

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

July 16, 2026

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Siya Araumi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Lilit Baghumyan, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Sharon Bronson, Republic Services
Jonathan Caruso, Waste Management
Will Chen, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Inc.
Shanthi Kanneganti, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)
Barbara Romero, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Eugene Tseng, UCLA Solid Waste Program

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Ron Kent, Southern California Gas
Bill Haley, Waste Connections

OTHERS PRESENT:

Marco Castaldi, Waste Conversion Technologies
Armen Derderian, Waste Conversion Technologies
Stephen Goff, Waste Conversion Technologies
Stephen Hawkins, Waste Conversion Technologies
Michael Nakamura, Waste Conversion Technologies
Craig Thompson, Waste Conversion Technologies
Cesar Leon, Tetra Tech
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Londy Lin, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aaron Nolan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Siya Araumi called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 18, 2026, SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Mr. Wayde Hunter made a motion to approve the June 18, 2026, Subcommittee minutes, and Mr. Eugene Tseng seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Cesar Leon of Tetra Tech shared the following updates on Tetra Tech's current activities:

- Continues to work on the Final Antelope Valley Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Needs Study, pending the Technical Advisory Committee presentation.
- Conducting a Phase II parcel evaluation. This includes evaluating parcels identified during the initial site assessment and the Countywide Siting Evaluation, which is pending Los Angeles County's review of concurrence on siting criteria memorandum for Conversion Technology (CT) facilities or Anaerobic Digestion (AD).

IV. UPDATE ON CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Ms. Tran Kiem provided the following update:

On June 16, 2026, CalRecycle hosted their monthly meeting and announced an \$800,000 Recycling Market Development Zone loan to increase textile recycling in California. CalRecycle also included the following updates:

Packaging Producer Responsibility - Senate Bill (SB) 54

- As of June 15, 2026, the Producer Responsibility Plan was submitted to the Advisory Board and is available for public review and comment until August 14, 2026.
- CalRecycle keeps its Producer Guidance [webpage](#) current with new downloadable guidance materials to help participants meet their compliance obligations.
- Resources that are now online include guidance on identifying covered materials, determining producer status, and registration and application for the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO).
- For additional information, visit the CalRecycle Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility [website](#).

Responsible Textile Recovery Act – SB 707

- Covered Textile and Apparel Producers had until July 1, 2026, to register with the PRO Landbell USA.
- CalRecycle is hosting an informal workshop on August 13, 2026, at 10 a.m., focused on preliminary regulatory concepts of SB 707 requirements.

CalRecycle's next monthly meeting is on July 21, 2026.

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

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

- 21st Annual County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Policy Conference: August 20 - 21, 2026, Sacramento, CA
- California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA) Annual Conference & Trade Show: August 30 - September 2, 2026, San Diego, CA
- RNG Works 2026 Technical Workshop & Trade Expo: September 15 - 17, 2026, Milwaukee, WI
- RCon by Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA): September 29 – October 2, 2026, St Louis, MO
- National Zero Waste Conference: October 21 - 22, 2026, virtual
- CA Compost Workshop and Demo Day: October 22, 2026, San Diego, CA,

VI. PRESENTATION BY WASTE CONVERSION TECHNOLOGIES

The Subcommittee received a [presentation](#) by Waste Conversion Technologies (WCT) on strategies to use existing solid waste facilities to build an integrated CT campus that incorporates a material recovery facility (MRF), AD, and thermal CT.

Mr. Tseng inquired about the site size and tipping fee. WCT indicated that a two-process facility would require approximately 30 - 40 acres, significantly less than a landfill, with projected tipping fees of \$120 - \$150 per ton, depending on market conditions and production costs.

Mr. Tseng asked if WCT would consider bifurcation of the facility. For example, having AD processing at one location and then a waste-to-energy component in a different location. WCT prefers a single integrated campus rather than separating AD and waste-to-energy facilities. The campus could accommodate additional facilities, including an MRF and inert-material recycling, and process multiple waste streams at one location.

Following references to many facilities worldwide, Mr. Will Chen inquired about WCT's involvement with them. WCT stated they are seeking major facility partners and currently has relationships with A2A (Italy) and Ramboll (Denmark). WCT estimated that a project of this scale would require at least seven years, including approximately 36 - 42 months for permitting and 36 months for construction.

Mr. Chen asked if the waste-to-energy incineration of trash is the main form of trash management. WCT stated that it is initially focused on waste-to-energy through incineration, with plans to transition toward gasification after improving front-end processing. Mr. Chen noted that waste incineration makes the most sense in terms of volume reduction, but WCT will encounter the same challenges and regulatory and economic issues that the Southeast Resource Recovery Facility (SERRF) and Commerce Refuse-to-Energy Facility faced that forced them to shut down.

Mr. Hunter asked what specific facilities or averages did WCT use to base their mission and presentation on if they have not built a facility. WCT cited experience with more than 250 projects worldwide and ongoing involvement with the Copenhagen facility, including design, construction commissioning, and asset management.

Members raised concerns regarding the regulatory, economic, and permitting challenges experienced by prior facilities such as SERRF. WCT acknowledged these challenges and stated that lessons and operational data from facilities in countries such as Switzerland, Denmark, and Japan can help address past shortcomings.

Members questioned the availability of 30 - 40 acres in Los Angeles County and the viability of a facility given SERRF's closure. WCT acknowledged that the project framework is established but that significant technical, regulatory, and economic issues remain to be resolved.

Mr. Araumi asked what the capital expenditure is for such a project, and what the impact on the electricity grid is on Los Angeles County. WCT estimated capital costs at approximately \$1.5 billion. The waste-to-energy component could generate approximately 94 megawatts, sufficient to power about 100,000 homes, with additional generation possible through AD and solar components. WCT indicated the facility could have a 50-year operational lifespan, with a major overhaul anticipated around year 25.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m. The next ATAS meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2026.