

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

April 21, 2022

WEB CONFERENCE

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works
Betsey Landis, Chair, Environmental Organization Representative
Sam Shamma, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections
Chris Coyle, Republic Services
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Kristine Jegalian, City of Los Angeles
Dave Thompson, Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency
Joe Bartolata, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Omid Mazdiyasni, Los Angeles County Public Works
Robel Mesfin, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Gladys Rietze, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Chris Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works
Vu Truong, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works
Jeffrey Zhu, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Betsey Landis called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 17, 2022 MEETING

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to approve the Minutes, as corrected, and Mr. Patrick Holland seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. UPDATE ON SITING CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES

Mr. Chris Sheppard, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on siting conversion technology (CT) facilities and discussed information from the [County's CT data base](#) that shows various CT companies and their estimated energy generation based on their technology type. He also reviewed the [summary table](#) that shows the estimated energy production from types of CTs.

Mr. Sheppard also informed that more electricity was needed from other sources such as the CT technologies that were presented especially with rising electricity demands. Mr. Sam Shammass informed that the CSD Carson water pollution control plant is accepting food waste and generating methane gas, which is converted to electricity and vehicle fuel

IV. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Omid Mazdidasni, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL):

Odor Complaints and Notice of Violations (NOVs)

South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) reported 20 odor complaints in January, 1 odor complaint in February, and 4 odor complaints in March 2022. CCL reported zero NOVs during the first quarter of 2022.

Update on Lawsuits

CCL filed two lawsuits against the County and settlement discussions are ongoing to settle the lawsuits:

- The first lawsuit was filed on October 20, 2017, challenging operational conditions and fee conditions of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP).
- The second lawsuit was filed on April 13, 2018, challenging a decision by the hearing officer that upheld an NOV issued by Department of Regional Planning (DRP) on December 11, 2017, for failure to pay Bridge and Thoroughfare Fees,

accepting prohibited auto shredder waste, and failure to pay out-of-area fees. The trial date was continued to December 2022.

The parties are currently engaged in the settlement discussion to resolve both lawsuits.

Task Force Request for CCL to Submit a Report regarding NOV's Received

CCL submitted their Twelfth Monthly Update to the Task Force on April 1, 2022. The update addressed the April 19, 2021, letter's requirements and included updates on implementation of Conditions 68 (status of air quality monitoring for surrounding communities), 77 (relocation of the site entrance from Henry Mayo Drive to Wolcott Drive), and 79 (schedule of the Street Improvement project), as well as the Stipulated Order for Abatement from AQMD.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The CAC met on April 12, 2022, where the County and the landfill operator provided updates to the community. CCL's update can be found on the Department of Regional Planning's [website](#). The next CAC meeting will be on July 12, 2022, at 6 p.m., and the next monthly community meeting will be on May 16, 2022, at 6 p.m. Staff may provide virtual meeting information upon Subcommittee's request.

Mr. Wayde Hunter of North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens shared an e-mail that he received from a resident who resides near the Landfill who inquired why the air monitoring stations are taking too long to be installed. Mr. David Nguyen of Public Works (PW) shared that there are 12 stations called for in the Air Quality Program (CAMP). Of those, seven stations have already been installed, and the remaining five are in the permitting process and are scheduled to be installed by second quarter of 2022. This information was presented at the April 12, 2022, CCL-CAC meeting.

Ms. Landis requested staff field check these air quality monitoring stations and, after the inspection, provide written report to the Subcommittee members. Mr. Holland expressed concern that this request is not within the Task Force's purview. He will check with the County Counsel to advise on this request.

V. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Odor Complaints

Mr. Vu Truong, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the [odor complaints from the AQMD](#) for the month of March 2022, at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL).

- During the month of March 2022, 58 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 12 were classified as Trash and the rest were listed as No Field Response and None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to February 2022, the number of complaints received in March 2022 decreased from 84 to 58 complaints.
- Compared to March 2021, the number of complaints for March 2022 increased from 3 to 58 complaints.
- As of April 5, 2022, AQMD issued zero NOVs related to odor for the month of March 2022.
- According to the AQMD report, the total number of complaints received during 2022 is 300.

Mr. Mohajer commented that the number of notice of violations for the calendar year 2022 is equal to the number of notice of violations the site received for the year of 2021.

Weekend Soil Cover

Ms. Gladys Rietze, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on PW's enforcement action on SCL non-compliance with PW's January 15, 2019, Weekend Soil Cover Requirement.

PW staff inspected the Landfill since February 28, 2022, and determined that the Landfill was out of compliance during the weekends. Consequently, PW referred the matter to the DRP for further enforcement action on April 11, 2022. Going forward, PW staff will continue to inspect the Landfill for compliance and provide support to DRP in its enforcement role.

Mr. Hunter requested a written summary be provided to him regarding the referral to DRP so he can share the information at the SCL-CAC. Mr. Holland indicated that he would discuss the request with County Counsel.

Mr. Mohajer indicated that he had comments on the Staff Report on SCL Permitted Tonnage Capacity presented during the March 2022 FPRS meeting, he believed the report that staff has prepared might not be entirely correct as it only looked at the total allowable daily tonnage and not taking into account the limitation on municipal solid waste and beneficial Use Material. In his opinion, this will allow the Landfill to freely take in as much waste as possible without exceeding the allowable daily tonnage capacity of 12,100 tons.

Ms. Rietze clarified that both the SCL CUP and Finding of Conformance (FOC) were reviewed when preparing the Staff Report. She informed that the allowable daily tonnage capacity is 12,100 tons for all materials received at the Landfill and

for Inert Debris and Beneficial Use Materials a weekly tonnage capacity of 6,600 tons is allowed. In any case, the landfill is not exceeding its permitted daily, weekly, and monthly limit. Staff will revisit the report and provide to Mr. Mohajer for comments.

Vegetation Report

Mr. Mazdiasni reported that Republic Services submitted the Fourth Quarter 2021 Vegetation Project Status Report for the SCL on March 9, 2022, and staff disseminated the Fourth Quarter 2021 Vegetation Staff Report to the Task Force on April 14, 2022. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Landis commented that vegetated areas were showing substantial regrowth after the Saddle Ridge Fire during the reporting period. She requested staff to provide more information regarding the Oak Tree Survey and mitigation bank.

Mr. Mohajer requested staff to review the CUP and oak tree mitigation measures to ensure that they are consistent with the approved California Environmental Quality Act document for the Landfill.

VI. DISCUSSION OF FOC REPORTS

Fourth Quarter FOC 2021

Mr. Robel Mesfin, staff to the Task Force, presented the Fourth quarter FOC Report. Due to time constraints, staff was unable to provide this update at the previous Subcommittee meeting.

Staff received the Fourth Quarter 2021 Monitoring Report for CCL dated January 14, 2022. Based on the report, CCL disposed approximately 520,900 tons in the fourth quarter of 2021. Compared to the third quarter of 2021, the disposal tonnage decreased by 3 percent, from 534,000 to 520,900 tons. The beneficial reuse material, including diversion and soil, total for the fourth quarter of 2021 was approximately 131,700 tons. Compared to the third quarter of 2021, the beneficial reuse tonnage decreased by 18 percent, from 156,000 tons to 131,700.

Staff received the Fourth Quarter 2021 Monitoring Report for SCL dated January 14, 2022. Based on the report, SCL disposed approximately 664,400 tons in the fourth quarter of 2021. Compared to the third quarter of 2021, the disposal tonnage decreased by 8 percent, from 723,600 to 664,400 tons. The beneficial reuse material, including diversion and soil, total for the fourth quarter of 2021 was 8,540 tons. Compared to the third quarter of 2021, the beneficial reuse tonnage decreased by 33 percent, from 12,900 tons to 8,540.

Semi-Annual Waste Characterization

Mr. Mohajer asked about the status of the Semi-Annual Waste Characterization study for the facilities not included in the Staff Report dated April 17, 2022. Mr. Michael Harmon of PW informed that facilities are scheduled to conduct the first Semi-Annual Waste Characterization study during the months of March or April. Staff received the Waste Characterization reports for Lancaster and Antelope Valley Landfills in advance of the meeting and prepared the reports for this meeting. Staff expects to receive the remaining Waste Characterization Reports from other facilities by the April 30, 2022. A Staff Report and update for those facilities will be provided at the subsequent Subcommittee meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2022, at 11 a.m.