

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

Minutes of September 17, 2009 Meeting

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
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, represented by
Pete Oda

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Martin Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Allan Chan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Chip Clements, Clements Environmental
Daniel Domonoske, Potential Industries Recycling Transfer Station
Mistie Joyce, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Carol Ly, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Joe Maturino, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Nichole Smith, The Katherman Company

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2009

Revised Minutes of the June 18, 2009 meeting was distributed to the Subcommittee. A motion to approve the revised Minutes was unanimously approved.

III. AMENDMENT TO CITY OF LOS ANGELES' NONDISPOSAL FACILITY ELEMENT 2009

Mr. Wu Tan gave a PowerPoint presentation ([see Attachment No. 1](#)) on the September 9, 2009 Staff Report (Staff Report) on the City of Los Angeles' request for the Task Force to review and approve the Amendment to the current City of Los Angeles' Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE), in accordance with the requirements of Section 41734(a)(1) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 18761(b), Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Along with copies of the PowerPoint, the following documents were provided to the Subcommittee for review and comment: (1) Mr. Mike Mohajer's written ([E-mail](#)) comments on the Staff Report on Amendment to City of Los Angeles' NDFE; (2) revised Minutes of the June 18, 2009 Subcommittee Meeting, redline and clean versions; (3) revised Compliance Sheet, Exhibit C – Discussion for American Reclamation Green Material Processing Facility to correct the information to state the facility processed green waste materials; and (4) revised Compliance Sheet, Exhibit C – Discussion for American Reclamation CD & I Processing Facility to revise the figure for the amount of materials processed from 175 tons per day (tpd) to 500 tpd.

Mr. Tan reported to the Subcommittee that the City's initial NDFE was approved by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board) in 1997. The City is proposing to amend its current NDFE to include six additional facilities located within the City's jurisdiction, namely: (1) City Fibers, Inc. – Downtown Plant No. 2, (2) City Fibers, Inc. – West Valley Plant, (3) L. A. Express Materials Recovery Facility, (4) American Reclamation CD & I Processing Facility, (5) American Reclamation Green Material Processing Facility, and (6) Potential Industries Recycling Transfer Station.

Out of the six facilities (four existing and two new) to be included in the Amended NDFE, the following three existing facilities received temporary Solid Waste Facility Permits (SWFP) on July 16, 2008 in order to comply with Assembly Bill 1473, which requires nondisposal facilities that fail the California Integrated Waste Management Board's "3-Part Test" to obtain full SWFPs. However, these facilities failed the 3-Part Test because the residuals generated by the facilities would be more than ten percent of the amount of the throughput. As a result, the operators of the facilities must obtain full SWFPs.

- (1) City Fibers, Inc. – Downtown Plant No. 2 is a construction, demolition and inert (CDI) debris processing facility that processes approximately 320 tons per day (tpd) of source-separated and select commercial loads of recyclable materials. The facility expects to process up to 1,500 tpd, and the current diversion rate is approximately 75 percent.
- (2) City Fibers, Inc. – West Valley Plant is a materials recovery facility (MRF) that processes approximately 255 tpd of source-separated recyclable materials. The facility expects to process up to 500 tpd, and the current diversion rate is approximately 80 percent.
- (3) L. A. Express Materials Recovery Facility is a MRF that expects to process up to 260 tpd of commercial use, source-separated recyclable materials. The current diversion rate is approximately 70 percent.

The following two new facilities require appropriate permitting pursuant to the California Code of Regulations.

- (1) American Reclamation CD&I Processing Facility is a CDI debris processing facility that expects to process up to 175 tpd of CDI debris materials. The diversion rate is anticipated to be 75 percent at start-up.
- (2) American Reclamation Green Material Processing Facility is a green material processing/chipping and grinding facility that expects to process up to 500 tpd of green waste materials. The diversion rate is anticipated to be 95 percent at start-up.

Potential Industries Recycling Transfer Station is an existing MRF that recycles only paper and was not previously required to obtain a SWFP. The facility expects to process up to 1,000 tpd of paper materials. The current diversion rate is approximately 92 percent. The facility anticipates the amount of residual

materials to increase and is now applying for a SWFP to meet State requirements.

Mr. Tan concluded that based on Staff's findings, (1) the City of Los Angeles' NDFE Amendment conforms with the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, environmental regulations, and with State laws and regulations; and (2) Staff recommends Task Force concurrence with the City's NDFE Amendment.

In compliance with State regulations, the owner/operator of each facility is required to submit Form 7 (titled "Monthly Disposal Quantity Reporting For Use by Solid Waste Station and Nondisposal Facility Operators Origin Survey") on a quarterly basis (within 30 days from 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 facilities' owners/operators may submit the quarterly reports in an alternative reporting format as required by their respective Local Enforcement Agency.

The Subcommittee discussed the NDFE Amendment and expressed concern that the Subcommittee's previous comments regarding accuracy of information have not been addressed. The Subcommittee's comments include, but are not limited to, the following

- **Description of Facilities:** In order to clearly convey the function of the facilities, the Subcommittee instructed Staff to specify whether facilities listed in the NDFE Amendment Staff Report are materials recovery facilities (MRF); transfer stations (TS); construction, demolition, and inert (CDI) debris processing facilities, etc., instead of listing them as transfer/processing facilities. The revised terminology should then be consistently used throughout the Staff Report.

The Subcommittee instructed Staff to clearly describe existing and future operations of the facilities and provide information to support facilities' designations.

- **Description of Materials Processed:** The Subcommittee instructed Staff to correctly describe and clearly indicate in the Staff Report the materials processed by facilities, and the approximate amount of materials recycled at the facilities.

- **Separation or Aggregation of Materials Received:** The Subcommittee instructed Staff to indicate if materials received at the facilities are mixed, source-separated, segregated, etc.

Ms. Betsey Landis noted that the photographs of L. A. Express Materials Recovery Facility showed recyclable materials stored in unenclosed areas and that this facility is near the Los Angeles River. Ms. Landis had concerns that, in inclement weather, the unenclosed materials may cause litter and drainage problems. Mr. Joe Maturino, representing the City of Los Angeles, indicated that the NDFE itself is not a permit, and any potential litter and drainage concerns would be addressed by the City's Local Enforcement Agency during the permit phase of the facility approval process.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee made a motion to recommend to the Task Force to concur with the subject amendment to the City of Los Angeles' NDFE and request the owner/operator to submit monthly reports (on a quarterly basis) as indicated in the Staff Report. Additionally, the Subcommittee requested Staff to include an additional recommendation that the City ensure that proper containment practices are in place in facilities without enclosed areas for recyclable materials to prevent litter and related problems. The Subcommittee also requested Staff to prepare a letter from the Task Force to the Waste Board notifying them of the Task Force's concurrence with the NDFE Amendment. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.