

**PALOS VERDES LANDFILL
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Monday April 25, 2011 at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Addleman, David Wahba, Kurt Swanson, Kathleen McGowan, Tim Scott, Doug Henry, Pat Furey

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Greene, Linda Cessna

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Ferrante, Kristen Ruffell, Ethan Laden, Mark McDannel

OTHERS: Joan Davidson, Melody Colbert, Jim Tarr, Dave Wiggins, Donna Madden, Jeremiah Dobruck (Palos Verdes Peninsula News), plus two or three other unidentified community members

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:35 p.m. and the roll was called. The January 24, 2011 minutes were approved. Chairman Addleman reported on the applicability of the Brown Act to the CAC. Legal review indicates that the CAC may be covered by the Brown Act. This meeting was properly noticed and all subsequent meetings will be noticed in accordance with Brown Act procedures. In addition, this meeting and all future meetings will strictly follow the agenda and as such, all audience comments will be reserved for the "Oral Communications" phase of the meeting.

Ethan Laden updated the committee about recent site activities, including the construction of the new flare and a January 28, 2011 CBS2 News story about groundwater seepage in Country Hills Estates. The natural causes of groundwater seepage in Country Hills Estates were thoroughly discussed at the January 2010 meeting.

Kristen Ruffell presented follow-up information about the accidental release of groundwater into the storm drain that occurred on January 24, 2011. She described how the Sanitation Districts' procedures helped identify the spill promptly and stop the spill immediately. She described the Sanitation Districts' process for calculating the spill volume of 21,700 gallons and the containment and response actions that led to collection of a portion of the spilled liquids. She discussed the samples collected at the source of the spill and at the outlet to Machado Lake. These results confirm that the groundwater contained very-low levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and that two of the three VOCs detected at the source of the spill met drinking water standards. No VOCs were detected at the outlet to Machado Lake. While the very low levels of VOCs did not require immediate reporting to any agency, the Sanitation Districts discussed the spill with the CAC during the last meeting and reported the spill to the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Sanitation Districts also documented the spill in two letters to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on February 16 and April 18, 2011. She also noted that there have not been any other spills at the site since February 2005.

Mark McDannel next made a presentation about landfill surface gas monitoring and ambient air monitoring. Mark described how the Sanitation Districts meet the requirements of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1150.1 and provided a demonstration of the surface gas monitoring equipment used by the Sanitation Districts. In response to a question from a previous meeting, Mark also described how the current ambient air monitoring locations were chosen based on studies performed in the 1990s. The committee asked for the following information at the next meeting: a copy of a recent

Rule 1150.1 Quarterly report, a summary of any surface gas exceedances and remedial actions over the last year, recent source test reports for existing equipment, and a discussion of the Sanitation Districts' implementation of new 1150.1 leak check requirements.

Ethan Laden reported there were no gas collection wells over 170 degrees Fahrenheit during January and February 2011. Hot spot information will be updated at each CAC meeting.

Ethan Laden answered a question from the January 24, 2011 CAC meeting regarding apparent increases in VOC emissions from the landfill as reported on the SCAQMD website. He explained that the VOC emissions reported on the SCAQMD website are a summation of two categories of sources: 1) the landfill and 2) VOC usage for site maintenance (i.e. solvents, degreasers and coatings). He described that emissions from both sources are very low and VOCs generated by the landfill continue to decline. The low VOC emissions from maintenance products vary from year to year based on maintenance activities and are likely over estimated based on the use of conservative emission factors. Nevertheless, VOCs related to maintenance of the site are expected to decrease further when the gas-to-energy facility is shut down later this year.

During new business, the Peter Weber Equestrian Center upgrade was discussed. David Wahba agreed to present an update on this project at the next CAC meeting.

The Committee received two written communications. The first letter, from Donna Madden, expressed unhappiness at the response she received from an SCAQMD inspector after an odor complaint. Robert Ferrante suggested that the community could get a faster response by calling the Sanitation Districts directly. When a member of the community detects odors that they believe are related to the landfill, they should immediately call the landfill at (310) 378-1928. The Sanitation Districts will dispatch a technician to investigate and remediate any landfill-related odors. Ms. Madden stated that her letter provided her thoughts on potential odor sources. The Sanitation Districts agreed to discuss her letter during the next CAC meeting. The second letter, from Barbara Epstein, expressed an interest in being informed of future CAC meetings. David Wahba agreed to place Barbara Epstein on a mailing list for interested parties.

During oral communications, Joan Davidson asked three questions. She asked about the detection limits for the samples collected in response to the accidental groundwater discharge and how boundary probes and surface grids are selected for quarterly laboratory testing. The Sanitation Districts agreed to answer both of these questions during the next CAC meeting. Her last question referenced a 2008 agreement between Los Angeles County and the Sanitation Districts and she asked how that agreement and AB32 are affected by the decision not to install the power generation portion of the Phase II Energy Recovery Project. Several members of the committee commented that this question was outside the scope of the CAC. The committee elected not to request further information from the Sanitation Districts. Robert Ferrante confirmed for the committee that the new flare meets all regulatory requirements, and there is no violation of AB32 by canceling the power generation portion of the project.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next CAC meeting will be on July 25, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the Rolling Hills Estates council chambers.