

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

**Minutes for May 17, 2018**

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, Chair, General Public Representative  
Bahman Hajjaliakbar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
John Kaddis, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health  
Sam Shammass, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Maurice Pantoja, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health  
Reyna Pereira, City of Los Angeles  
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT:

John Bollinger, California State University, Long Beach  
Chris Coyle, Republic Services  
Brenda Eells, Jacobs  
Gladys Gallardo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Mike Hale, Waste Connections for Chiquita Landfill  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition  
Carol Oyola, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Saeid Shirzadegan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Vu Truong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Gabriel Esparza, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Dave Nguyen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Mohajer called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. Ms. Landis, Chair, was not in attendance.

## **II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 19, 2018, MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes from the April 19, 2018, Subcommittee Meeting was made by Mr. Hajjaliakbar and seconded by Mr. Hunter. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

## **III. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL**

### Odor Complaints

Ms. Gallardo provided an update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) odor complaints from South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) for the month of April 2018 ([Link](#)). Hard copies of the latest odor complaints chart by AQMD were made available to Subcommittee members.

- During the month of April, a total of 9 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline and 4 of them were No Field Response(s).
- In comparison with March 2018, the number of complaints received in April, decreased by 57 percent, from 21 to 9 complaints.
- Compared to April of last year, the number of complaints this April decreased by 92 percent, from 116 to 9 complaints.
- The total number of complaints received by AQMD since 2009 is 11,081 and the total number of complaints received this year is 80.
- The total number of Notices of Violation (NOVs) issued by AQMD since 2009 is 214. As of May 8, 2018, AQMD has issued zero Odor Complaint NOVs to Sunshine Canyon Landfill for the month of April 2018.

At the previous FPRS meeting, the Subcommittee requested Staff reach out to AQMD to verify if procedures in responding to odor complaints have changed since 2009. AQMD informed Staff that current procedures have been in place for approximately one year.

Additionally, per the Subcommittee's request, Staff followed up with the Los Angeles Region Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) regarding the

disposal of leachate into the Landfill. The Water Board confirmed that leachate generated at the landfill is allowed to be disposed of at the landfill, in accordance with Section J: Provisions for Management of Leachate and Gas Condensate as stated in the Landfill's Waste Discharge Requirements.

Mr. Mohajer commented that both the odor and the number of complaints have decreased. However, the number of verified complaints have been impacted by AQMD's prior protocol of making field inspections after each complaint call. Ms. Gallardo responded that AQMD informed Staff that during afterhours and including weekends, an AQMD inspector will respond to three odor complaints within an hour.

Mr. Mohajer requested confirmation that the Water Board permits discharged leachate to be disposed of in the Landfill. Ms. Gallardo restated that the Landfill could act in accordance with the Waste Discharge Requirements. A motion was made by Mr. Mohajer recommending the Task Force send a letter to the State Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, requesting clarification on the Regional Water Quality Control Board's requirement on the disposal of untreated leachate and gas condensate at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Mr. Hajialiakbar agreed and seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hunter commented that his understanding of the Water Board's enforcement was to disallow the disposal of leachate in the landfill. Ms. Gallardo commented that in the Waste Discharge Requirements, it states that leachate may be returned to the landfill, but this needs to be done in conformance to Section 20200(d) and 20340(g) of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

#### Update on the Intermediate Cover Enhancement (ICE) Project

Ms. Gallardo provided update of the ICE Project at Sunshine Canyon Landfill:

On December 8, 2017, Public Works received Republic Services' Final Evaluation Report for the ICE Demonstration Project. On March 13, 2018, Public Works sent a letter to Republic Services commenting on the ICE Project Evaluation Report. On April 11, 2018, Republic Services responded to Public Works' comment letter. Public Works Staff is currently finalizing the comments letter responding to the Republic Services' April 11<sup>th</sup> letter. Ms. Gallardo stated that a copy of the letter will be disseminated to the Subcommittee once it becomes available.

#### Update on the use of Alternative Daily Cover (ADC)

Mr. Truong provided an update on the ADC pilot project for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill:

- Public Works sent a conditional approval letter to Republic Services, dated April 10, 2018, extending the ADC pilot project for one year, to October 25, 2018. Based on the conditions of approval, Republic Services is required to submit monthly ADC progress reports during the pilot project period. Staff has reached out to Republic Services on the status of the Report. Once received, staff would review and provide an update to the Subcommittee.
- Additionally, per the Subcommittee's request, Mr. Truong provided information on CalRecycle Regulation, Title 27, Environmental Protection-Division 2, Solid Waste, Section 20690: Alternative Daily Cover, which specifies high or extreme wind events. The State regulation describes difficulties in placing ADC due to adverse climatic conditions, but does not define those quantify conditions or high wind events. The Landfill's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Summary (MMRS) describes high wind conditions as average wind speeds that exceed 15 mph (15-minute average) or instantaneous wind speeds that exceed 25 mph. AQMD, Rule 403 (Fugitive Dust Plan), defines HIGH WIND CONDITIONS as instantaneous wind speeds that exceed 25 mph.

Department of Public Health (DPH) NOV recommendation based on Order to Abate dated November 9, 2016

Mr. Kaddis stated there was no update, as there is continued significant decrease in the number of complaints. Mr. Mohajer requested an update by next month. Discussion ensued and Mr. Mohajer requested that the analysis performed by DPH be clear about the number of odor complaints showing reduction, and should be reflective of AQMD's night and weekend response protocol.

Mr. Hunter commented that at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee meeting, the report for March did not include rain as a special occurrence. Mr. Mohajer asked if the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) is required to indicate weather as a special occurrence. Mr. Mohajer requested staff to investigate the issue and report to the Subcommittee at the subsequent meeting. Mr. Coyle stated that part of the monthly reporting to the LEA and Department of Public Works (DPW) is weather data; which includes wind speed, wind direction, temperature, barometric pressure, and rain gage.

**IV. UPDATE ON DPH'S ANALYSIS OF DR. NORDELLA'S ALISO CANYON/PORTER RANCH HEALTH STUDY PRESENTED ON OCTOBER 13, 2017**

Mr. Kaddis stated they have not received any analysis for update.

#### **V. ANTELOPE VALLEY LANDFILL PERMIT REVISION APPLICATION**

Mr. Shirzadegan stated that on May 7, 2018, Staff received the application for a Finding of Conformance (FOC) for the Antelope Valley Landfill Permit Revision and staff is currently reviewing this package submittal.

#### **VI. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL FOC**

Mr. Shirzadegan stated Chiquita Canyon Landfill first submitted the FOC package on October 26, 2017. On December 6, 2017, the Task Force (TF) transmitted comments on the submittal. Subsequently, the Operator submitted the revised version of the FOC package on April 5, 2018, and the accompanying set of plans on April 8, 2018. Based on the submittal, Mr. Shirzadegan had the following to report for the Consideration the FOC for Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL):

- CCL is an existing Class III municipal solid waste landfill located within the unincorporated community of Castaic in Los Angeles County. CCL began its disposal operations in 1972 and is currently operating under the approved Conditional Use Permit (CUP), No. R2004-00042-(5), which is in effect since July 28, 2017. It allows the landfill to receive waste from the Santa Clarita Valley, including Val Verde, Castaic, Santa Clarita, and the surrounding unincorporated County; the northern San Fernando Valley; the greater Los Angeles Basin; and a limited area of Ventura County.
- There was an existing FOC issued by the TF on February 19, 1998. Since the Landfill undergone an expansion and obtained a CUP, as well as change in their intake capacity, a new FOC is required in accordance with the Countywide Siting Element. This FOC is also required as part of Condition No. 100 of the current CUP.
- The Landfill operator submitted a permit application package to CalRecycle for permit revision. According to LEA staff, the application was to be accepted as complete and correct on May 17, 2018. The LEA anticipates to process the proposed permit and will take approximately 30 to 60 days. Subsequently, CalRecycle will have an additional 60 days for their review and concurrence with the recommendation.
- The applicant is currently applying for a new Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) permit. According to Water Board staff, they will try to approve the WDR permit by November 2018, or earlier.

The proposed FOC acknowledges the revisions to Solid Waste Facility Permit and CUP:

- Permitted Hours:

1. Upon the effective date of July 28, 2017, of the CUP through December 31, 2024, the facility may receive Solid Waste and Beneficial Use Materials only between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. At any given time, no offsite queuing shall be allowed.
2. Effective January 2025 through 2047, the facility may receive Solid Waste and Beneficial Use Materials only between the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. At any given time, no offsite queuing shall be allowed.
3. Facility and all operations shall be closed on Sundays.

- Acreage and Design Capacity

1. The facility acreage for the old permit allowed for 592 acres and the proposed permit is 639 acres.
2. The disposal acreage for the old permit was 257 acres and for the new permit is 400 acres.
3. The design capacity for the old permit was 29.3 million cubic yards and for the new permit is 60 million tons.
4. The daily permitted capacity for the municipal solid waste materials for the old permit was 6,000 pounds per day. For the new permit, there are two tiers: from years 2017-2024, they are allowed to accept 6,616 tons per day and from years 2025-2047, they allow only 3,411 tons per day.
5. The estimated remaining life per the old permit was 21 years and for the new permit is 30 years.
6. The expected closure date for the old permit was 2019 and for the new permit is 2047.

- **Staff's Conclusion and Recommendation**

Staff reviewed the FOC application for compliance with the requirements for granting of an FOC as established in the Countywide Siting Element. It is staff's finding that the application meets the requirements, and therefore, recommends granting the FOC subject to the "Conditions of Approval" specified in the Staff Report.

Mr. Mohajer had several comments:

1. Mr. Mohajer commented that he would like to see a PowerPoint presentation and a map depicting existing landfill and proposed area that will be expanded. Map should illustrate onsite existing structures, as well as enclosed offsite structures within 1,000 feet of the expanded Landfill footprint. Additionally, Mr. Mohajer commented on the applicability of the County Building Code as far as location of structures within 1,000 feet of a landfill citing the need to protect new and existing structures from gas intrusion.
2. Mr. Mohajer commented on Page 1 of Staff Report, "This FOC is required per Condition No. 100 of the CUP," that this phrase should be expanded to include the Los Angeles County, Countywide Siting Element.
3. Mr. Mohajer requested a copy of the mitigation monitoring report identified in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) from the Lead Agency within County Department of Regional Planning.
4. Mr. Mohajer stated that odor mitigation needs to be a condition of the FOC.
5. Mr. Mohajer stated he wants to make certain that the portion of the landfill gas control system over all the subsurface landfill for gas migration, is going to be something that will be the responsibility of the County Department of Public Works for the TF to monitor.

## **VII. DISCUSSION OF FOC REPORTS**

Mr. Shirzadegan stated that Staff received the 2018 Semi-Annual Spring Waste Characterization for Calabasas Landfill dated April 13, 2018. This is the first semi-annual report submitted from the County Sanitation District, as required by the Condition No. 13 of the new FOC issued by the TF on October 3, 2017. The reporting period is from Mach 27 through 30, 2018:

- Calabasas Landfill reported 86.20 tons of paper and 62.9 tons of plastics received from residential out of the 352.90 total tons of refuse materials.

- Calabasas Landfill reported 83.30 tons of paper and 71.90 tons of plastics received from commercial out of the 1,193.40 total tons of refuse materials.
- The total residential and commercial materials received at the facility was 1,546.30 tons.

### **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Mohajer asked if the Chiquita Canyon Landfill operator is satisfying the reporting requirements to CalRecycle per AB 901. Mr. Shirzadegan stated copies of reports are sent to CalRecycle, but will verify with staff.

Mr. Hunter noted an error in the Sunshine Canyon Landfill monthly operations report submitted to the LEA and DPW for the month of March due to mislabeling gross tonnage and net tonnage. Mr. Mohajer requested the report to be revised and redistributed and Mr. Coyle agreed.

There were no additional public comments.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 21, 2018, in Conference Room B.

CSO:MH