

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

May 15, 2025

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Siya Araumi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Steve Cassulo, rep by Brenda Eells, Waste Connections
William Chen, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Kate Downey, rep. by Sharon Bronson, Republic Services
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc.
Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Barbara Romero, rep by Ron Milo, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Ron Kent, Southern California Gas
Kevin Mattson, Waste Management
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program
Heather Williams, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cesar Leon, Tetra Tech
Kam Mahdi, Clean Energy Technologies, Inc.
Lance Woolley, Clean Energy Technologies, Inc.
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Lusine Shrivastava, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kim Yapp, Los Angeles County Public Works
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Siya Araumi called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 17, 2025, SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

There was no quorum, so the approval of the minutes was postponed to the next Subcommittee meeting on July 17, 2025.

III. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Cesar Leon stated that Tetra Tech submitted a:

- Draft Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Needs Study for Antelope Valley in compliance with the Lancaster Landfill Conditional Use Permit, Condition 92, which includes a high-level review of economic, environmental, and technical considerations for conversion technology (CT) facility options.
- Revised workplan based on the finalized Countywide Siting Evaluation Report for the development of anaerobic digestion and/or thermal CT facilities within Los Angeles County. This initial site assessment identified areas across the County with high development feasibility based on established siting criteria. Next steps include further evaluation of parcels identified as part of the initial site assessment.

IV. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Ms. Kim Yapp provided the following update:

CalRecycle Meeting

During the April 22, 2025, monthly meeting, CalRecycle:

- Provided an update on the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 343:
 - The "Truth in Labeling Law" bans false or misleading recycling claims on products and packaging and directs CalRecycle to gather and evaluate data to help accurately label products.
 - On April 4, 2025, CalRecycle published the SB 343 Material Characterization Study Final Findings for 2023 and 2024. SB 343 directs CalRecycle to update this study in 2027 and every five years thereafter. Study findings are available on CalRecycle's [website](#).
 - Products manufactured after October 4, 2026, must meet the law's criteria to use the recycling label.

- Provided an update on the implementation of SB 54:
 - CalRecycle did not submit the previous draft SB 54 regulations to the Office of Administrative Law and are now initiating a new rulemaking action.
 - There will be an informal Public Workshop on May 27, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the California Environmental Protection Agency's headquarters building to consult with the public, the regulated community, and other interested people on the draft regulations.
 - The 2025 nomination period for the Packaging Producer Responsibility Advisory Board closed on March 28, 2025. New appointments will be announced before July 1, 2025.
 - The April Advisory Board Meeting included a discussion on the draft regulations, needs assessment studies, economic impacts, and recommendations from the producer responsibility organization regarding operational readiness.
 - The next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2025.
- Provided an update on the CalRecycle Grant Program:
 - Three million dollars will be awarded to 15 beverage container recycling grant program recipients to bring more recycling bins, water refill stations, and recycling projects to undeserved areas.
- Provided an update on the Los Angeles Regional Agency:
 - The Los Angeles Regional Agency was formed in 2004 under a Joint Powers Agreement to address solid waste management issues for its member jurisdictions.
 - In 2024, the Joint Powers Agreement was amended to recognize and authorize compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 939, AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383 and associated regulations. It designates the joint powers as the responsible authority to coordinate, administer, and implement compliance with SB 1383 on behalf of all parties.
 - The amendments were reviewed and have been approved.

The next CalRecycle monthly meeting will be on May 20, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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

Ms. Shrivastava provided an update on upcoming CT events and conferences, which may also be found in the [CT Newsletter](#) and Subcommittee minutes:

- Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) Annual Business Meeting and Conference: May 28, 2025, Buena Park, CA
- California Hydrogen Leadership Summit: June 3 – 4, 2025, Sacramento, CA.
- 2025 U.S. Product Stewardship Forum: June 3 – 5, 2025, Wheeling, IL.
- Air and Waste Management Association's 118th Annual Conference and Exhibition: June 9 – 12, 2025, Raleigh, NC
- 2025 ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit: June 23 – 25, 2025, Seattle, WA
- Southern California Solid Waste Association of North America (SoCal SWANA) Local Workshop: June 25, 2025, Tustin, CA
- Textile Stewardship Informational Workshop: July 10, 2025, Sacramento, CA

VI. PRESENTATION BY CLEAN ENERGY FUELS

Mr. Lance Woolley from Clean Energy Technologies, Inc., provided a [presentation](#) on the company's pyrolysis technology, which can convert biomass, digestate, and municipal solid waste into energy.

Mr. Wayde Hunter asked what size of material is processed by the pyrolysis technology. Mr. Woolley replied that the material is shredded down to three millimeters. Mr. Hunter asked about the facility's footprint. Mr. Woolley replied that the size of the small facility would be comparable to the size of three standard 40-foot shipping containers, while the larger facility is about a quarter acre.

Mr. Araumi asked if the technology can process mixed food and wood waste or another mixed feedstock. Mr. Woolley replied that mixed feedstock can be processed but that a consistent waste stream is required. He continued that the equipment is tuned to the expected design feedstock and that variations in feedstock composition may result in the equipment operating outside of its design parameters. Mr. Araumi asked how much feedstock is needed for the facility to be economically feasible. Mr. Woolley replied that when operating on a 24-hour basis, the facility processes up to 28 tons of dry feedstock per day. Mr. Araumi asked about the challenges in receiving the required permits to operate. Mr. Woolley replied that their facility uses a standard reciprocating engine and that they could use a selective catalytic reduction process on the exhaust to meet air permitting requirements, similar to other standard engines used in California. Mr. Araumi asked about the facility's potential noise pollution. Mr. Woolley replied that they place their engines into containers or buildings to limit the noise. He added that these units would primarily be sited at the waste source which would typically be in an industrial area.

Mr. Wayde Hunter asked if metals need to be removed from the waste tires before the process. Mr. Woolley replied that metal is removed during the pre-treatment

process. He continued that any remaining metal does not hinder the process and will be removed from the biochar.

Mr. Ron Milo asked if other contaminants, besides metal, need to be removed from tires as part of the pre-processing. Mr. Woolley replied that the most that they would likely recommend would be simple mechanical cleaning during pretreatment because the remaining contaminants will be eliminated during the extremely high temperature processing. Mr. Milo asked if all tires are accepted for processing. Mr. Woolley replied that they are.

Mr. Araumi asked if the quality of biochar is routinely examined, and if the process is reevaluated if the biochar is low quality. Mr. Woolley replied that the power generation exhaust portion of the process is constantly monitored for contamination. Mr. Woolley added that all biochar requires certification for sale and would be sold separately based on its quality requirements. He added that chemicals are denatured in the high temperature ablative process and elements such as metals exit the process and can be removed.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next ATAS meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2025.