

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

February 15, 2024

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

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Genevieve Osmena, Los Angeles County Public Works
Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ken Habaradas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Larry Israel, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Cameron Jones, Los Angeles County Public Works
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Sam Shammass called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 18, 2024 MEETING

Approval of the minutes postponed until the next Subcommittee meeting due to the lack of quorum.

III. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Karlo Manalo, staff to the Task Force, reported that Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL) received 12 Notices of Violations (NOVs) in January 2024, all of which are air quality-related from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). Mr. Manalo also provided a detailed [Staff Report](#) to the Subcommittee regarding various status updates for CCL.

Ms. Genevieve Osmena commented on the collaborated efforts by multiple regulatory agencies to address the odor incident at CCL and acknowledged the labors of Public Works staff in compiling all the information in a comprehensive manner for the Subcommittee. Ms. Osmena stated that efforts will be made to try and get some regulatory agencies, such as AQMD, to attend Subcommittee meetings so they may participate in conversations regarding CCL's mitigation efforts. Mr. Shammass concurred that staff's report was very helpful.

Mr. Wayde Hunter of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens commented on the discussions for clarification between CCL and AQMD regarding CCL not understanding the NOVs issued for failing to always keep equipment in good operating condition. Mr. Hunter did not understand the clarification CCL needed since they had been cited in the past and know exactly what is wrong. Mr. Manalo responded that CCL is currently in discussions with AQMD to determine what the alleged violations are and to date, there has been no determination on whether the NOVs have been resolved. Mr. Hunter stated that the citations go back to the very beginning of December and is wondering why discussions are going on since this is February. The clarification should have already been resolved. Mr. Manalo responded that staff would follow up with AQMD on the status of the NOVs.

IV. SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL

Odor Complaints and Notices of Violation

Mr. Michael Harmon, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the [odor complaints from AQMD](#) for January 2024 at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL).

- During the month of January 2024, 204 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 53 were classified as Trash, 70 were listed as No Field Response, 11 were listed as Landfill Gas Odors, and 70 were classified as None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to December 2023, the number of complaints received for January 2024, increased from 113 to 204 complaints.
- Compared to January 2023, the number of complaints for January 2024 decreased from 226 to 204 complaints.
- AQMD issued 9 NOVs related to odor for the month of January 2024.

Vegetation Update

Mr. Harmon provided a detailed [Staff Report](#) to the Subcommittee regarding the Fourth Quarter 2023 Vegetation Project Status Report at SCL.

Status Update on Mitigation Measures

Mr. Harmon provided the following update on mitigation measures at SCL:

- On December 7, 2023, Public Works provided comments to the SCL-Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) on SCL's Joint Technical Document (JTD) package as part of the Solid Waste Facility Permit's five-year review. Comments by Public Works included:
 - Odorous Load Management on-site and for inbound waste sources such as transfer stations.
 - Best Management Practices for the control and treatment of fresh trash.
 - Condition of use for cover material during the weekend.
 - Dust control measures.
- On January 29, 2024, the SCL-LEA reviewed the JTD and the application from Republic Services for a five-year permit review and issued a comment letter providing the following:

- The SCL-LEA determined the JTD does not completely reflect the site's current operations and is required to be modified.
- Republic Services was instructed to submit an application to the SCL-LEA for an amendment to include items identified in the permit preview report within 120 days of the letter issuance.
- Public Works communicated with SCL-LEA staff on-site regarding storm impacts to the site's operation due to January and February storms. The SCL-LEA reported that two areas of erosion were identified within SCL's footprint, and the areas were to be repaired as soon as ground conditions permit safe access. There were no observations of off-site impacts. At the time of the meeting, Public Works staff was currently conducting a site inspection at SCL and will confirm any issues or repairs.

Mr. Hunter mentioned the SCL Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on February 13, 2024, and his concern that the Landfill termination berm is designed to stabilize the entire Landfill. Mr. Hunter wanted to confirm that the compaction is being done properly and asked the County to investigate. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hunter also mentioned that the trash trucks were bypassing the scales and are not going through any sort of radiation detectors, which the scales have. Mr. Dave Nguyen responded that Public Works staff would follow up with Republic Services regarding Mr. Hunter's concerns. Mr. Nguyen asked Ms. Kate Downey of Republic Services how they manage radiation detection. Ms. Downey responded that material coming into SCL to be placed as construction material, is not part of the waste stream and is not being used as beneficial use in the Landfill. Therefore, trucks with construction material are not going into the disposal footprint and are not required to go through radiation detection. Ms. Downey explained that the construction material is clean and is not deposited as waste into the Landfill. Mr. Shamma asked if the dirt coming into the Landfill is specifically procured by SCL for construction purposes. Ms. Downey confirmed yes.

Lastly, Mr. Hunter noted that SCL was receiving soil from Pacoima Spreading Grounds. Mr. Hunter asked if Public Works was aware, and Mr. Nguyen confirmed Public Works is aware. Mr. Hunter wanted to make certain everything was handled properly in terms of all the truck traffic with material approaching the Landfill because of the congestion on San Fernando Road, and stated in the past, Public Works was very specific on the haul routes to the Landfill. Mr. Shamma thanked Mr. Hunter for his comments and noted Public Works was present and would look into his concerns.

V. DISCUSSION ON FINDING OF CONFORMANCE REPORTS

Mr. Manalo provided a detailed [Staff Report](#) to the Subcommittee regarding the update on the Finding of Conformance Reports.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 p.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 21, 2024, at 11 a.m.