

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

Minutes of August 19, 2010 Meeting

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Betsey 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:

Charles Modica, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chuk Agu, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Martins Aiyetiwa, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition, Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Carol Ly, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF JULY 15, 2010

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2010, meeting was unanimously approved.

III. UPDATE ON TASK FORCE MEETING WITH COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENTS OF REGIONAL PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS REGARDING SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa provided an update on the July 26, 2010, meeting, between the Task Force and the County of Los Angeles Departments of Regional Planning (DRP) and Public Works. Mr. Mike Mohajer represented the Task Force; Mr. Richard Bruckner, Director of the DRP, staff members Mr. John Gutwein, Mr. Oscar Gomez, and Mr. Bruce Durbin represented DRP; and Mr. Pat Proano, Ms. Emiko Thompson, and Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa represented Public Works.

This meeting was requested by the Task Force for the purpose of discussing (1) the Task Force's letter to Regional Planning dated March 25, 2010, and Regional Planning's response letter dated April 6, 2010, regarding County agencies' monitoring and enforcement responsibilities for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 00-194-(5); and (2) develop actions among the appropriate agencies to collectively better regulate Sunshine Canyon Landfill's (Landfill) activities.

During the July 26, 2010, meeting, Mr. Mohajer discussed the March 25, 2010, Task Force letter to Regional Planning, pointing out the need for (1) improved enforcement from the County due to lack of consistent vegetation growth at the Landfill and Republic Services/Browning-Ferris Industries' (Republic) failure to comply with CUP Condition No. 44; (2) clear understanding regarding each agency's role and enforcement responsibilities with regard to the CUP; and (3) a full-time independent consultant to monitor Republic's activities. Mr. Mohajer stated that the Task Force found Regional Planning's April 6, 2010, letter to be non-responsive to the Task Force's inquiries.

The following action items were agreed upon at the meeting:

- County staff (Public Works, DRP, and the Department of Public Health/Local Enforcement Agency [DPH/LEA]) will work with BFI towards revising the revegetation plan with the goal of improving vegetation growth at the Landfill with specific deadlines and penalties.
- County staff, in consultation with South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill (LEA) will look into the odor problem at the Landfill and possible actions the County may take to mitigate or correct the problem, and specifically review Mitigation Measure No. 33 of the Supplemental EIR Findings, which provides for dirt to be used as daily cover in the event odor becomes a problem.
- Conduct regular meeting among staff members of DRP, Public Works, and DPH/LEA to identify any impending issues and cooperatively resolve them.
- Call special meeting of the joint City-County Technical Advisory Committee TAC, as needs arise, to bring to their attention any impending issues that warrant their attention.

During the Subcommittee's discussion of the update, Mr. Mohajer stated that the August 11, 2010, staff report identified other enforcement-related issues. Based on Mr. Mohajer's discussions with the DRP he got the impression that DRP believed there was no funding for CUP enforcement. However, according to the CUP, Republic would be required to cover the costs for DRP and other County agencies to enforce the CUP per Condition No. 72 and Part XI of the IMP; the hiring of an independent consultant to monitor Landfill activities per Part XII.E of the IMP; and the hiring of an independent air quality consultant to test dust and diesel particulates per Condition No. 81.

At the July 26, 2010, meeting, Mr. Aiyetiwa informed the attendees that the Request for Proposals for the Independent Mitigation Monitoring Contract was released on June 28, 2010, and the response date was extended to August 11, 2010, to provide more time for vendors to submit proposals. Mr. Bruckner indicated that the independent consultant needs to be hired as soon as possible. Mr. Aiyetiwa also stated that the City and County were utilizing

the City's existing consultant to monitor the air quality with specific deadlines and penalty requirements of Condition No. 81.

Mr. Mohajer further added that he was very concerned that funding for these consultants must be provided and that all agencies involved in mitigation monitoring clearly understand their role and enforcement responsibilities with regard to the CUP.

Mr. Aiyetiwa indicated that at the July 26, 2010, meeting, the representatives from DRP and Public Works discussed the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Responsible Agencies Table prepared and presented by Public Works and agreed to a one-week review and comment period. The table was also sent to DPH/LEA and the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. Mr. Aiyetiwa informed the Subcommittee that the agencies were given until August 24, 2010, to reply back to Public Works. After hearing this, Mr. Mohajer expressed dissatisfaction that the deadline was extended to one month. Since all the parties involved had been participants in the drafting of the CUP, they should be able to quickly review and comment on the table within one week. Ms. Betsey Landis also expressed frustration with the extended deadline, and shared the reasons for the Task Force's involvement with landfill enforcement activities.

Additionally, Mr. Mohajer inquired about the long-standing odor complaints from nearby residents and SCAQMD's enforcement activities. Mr. Mohajer referred to the Landfill's Supplemental EIR and Mitigation Monitoring No. 33 which require the use of soil as the landfill daily cover to mitigate odor problems, instead of tarp which continues to be used by Republic. Mr. Mohajer also referred to the requirements of Title 11, of the County Code in reference to odor control and the need for enforcement by DPH/LEA since landfill odor is a nuisance as defined in the Code. Mr. Wayde Hunter of the North Valley Coalition also expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of enforcement of Mitigation Monitoring No. 33 given the high number of odor complaints received by SCAQMD. In response, Mr. Aiyetiwa expressed that staff has been working diligently with Republic to address the odor issues.

In conclusion, the Subcommittee requested that a checklist (performance report) of the CUP conditions be developed so all parties involved can keep a better track of Republic's compliance status in meeting the requirements of the CUP. The checklist would be used in the regular meetings between DRP, Public Works, DPH/LEA, and the Fire Department. The Subcommittee also

requested that a copy of the July 26, 2010, meeting summary that was sent to the Offices of the Board of Supervisors be provided to the Subcommittee.

The Subcommittee requested a letter to be sent to CalRecycle and the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) for clarification on whether the Landfill’s Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR) had been used as a basis to issue the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) to the Landfill, and if it was, whether CalRecycle or the SCL-LEA would be obligated to enforce the mitigation measures in the EIR. Mr. Gerardo Villalobos answered by confirming that the EIR was used in developing the SWFP and pointed out that the California Integrated Waste Management Board, now CalRecycle, issued the SWFP. Mr. Villalobos stated that he would like the request for information be made in writing from the Task Force.

IV. UPDATE ON REVEGETATION EFFORTS AT SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Ms. Linda Lee provided the monthly update on revegetation efforts at Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill (Landfill), which included a summary of the Second Quarter 2010 Status Report submitted by Republic as required by Condition 18, of the Landfill’s Finding of Conformance. According to the Report, an average of 8,500 to 9,300 tons per day (tpd) of solid waste was landfilled Monday through Friday and between 2,600 to 3,600 tpd on Saturdays. Recyclables and beneficial use materials constituted approximately eight percent of the total incoming waste. The Report describes the status of the interim cover, final cover, and sage mitigation areas. According to the map in Appendix A of the 3rd Quarter 2010 Vegetation Status and Activity Report, the grey areas were used for waste filling, stockpiling, landfill construction, and offices. The green areas were hydroseeded, amended, and mulched on both the City and County sides of the Landfill. The blue areas were hydroseeded and would be mulched in the next quarter. The yellow areas on the County side would be hydroseeded, amended, and mulched in the next quarter. The yellow area on the City side was hydroseeded and amended, and would be mulched next quarter.

Exhibit D, the Sunshine Canyon Landfill City/County Topographic Survey Map of March 4, 2010, showed the disposal area boundaries. Ms. Lee said that solid waste is anticipated to be placed within ten feet of the Limits of Fill in the northwestern corner of the Landfill, and Republic was preparing a draft final cover vegetative plan for these areas. The plan would be similar to the cover

plan approved for the City Landfill Unit 1 in January 2009 and would incorporate lessons learned from the Coastal Sage Mitigation City Side over the last few years.

The purple areas shown on Exhibit A indicated problematic soil locations. Sage test plots were designed to help mitigate the salts occurring in the soil. Republic stated they would seek approval for importing soil into the compacted areas to see if better growth on the flat upper decks of the City side could be achieved.

During the Subcommittee's discussion, Ms. Betsey Landis inquired about the source and agricultural profiling of the soil since the correct soil type would be imperative for proper growth. Ms. Lee would ask Republic to provide a copy of the letter sent to the City of Los Angeles requesting to import soil. No vegetation or weeding work was expected in the 3rd quarter; weeding was anticipated for the 4th quarter of 2010.

VI. OPEN DISCUSSION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

To be announced at a later date.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.