Mattson, Waste Management \*  
Mark McDannel, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Mike Mohajer, Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Alex Helou, City of Los Angeles  
Ben Lucha, City of Palmdale  
Rob Williams, UC Davis Policy Institute for Energy, Environment and the Economy

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tracy Anthony, Alternative Resources, Inc. (ARI)  
Elijah Carder, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Daniel Dela Cruz, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Michelle Dewey, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) \*  
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Margarita Quiroz, Los Angeles County Public Works

\* Designates participants over the telephone

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Ajwani called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 16, 2019 MEETING**

Mr. McDannel had a correction to the minutes regarding his attendance. A motion to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2019 meeting was made by Mr. Mohajer, as corrected, seconded by Mr. Kaddis. The motion passed unanimously.

## **III. PRESENTATION – PERLA GOMEZ OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Ms. Gomez provided a [PowerPoint presentation](#) on current legislation potentially relating to conversion technologies (CTs). Currently, there are six active Assembly Bills (AB) and five active Senate Bills (SB) in this current legislative session related to CTs that are being monitored. Ms. Gomez also provided a [table](#) listing the status and latest Task Force position on the bills.

Mr. Ajwani clarified that the bills are not necessarily CT legislation, but are bills that could relate to or support CTs. Mr. Hunter asked which bills would have the greatest potential impact on CTs. Mr. Ajwani replied that AB 296 would establish the Climate Innovation Grant Program for research, funding, and development of new technologies such as CTs. Mr. Ghougassian asked why the Strategic Growth Council would be administering the program and not the California Energy Commission (CEC). Mr. Ajwani replied he has heard that the State wants the Strategic Growth Council to take the lead on coordinating climate change initiatives among all relevant State agencies.

Mr. Ajwani stated that AB 1406 would provide a good funding source for renewable natural gas (RNG) fuel and low-NOx engines. Mr. Carder explained that the bill would require 10 percent of the funding for the Alternative Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program to be used for alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles.

Mr. Ajwani stated that SB 667, which would require CalRecycle to develop a five-year recycling infrastructure investment fund, may be a good avenue to request an amendment to include CT funding. Mr. Carder added that he believes this is the most significant bill as it should ensure how the funding is attained for the \$20 billion for organic infrastructure.

Mr. Ajwani also discussed SB 216 which would add a used heavy-duty truck exchange to the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program, which provides grants to offset the cost of eligible projects that reduce emissions from vehicular sources. Mr. Carder stated that waste haulers can receive incentives through this program for using fuel produced from CTs.

#### **IV. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND LEGISLATION**

Mr. Doan gave an update on Conversion Technology Policy. Recently CalRecycle presented a revised formal draft of the SB 1383 regulations at a public workshop on June 18, 2019, in Diamond Bar. He stated that a 15-day public comment period has begun, and all comments must be submitted by July 3, 2019. He said that staff is currently working on the Task Force comment letter.

Mr. Hall of CalRecycle commented that CalRecycle mistakenly requested that the Task Force re-submit their comment letter on the infrastructure report that CalRecycle published in April 2019 and clarified to the subcommittee that any comments submitted during the formal comment period should be specific to the language in the regulations. Mr. Mohajer requested Mr. Hall send in writing the withdrawal of the email sent by CalRecycle on the infrastructure report. Mr. Hall stated that he will pass that message along to Mr. Brady, CalRecycle's SB 1383 Manager. Mr. Mohajer also mentioned that he provided hard copies of comments on the infrastructure report to both Mr. Scott Smithline and Mr. Howard Levinson at CalRecycle's workshop.

Mr. Hall also commented that CalRecycle will be engaging stakeholders, including Mr. Mohajer, on the 2020 market analysis that CalRecycle is required to complete per SB 1383.

#### **V. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY EVENTS/MEETINGS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

Mr. Doan mentioned the upcoming conferences:

- 2019 Environmental Research & Education Foundation Summit on Municipal Solid Waste, July 17 - 18, 2019, San Francisco, CA
- California Resource Recovery Association Conference, August 11 – 14, 2019, Rancho Mirage, CA
- Resource Recycling Conference, August 26 – 28, 2019, New Orleans, LA
- RNG Works 2019 - Technical Workshop and Trade Expo, September 11 – 12, 2019, Nashville, TN
- US Biogas Conference, October 1 – 2, 2019, San Diego, CA
- WASTECON 2019, October 21 – 24, 2019, Phoenix, AZ
- BioCycle REFOR19, October 28 – 31, 2019, Madison, WI

Mr. Mohajer added that the Southern California Waste Management Forum's annual conference will be held on November 7, 2019, in Pomona, CA.

## **VI. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

Ms. Anthony, from Alternative Resources, Inc. (ARI), stated that ARI is currently reviewing the proposed SB 1383 regulation text, focusing on the provisions for new technology verification. She said that ARI is also developing various outreach documents, including fact sheets, to highlight the facility size and emissions of California-based conversion technology projects and to provide information to demonstrate the benefits of converting organic waste into renewable natural gas. She stated that this will show that the use of low-carbon RNG from waste is an important part of a comprehensive climate strategy to reduce emissions and should not be completely deprioritized in favor of electrification.

Mr. McDannel provided an update on the anaerobic digester project at the Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. He stated that the 5-digester project has been placed on hold indefinitely as the Districts is now pursuing a 2-digester project at the wastewater treatment plant. He said that the 2-digester plan is more feasible at 10 percent cost with 40 percent capacity. He stated that the Phase I energy project to provide direct fueling of vehicles is currently designed and expected to be running in 2020. He said that the Phase II energy project, which includes pipeline injection, electricity, and hydrogen trigeneration, is still in the feasibility stage.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m. The next ATAS meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 18, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room C of Public Works Headquarters.