

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

January 15, 2026

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Basil Cantu, City of Long Beach Energy and Environmental Services Department
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Sam Shammas, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Jordan Sisson, California Waste and Recycling Association
Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County Public Works
Felicia Truong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sharon Bronson, Republic Services
Michael Maglione, Republic Services
Amanda Froman, Waste Connections
Kate Logan, Waste Connections
Michael Dudley, Waste Management
Tracy Freeman, Waste Management
Mark Grady, Waste Management
Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Barbara Moore, City of Long Beach Energy and Environmental Services
Department
Alexander Castro, Los Angeles County Public Works
Lance Cervantes, Los Angeles County Public Works
Anna Gov, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Cameron Jones, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dennis Lee, Los Angeles County Public Works
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Emiko Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2025, SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Wayde Hunter made a motion to approve November 20, 2025, minutes, and Mr. Jordan Sisson seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

III. ANTELOPE VALLEY LANDFILL EXPANSION

Mr. Michael Harmon, staff to the Task Force, provided a [presentation](#) on the proposed Antelope Valley Landfill (AVLF) Expansion, which is a Class III landfill located in the City of Palmdale. In accordance with the existing [Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element](#), since the Landfill Operator is proposing an expansion of an existing facility, they must obtain a Finding of Conformance (FOC) from the Task Force.

In terms of the land use permit, Mr. Sisson asked if there is any increase in tons per day at AVLF or is it just merely an expansion of the acreage and Sunday hours. Mr. Harmon responded it was for the horizontal expansion without modification to the maximum daily tonnage of the site. Mr. Sisson noted that this project would help to expand the existing capacity at AVLF.

Ms. Thompson asked Waste Management (WM) to share some information regarding the proposed development of a renewable gas facility at AVLF. Mr. Mark Grady, Director of Landfill Operations with WM, stated that the main goal is to find a beneficial reuse for the landfill gas, which WM has done at other area landfills and most recently at the Simi Valley Landfill Facility where they convert landfill gas into high quality natural gas, offsetting fossil fuel and gas usage. As technologies are rapidly developing, there are different uses depending on the gas that is being produced and the quality of the gas. AVLF is possibly a good option for such a facility.

Ms. Thompson asked what kind of technology would be used. Mr. Grady responded that the design would be based on the quality and quantity of gas and the ability for SoCalGas to accept it in its pipeline. In summary, WM is taking 50 percent methane and improving it to 99+ percent. There is a series of scrubbers, compressors, chillers and other items to get it to that point. Mr. Grady thought it best to offer the Task Force or a subgroup to take a tour of WM's existing facility in Simi Valley to see how the facility works.

Ms. Thompson asked how the process impacts the overall landfill gas management system. Mr. Grady responded that it is an enhancement and that the AVLF still has a full-build design of gas wells, leachate collection, and condensation management to an existing flare system and that this unit would be in addition.

Mr. Sisson asked if there is a chance to increase daily tonnage capacity since last year was unique with WM having to accept fire debris and with the closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL). Mr. Grady responded that this request is for expansion and that they have no plans to increase any capacity. He stated that WM did not really see any substantial increase in tonnage from the closure of CCL. Mr. Sisson asked if AVLF and Simi Valley Landfill saw an increase in the first half of 2024. Mr. Grady responded it was minor and that most of the tons went out to San Bernardino, Avenal and Salton Sea Landfills. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hunter stated that requirements are specified in the Countywide Siting Element regarding expansion and that the process is routine for the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS). He stated the need for a complete presentation of their expansion so that the FPRS can review all the elements to ensure that requirements are met. Ms. Thompson confirmed that this was just the beginning stage of the process to recommend to the Task Force that a letter be sent to WM.

Mr. Hunter made a motion and Ms. Thompson seconded. The motion states that the FPRS recommends that the Task Force send a letter to WM stating that a FOC is required and to request that the Landfill Operator submit a FOC application to the Task Force. The motion passed with one abstention.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Harmon provided a brief update on the [odor complaints from the South Coast Air Quality Management District \(AQMD\) for December 2025](#) at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL):

Odor Complaints and Notices of Violation

- During the month of December 2025, 530 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 127 were classified as trash odors, 304 were listed as No Field Response, 27 were listed as landfill gas odors, and 72 were classified as None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect odors.
- Compared to November 2025, the number of complaints received in December 2025 increased from 298 to 530 complaints.
- Compared to December 2024, the number of complaints for December 2025 increased from 85 to 530 complaints.

- AQMD issued 19 Notices of Violation (NOVs) related to odor for the month of December 2025.
- The total number of NOVs issued this calendar year is 89.

As requested by the FPRS at last month's meeting, Mr. Harmon provided a brief status of the illegal dumping incident in October 2025:

- The illegal dumping incident occurred near the intersection of Stonecrest Road and Valley Canyon Road, located in the unincorporated community of Agua Dulce, outside of the City of Santa Clarita. Some waste was disposed of at SCL.
- The FPRS had requested an update on the Public Works (PW) illegal dumping cleanup and disposal protocol, which is currently under review. Once finalized, it will be made available to the Subcommittee.
- The illegal dumping clean-up process is ongoing, but no further material has been taken to SCL.

Mr. Hunter invited Mr. Larry Israel with AQMD to present some information on SCL.

Mr. Israel with AQMD's Office of Compliance and Enforcement reported the following:

- As of January 15, 2026, approximately 200 odor complaints were received for the month of January and 6 nuisance NOVs were issued, of which 5 involved public schools.
- There were 530 odor complaints and 19 NOVs for the month of December 2025 that were confirmed.

Mr. Hunter asked if there was a reason for the increase in odors. Mr. Israel responded that in December and January, inspectors noticed an increase of sour or wet trash odor complaints during regular work hours and morning hours into the early afternoon. He believes it to be linked more to the backlogs in the transfer stations and operation on the wet weather deck. Mr. Israel also commented on rain and unfavorable wind conditions. Additionally, in October and November, there were more odor complaints in the evening hours which were more indicative of landfill gas. Mr. Hunter indicated that at the SCL Community Advisory Committee meeting, it was indicated that odor problems were potentially due to trenching for the installation of new wells and lateral collection systems, and due to work related to the order for abatement. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hunter made a request to add an item to the FPRS agenda regarding PW revised illegal dumping protocols. He stated non-agendized items are difficult to

track. Ms. Thompson responded that the PW protocol on illegal dumping is in its final stages of review and as soon as it is approved, it can be made available to the FPRS. Mr. Hunter reiterated his request that the item be officially added to the agenda. Ms. Thompson agreed the agenda item could be added.

V. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, reported on CCL's NOVs:

- The Landfill Operator submitted their [Fifty-Sixth Monthly Update](#), dated December 31, 2025, which included updates in accordance with the [April 19, 2021, Task Force letter](#) requirements and subsequent request for additional updates on NOVs issued and mitigation measures imposed by various regulatory agencies.
- CCL received 4 NOVs in December 2025 related to air quality from the AQMD, compared to the 8 NOVs received in November 2025 and the 9 NOVs received in December 2024.
- CCL entered into a Stipulated Order for Abatement (SOA) with AQMD on September 2, 2023, that was last modified on December 9, 2025, to address and abate the odors resulting from the reaction at CCL. A copy of the SOA will be provided to the Subcommittee once it becomes available on CCL's [website](#).
- The next status update and modification hearing on the SOA is scheduled for May 28, 2026.
- On December 3, 2025, CCL received a NOV from AQMD alleging that CCL failed to notify AQMD prior to the demolition of a former conference trailer onsite, which AQMD observed during an inspection of CCL on October 17, 2025. The NOV also alleged CCL of failing to properly follow the handling, demolition, storage, and documenting of asbestos-containing materials in accordance with AQMD Guidelines. Upon receiving AQMD's NOV to comply in October 2025, CCL and their certified asbestos consultant prepared a cleanup plan for the removal and disposal of the asbestos-containing trailer from the site that was approved by AQMD on December 2, 2025. The clean-up began on December 3, 2025, and was completed on December 19, 2025.
- As of December 31, 2025, CCL's August 28, 2025, appeal to PW NOVs issued has not been set for a hearing nor has CCL received a response to its appeal.
- On October 20, 2025, Regional Planning continued the hearing originally set for October 21, 2025, to January 20, 2026, for the NOVs they issued to CCL.

Mr. Hunter invited Mr. Israel to address some of the issues at CCL.

Mr. Israel reported that so far in January, AQMD has received only about 64 odor complaints primarily due to wind conditions from the north Santa Ana winds that

have been ongoing for the last few weeks, which has given the community quite a bit of relief.

Mr. Israel further reported that CCL is under the SOA for violations and AQMD has issued another two violations for order for abatement conditions, which are currently up to nine. The present numbers are approximately 437 nuisance complaints and order for abatement and other violations that have been issued since the beginning of 2023.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Lance Cervantes provided follow-up responses to questions that were asked at the previous Subcommittee meeting's presentation on disposal capacity update after the Closure of Chiquita Canyon Landfill:

- Is waste being exported out of state? In 2024, LARA was the only one to export 7.9 tons of waste to Covanta Transformation Facility in Oklahoma.
- What is the status of the most recent waiver for Simi Valley Landfill? The emergency waiver for the 2025 disaster events for Simi Valley Landfill expired on December 3, 2025.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 19, 2026, at 11 a.m.