

**Palos Verdes Landfill
Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday January 23, 2012 at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall**

These minutes will remain in draft form until the next CAC meeting.

**PALOS VERDES LANDFILL
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Monday January 23, 2012 at Rolling Hills Estates City Hall**

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Addleman, David Wahba, Kurt Swanson, Kathleen McGowan, Tim Scott, James Greene, and Linda Cessna
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Doug Henry and Pat Furey
- STAFF PRESENT:** Robert Ferrante, Kristen Ruffell, Ethan Laden, Dan Hyde
- OTHERS:** Joan Davidson, Jim Tarr, Connie Semos, Rosalie Esser, Kay (no last name provided), Carl Palicke (videographer), Mary Scott (PV News)

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. and the roll was called. The October 24, 2011 minutes were approved. Chairman Addleman called for nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson in accordance with the committee by-laws. John Addleman was nominated and reelected to be the Chairperson and Pat Furey was nominated and reelected to be the Vice-Chairperson.

The committee discussed proposed changes to the by-laws to allow for meetings on an as needed schedule rather than quarterly. Article VI, Section 1 was changed to allow meetings on an as needed basis. Article VI Section 2 was revised to reflect the current procedures used by the committee for allowing public participation in its meetings. Section 1 of the standing rules was changed to correct a typographical error and clear up a slight ambiguity. Section 4 of the standing rules was changed to allow meetings to be regularly scheduled or on an as needed basis. The specific place and time for the meetings was removed and a provision was added that the meetings will be duly noticed. Section 5 of the standing rules was changed to be consistent with changes in Article VI, Section 2. All the above changes passed unanimously. A copy of the revised by-laws will be distributed with the meeting minutes.

Tim Scott requested the committee discuss whether the provision in Article VI, Section 6, stating that meetings are to run in accordance with Robert's Rule of Order (RRO), should be removed. Mr. Scott believed it was not necessary given that previous meetings were not run in strict accordance with RRO, there were no regulations requiring the committee to use RRO, and that someone could conceivably use RRO to hold up meetings. Dan Hyde stated that most public meetings are run using a hybridized version of RRO and there was no requirement to use RRO. The committee approved the removal of Article VI Section 6 unanimously, with one abstention.

At the request of Mr. Addleman in response to an audience question, the committee discussed the reasons why the members wish to end regularly scheduled quarterly meetings. The general consensus was that there did not appear to be further information or issues at the landfill that required the discussion of the committee. Future meetings should be in response to what is happening at the site. The Sanitation Districts was requested to inform committee members should such issues arise. The Sanitation Districts also agreed to provide committee members a quarterly environmental report on the landfill. The report would provide the information that has been routinely provided during the environmental report at CAC meetings. Any issues at the site that require discussion with the committee would also be included. These reports would also be posted on the Sanitation Districts' website so the community would also be informed.

Ms. Ruffell began the report from the Sanitation Districts with announcements. No written questions were submitted to the Sanitation Districts for presentation to the committee. The SCQMD is currently reviewing the landfill's Title V permit as part of its routine permit review process. The permit review was noticed to the public on January 6, 2012, and public comments are due on February 7, 2012.

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Ms. Ruffell next made a presentation of the results of the new flare source testing that occurred on October 31, 2011. Source testing is required under the Districts' Title V permits to ensure that the flare meets its emissions limits. The test sampling protocol, developed by a third-party consultant and approved by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, was described in detail. The flare exhaust met all its emission limits. Concentrations of particulates, oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur, carbon monoxide, and reactive organic compounds (also known as volatile organic compounds or VOCs) were well below their permitted levels. None of the individual VOCs were detected in the flare exhaust. Ms. Ruffell showed comparisons of the new flare exhaust concentrations to exhaust concentrations from the boiler, the backup flares and a hypothetical engine burning the same BTU/hr as the new flare. All three landfill gas treatment technologies had emission rates below the permitted limits. In addition, all three technologies had emissions that were well below the hypothetical engine. Committee members expressed their satisfaction with the performance of the new flare. Source testing of the new flare will be performed annually.

Mr. Laden next reported on a tour of the new flare for several community members that occurred on November 18, 2011. Tour participants were shown the workings of the entire flare station, including the blowers, the piping that directs the landfill gas to the new flare, the blower that provides combustion air to the flare, and the mixing vessel that mixes the landfill gas and combustion air before it is combusted in the flare. Tour participants expressed their concern about the release of raw landfill gas in the event the flare shuts off. Mr. Laden provided a brief description of the flare's control system, explaining how each flare is equipped with a normally-closed block valve that can only open if there is a flame detected in the flare. No landfill gas can enter the flare unless it is being actively combusted. Backup flares are automatically started if the new flare shuts down so that the gas collection system can still operate.

The location of the flare's emergency shut-off switch caused some apprehension for one of the tour participants. The participant believed that the shut-off switch was too accessible to the general public. Districts' staff had installed a locking cover between the tour and the CAC meeting and a photo of the locking cover was shown at the meeting.

Mr. Laden reported that during the fourth quarter of 2011 there were no temperatures greater than 170 degrees Fahrenheit observed in landfill gas wells. Additionally, surface gas monitoring and boundary probe monitoring did not identify any areas where cover maintenance or gas system collection adjustments were required.

Ms. Ruffell followed with a discussion about landfill staffing without the power plant. It is important to note that the landfill alarm response call out system is essentially identical to what was in place when the power plant was open. Site operational alarms have always been tied to an automatic dialer that can announce alarm conditions and is programmed with a call out list (a chatterbox). When plant operators were onsite, the chatterbox would call the power plant control room first. The plant operators would acknowledge the alarm then call out a technician. Though plant operators were onsite 24 hour/day, they did not respond to landfill alarms because they were required by regulation to stay at the power plant and watch the high-pressure boiler. The current system calls technicians first. Should no technician answer and acknowledge the alarm, the chatterbox will call the Spadra Landfill power plant which is manned 24 hours/day. Operators there are able to call out Districts' personnel as needed. As an extra layer of security, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system has been installed that allows plant operators at Spadra to view and control, if needed, the flare system at the Palos Verdes Landfill. Site operational changes related to the power plant shutdown and slight modifications to the call-out system were presented in reports to the AQMD and DTSC as they had requested. Copies of these reports were handed out to the committee.

The date of next meeting will be determined by the committee as needed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.