

Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of October 16, 2008

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsy Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Christopher Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Gerardo Villalobos, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

John McTaggart, General Public Representative
Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Paul Alva, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Chris Fall, Rent-A-Bin
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition/Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Carol Ly, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Chris Mastro, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Robert Newman, City of Santa Clarita
Mark Patts, City of Santa Clarita
Carl Pederson III, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Lefty Randall, Rent-A-Bin
Bryan R. Smith, City of Bellflower
Bereket Tadele, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 18, 2008 AND AUGUST 21, 2008 MEETING MINUTES

Motions to approve the Minutes of the June 18, 2008 and August 21, 2008 meetings were unanimously approved.

III. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA'S NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT FOR RENT-A-BIN

Mr. Wu Tan made a Power Point presentation on the City of Santa Clarita's request for the Task Force to review and approve the proposed amendment to the City's Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE) in accordance with the requirements of Sections 41733 and 41734 of the California Public Resources Code (PRC), and Sections 18761 (b) and 18770 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

The City of Santa Clarita's NDFE was approved by the California Integrated Waste Management Board on September 23, 1994. The City is amending its NDFE to include the Rent-A-Bin facility. The existing Rent-A-Bin facility is not currently listed in the City's NDFE and operates in various capacities under an Enforcement Agency Notification Tier permit, including: (1) an inert waste operation (permitted for up to 1,499 tons per day (tpd)); (2) a chip and grind operation (permitted for up to 199 tpd); and (3) a small volume construction, demolition, and inert debris (CDI) operation (permitted for up to 24 tpd).

The operator is proposing to increase the permitted capacity of the facility's CDI operations from 24 to 175 tpd, which would change its permit tier from Enforcement Agency Notification Tier to Registration Permit Tier and require the facility to be listed in the City's NDFE.

Mr. Tan stated that staff found the City of Santa Clarita's NDFE to be in compliance with State laws and regulations, including PRC Sections 41732, 41780, and 50001; and CCR Section 18752 et seq.

Mr. Tan also stated that based on its Findings, staff recommends Subcommittee's concurrence with the subject amendment to the City's NDFE; and for the owner/operator to submit Form 7 (Monthly Disposal Quantity Reporting For Use by Solid Waste Station and Non-disposal Facility Operators Origin Survey) on a quarterly basis (within 30 days of the end of the quarter) to the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Environmental Programs Division. The Monthly Report shall contain the type and quantity of waste (by weight) received at the facility for processing, recycling, and disposal at off-site facilities.

The Subcommittee had an extensive discussion on the NDFE amendment, including, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Management of the residual materials that remain after diversion activities have taken place:** Mr. Lefty Randall of the Rent-A-Bin facility responded that residual materials are disposed, but they can remain on-site up to 48 hours per the facility's Enforcement Agency Notification requirement.
- **Levels of inspection required for the permit tier:** Mr. Gerardo Villalobos, of the Local Enforcement Agency (County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health), indicated that the inert debris and the chip and grind operations are inspected quarterly, and the CDI operations will be inspected monthly once the permit tier changes from Enforcement Agency Notification to Registration Tier.
- **Environmental impacts of the facility's operations:** Since the facility is located close to a river and is in a high-wind area, the Subcommittee had some concerns and questions regarding water quality issues and the facility's storm water permit. The owner/operator stated that the City of Santa Clarita is requiring the facility to be enclosed in order to minimize environmental impacts. The Director of Public Works for the City of Santa Clarita mentioned that the Rent-A-Bin facility complied with the City's requirements in regard to water quality issues.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee made a motion to (1) recommend the Full Task Force to concur with the Amendment to the City's of Santa Clarita NDFE, (2) request the City of Santa Clarita to include Rent-A-Bin's CDI, chip

and grind, and inert debris operations in their NDFE, (3) request the City to ensure that the Rent-A-Bin facility comply with stormwater permits, and (4) require the owner/operator of the facility to submit the monthly disposal quantity reports (Form 7) on a quarterly basis. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT CHAPTER 4 REVISIONS

Mr. Chuk Agu made a Power Point presentation on the second draft revisions to Chapter 4 of the Countywide Siting Element (CSE). The major revisions in the second draft included (1) incorporating the Subcommittee's comments on the first draft revisions, (2) using CSE's 2006 instead of 2005 Annual Report as the basis of the revision, (3) updating the base year for the disposal capacity need analysis from 2005 to 2006, and the planning period from 2005 - 2020 to 2006 - 2021, and (4) revising the disposal capacity need analysis scenarios, and the hierarchy of the analysis.

In the first draft, seven scenarios were analyzed in the following hierarchy of analysis: existing in-County class III landfills, out-of-County disposal capacity, in-County Class III landfill expansions, increase in diversion rate, and alternative technology facilities capacity. In the second draft, six scenarios were analyzed in the following hierarchy of analysis: in-County class III landfills, increase in diversion rate, alternative technology facilities, in-County Class III landfill expansions, and out-of-County disposal capacity.

The Subcommittee had an extensive discussion focusing on additional and more optimistic scenarios that would address export need and remaining daily disposal capacity need (shortfall) by using in-County disposal capacities and strategies. Among the issues considered were the fact that (1) the State legislature has been attempting in recent years to mandate higher diversion rates of up to 60 percent in 2012 and 75 percent in 2020 through bills such as SB 1020, AB 1390 and SB 1252, (2) the City of Los Angeles recently adopted a policy to increase its diversion rate to 75 percent by 2013, (3) conversion technology is expected to be utilized increasingly in the future, due to the County and City's ongoing efforts to develop alternative technology facilities in the County and Southern California region, and (4) the need to develop in-County capacity and strategies should be emphasized over reliance on out-of-County disposal options.

The Subcommittee provided staff with comments and instructions including, but not limited to, the following:

- Include and analyze more optimistic scenarios that assume (1) 75 percent diversion rate for City of Los Angeles by 2013, and Countywide by 2020, and (2) increase in the availability of alternative technology facility capacity beyond 10,000 tpd by 2020.
- Streamline the disposal trends discussion in Section 4.4.3 from the current five-year (1990-1995) and ten-year (1996-2006) increments to only five-year increments.
- Rename and revise Table 4-8 (Solid waste Transfer Capacity of Permitted Major Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs)/Transfer Stations (TS) in Los Angeles County), and separate the list and capacities of the MRFs, TS and other non-disposal facilities such as CDI operations, etc.
- Determine whether to remove Table 4-8 from Chapter 4 and/or to include it in other CSE chapters or to remove it entirely from the CSE.
- Research and determine other types of facilities that should be included in determining in-County solid waste transfer and/or processing capacity.
- Reconsider the use of parentheses to designate “excess” export need or shortfall in the disposal capacity need analysis scenarios tables and graphs -- in order to avoid confusion. Consider identifying “excess” as positive (“+”) values and shortfalls as negative (“-”) values.

The Subcommittee also instructed staff, to the extent possible, to submit CSE Chapter revisions in a manner such that the Subcommittee would be able to complete the review and approval of one Chapter before moving to another Chapter.

The Subcommittee made a motion for staff to further revise draft Chapter 4 to incorporate the Subcommittee’s comments and to bring the Chapter back to the Subcommittee for further review. The motion passed unanimously.

V. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.