

**PALOS VERDES LANDFILL
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Monday October 24, 2011 at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Addleman, David Wahba, Kurt Swanson, Kathleen McGowan, Tim Scott, Pat Furey, James Greene and Linda Cessna

MEMBERS ABSENT: Doug Henry

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Ferrante, Kristen Ruffell, Ethan Laden and Dan Hyde

OTHERS: Joan Davidson, Jim Tarr, Donna Madden, Natalie Massey, Jan Warner, Diane Doty, Ed Strobel, an unnamed videographer hired by Ms. Davidson, Justin Skarb, Terry Tamble, Robert Olsen, Dale Gonzalez, Matt Kang, Tracy Meastro, and Carmelo Sorce

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. and the roll was called. The July 25, 2011 minutes were approved. Chairman Addleman asked Dan Hyde, Sanitation Districts' legal counsel, to discuss the applicability of the Brown Act to this committee. Mr. Hyde stated that the Brown Act would apply because the committee holds regularly scheduled meetings. Public comments should be allowed for each item on the agenda and should be addressed to the committee. The Chairperson may limit each commenter to a reasonable amount of time (typically 3 minutes).

Justin Skarb of California Water Service (CWS) next gave a presentation on their project to construct two new water pipelines into the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The pipelines will upgrade the infrastructure, improve reliability, reduce risk to the water distribution system, and improve fire-fighting resources. A portion of one of the pipelines will run under the horse trail at the southern boundary of the South Coast Botanic Garden. A section of landfill gas headerline is currently located under this horse trail. CWS is proposing to relocate the headerline as part of the pipeline construction project and plans to work with the Sanitation Districts and DTSC to ensure that the work does not negatively impact gas collection at the Botanic Garden. CWS expects construction of the pipelines to begin in early 2014 with completion in 2015. Public outreach will continue as the design and environmental studies continue.

Mr. Swanson requested the committee discuss whether the committee's practice of requesting a response to almost all audience questions results in excessive costs for the Sanitation Districts without providing the committee with information that is relevant to their charge. Mr. Swanson suggested that public questions be directed to the committee to be vetted for relevance and cost prior to putting the item on a future agenda. Committee members fully agreed that only relevant questions should be researched and answered, but were not in agreement that cost should be a factor in deciding which questions to address.

During the report from the Chair, Ms. Ruffell was asked to discuss what information had already been presented to the committee since its inception and what information has yet to be presented. The Sanitation Districts have presented reports about the groundwater monitoring system, the landfill gas collection and monitoring system, temperature control in the landfill, alternative energy recovery technology, and future of gas control and energy recovery at the site. In addition, the Sanitation Districts have provided responses to a number of audience inquiries. Ms. Ruffell indicated that the Districts have committed to providing the results of the source test for the new flare. The source test report will be available in mid-December. Kathleen McGowan expressed continued interest in hearing about full-scale testing of the FlexEnergy system when information becomes available.

In response to the discussion of the presentation of source test data, Ms. Davidson asked for clarification of the emissions estimated the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the flare project. The

committee decided not to address this question because the results of the flare source test would make estimated emissions from the Mitigated Negative Declaration irrelevant.

Mr. Laden next presented the site announcements. The site was used for parking for two events; the Portuguese Bend National Horse Show and the Rolling Hills Country Day School Fall Carnival. Both of these events were successful.

Mr. Laden reported that the Districts received an email from the Regional Water Quality Control Board requesting an investigation foamy runoff that was reportedly coming from the landfill. Ms. Davidson had sent the Board several photos of source of the runoff. It was later determined that the photos were taken at a private residence on Colina Lane in Rolling Hills Estates. The residence where the photos were taken is topographically higher than the landfill making it impossible for the observed runoff to have come from the landfill site. Once this was determined, the Sanitation Districts forwarded the complaint to the City of Rolling Hills Estates. Ms. McGowan and Ms. Cessna both requested that Ms. Davidson call city personnel directly in the future. Prompt investigation is important to identify and respond to stormwater pollution and both Torrance and Rolling Hills Estates have staff that can respond quickly if they are notified during the event.

Mr. Laden reported that landfill gas treatment was transitioned from the power plant's high-pressure steam boilers to the new Zink flare on October 1, 2011. The Zink flare has been running without incident and will be source tested on October 31, 2011. Because the power plant and boilers are no longer operating, the power plant is no longer staffed 24 hours per day; however, this has not resulted in a significant change to the landfill. Although the high-pressure steam boilers at the plant required 24 hours per day staffing, power plant operators were required by regulation to stay at the plant and could not respond to other issues at the site. Any issues that were not directly related to the power plant have always been addressed by a technician that was called to the site. Therefore, the system to respond to incidents at the landfill is nearly identical to the system that was in place when the power plant was staffed. Critical systems at the site are equipped with alarms that detect conditions where a response is necessary. The alarms are wired to an automatic dialer that calls a pre-programmed series of numbers and announces the alarm condition to the person who answers. The auto dialer continues to call site technicians until the alarm is acknowledged, ensuring that a live person received the call. Should no technicians acknowledge the alarm, the auto dialer is programmed to call another Sanitation Districts' power plant that is staffed 24 hours per day. Those power plant operators have additional resources at their disposal to ensure a response. Similar alarm call-out systems have been successfully used at other Sanitation Districts' landfills for years. The Sanitation Districts described these changes in letters to the AQMD and DTSC. Jim Tarr emphatically stated the site should be staffed 24 hours per day. Chairman Addleman requested that this be discussed further at the next meeting. Mr. Wahba asked whether the power plant structures would be removed. Mr. Laden answered that there is a demolition project in the design phase and the demolition would likely take place in early 2013.

The committee discussed whether quarterly meetings should continue or should they meet "as needed". They felt that at least one more regularly scheduled meeting is required to hear the results of the flare source test and discussion of 24 hour site staffing. The committee felt that the public participation should continue whether or not future meetings were regularly scheduled or "as needed".

During oral communications, Ms. Davidson asked several questions. The committee felt that the questions were not clear enough to be evaluated and answered. The committee requested that Ms. Davidson submit questions to the committee in writing. Written communications can be delivered to the committee through the Sanitation Districts' staff.

The next meeting is January 23, 2012. A new chairperson and vice-chairperson will be selected at this meeting.