

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING  
Thursday, May 10, 2018, 3:00 p.m.**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Ken Ashford, Jeanette Capaldi (Vice-Chair), Steven Freedman (TAC Rep.), Wayde Hunter (Chair), Laine Caspi (Secretary), Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti (TAC Alternate).

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of March 8, 2018 Minutes (Chair).**

This meeting of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:06 p.m. on May 10, 2018 in Granada Hills, California by Chair Wayde Hunter. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. Five of the seven Committee Members were present: Jeanette Capaldi, Laine Caspi, Wayde Hunter, Debbie Pietraszko and Joe Vitti. Absent: Ken Ashford and Steven Freedman. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present. Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Joshua Mills; SCAQMD (South Coast Air Quality Management District): Larry Israel; SCL-LEA (Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency): David Thompson; L.A. County Public Health Dept.: Shikari Nakagawa-Ota and Evenor Masis; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: Tim Stapleton; L.A. County Public Works Dept.: Gladys Gallardo; L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office: none; L.A. City Councilman Mitch Englander's Office: Millie Jones; LAUSD District 3: Bill Piazza. Also attended: 15 residents and other guests.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Pietraszko, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its March 8, 2018 Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**B. Old Business: Discussion and Committee motions & possible action.**

- Outstanding administrative matters (Chair).

Mr. Hunter asked everyone to sign in, though members of the public may remain anonymous. He distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related Landfill documents, and copies were available to the public. (See <http://SCL-CAC.org>.) The Treasurer's position is vacant and available. Also, Gale Gundersen resigned.

- Treasurers Report (Chair/Acting Treasurer).

Mr. Hunter reviewed March 1<sup>st</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup> finances. The total balance was \$124,260.28.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Capaldi, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the May 10, 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**C. New Business. Discussion and possible Committee motions and action to address the following:**

- 1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic)** to report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill activities and operations, including efforts to abate odors using Alternative Daily Cover (ADC), Intermediate Cover Project (ICE), and compliance with the SCAQMD's Stipulated Order of Abatement for Odors.

Joshua Mills, Environmental Manager, BFI/Republic [818-362-2154; JMills3@RepublicServices.com; www.RepublicServices.com; 24-hour Landfill hotline 818-779-9170; main 818-362-2124; Info@SunshineCanyonLandfill.com; http://SunshineCanyonLandfill.com], reported that "the site held up well in recent rain events . . . we continue to maintain the vegetative cover area . . . we'll expand it into the winter so that we have new growth next spring . . . we've installed 26 new or replacement gas wells since your last meeting . . . we're in the planning process of installing Flare #12 with an expected installation date of late 2018 or early 2019 pending approvals . . . we have started cleanout of stormwater channels and basin in preparation for the next wet season." He said they are getting bids to install four more acres of geo-synthetic "closure turf" by the end of July. The next Abatement Order status update is June 26<sup>th</sup> (9:00 a.m. in Diamond Bar). Mr. Hunter requested the proper recording of rain events on the "Special Occurrence Log," saying that Republic's April 2018 report to the LEA did not include rain events. He had emailed requesting Log changes (March 1 through March 4) to include 3.38 inches of rain and believed that, according to the CUP, rain was considered a special occurrence. The SCL-LEA's David Thompson said that, according to Title 27, weather events "are not required to be reported," though it would be good to report them.

- 2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)** to report on odor complaints received and NOVs issued including any year-to-date charts, and/or any other matters within their purview.

Larry Israel, Compliance Lead Inspector, SCAQMD [909-396-2370; LIsrael@aqmd.gov; www.aqmd.gov], reported that in March there were 21 complaints; five in the morning and 16 in the evening; for about half of those no Inspectors were dispatched and no complaints verified. In April there were 11 complaints, seven in the morning and three in the afternoon, and three verified; "about half were not responded to." There have been "five so far" in May. Mr. Hunter noted that a copy of the CAC letter sent to the AQMD on April 30<sup>th</sup> asked if the AQMD would consider changing their current policy of requiring three calls in one hour to one call in one hour. Mr. Israel noted that "I haven't received any complaints from the Van Gogh School this year." Resident Meg Volk said, "there's no doubt it's better," however, "it's still happening, and we are not getting any response." Mr. Israel noted that at this time of year there typically are fewer odor complaints. Resident Bill Cotter said "people are giving up calling again . . . these numbers [regarding AQMD responses] are absolutely insulting, these numbers are misleading . . . this is not telling what we're going through" and that "March 20<sup>th</sup> was a particularly bad day." Mr. Israel said he did not know why there had not

been a response and that possibly he (Mr. Israel) was at a meeting; otherwise he would have responded. Resident Roxie Deukmedjian reported that “I agree with Meg and I have called in three times and nobody has come”; she requested that the response prompt guideline be at least one call per 60 minutes. Mr. Cotter said “it’s more trash in the morning, gas in the evening”; other residents agreed. They agreed that more responses, whether to verify odors or not, would satisfy them. Mr. Israel pointed out that the AQMD has been exemplary over the years; that calls are not emergency situations; that inspectors are under no obligation to respond 24 hours per day; and that “management sets the policy for Inspectors, not the Inspectors . . . we have a new Inspector, his name is Gerardo, he lives in Reseda . . . he’ll be filling in for me.”

- 3. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)** to report on the LAUSD’s efforts to address odor complaints at Van Gogh Charter School, and to advise/assist in drafting motions in order to assist the CAC in its ongoing efforts to have the SCAQMD’s address a request for a Health Risk Assessment.

Mr. Hunter stated that “we did send out a letter dated May 5 [2018] (SCL-CAC letter to SCAQMD re: motion to request clarification of HRA), which is in your packages and it was sent to Nicolas Sanchez, and I did not expect a reply as I only just sent it.” Bill Piazza, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, LAUSD Ofc. of Environmental Health & Safety (OHS) [213.241.3926; Bill.Piazza@lausd.net], reminded that, at the last CAC meeting, he had reported that on November 19, 2017, the SCL-CAC drafted a letter and sent it to the L.A. City Planning Department and the L.A. County Regional Planning Department questioning the adequacy of the Sonoma Technologies Inc. (STI) annual monitoring reports. He said the STI report was “a data dump, not readily understandable, certainly didn’t meet the intent of the contract, so we wrote a letter and asked the City and County Planning Departments to follow up . . . we didn’t hear back from them,” although L.A. County Public Health (CPH) replied. The CPH letter did not address the CAC’s letter although the CPH letter did address some of the issues. The CPH letter was addressed to the CAC, but it was not clear whether CPH was responding to the CAC’s letter or if CPH was providing the CAC an evaluation of the STI report.

Mr. Piazza noted that the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee of the Integrated Waste Management Task Force) recommended that the Task Force ask the City and the County Planning Departments to review the contract for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Ambient Air Monitor Report to address any concerns the SCL-CAC may have and, if they have not already done so, review the recommendations by CPH in CPH’s letter of January 18, 2018 and in subsequent responses from CPH in their review of the Air Monitoring Report. Mr. Piazza said, “what we want to understand is what City Planning and County Planning think of that report and do what is required by contract, so we [he and the CAC] have questions regarding the adequacy of the report . . . the CAC had already asked me to draft a letter on [the CAC’s] behalf; I did not, as I was hoping that others would address that problem.” David Sonoma of County Regional Planning said that he was at the TAC meeting along with Mr. Piazza and Mr. Hunter, and that Country Regional Planning did discuss the letter that the TAC provided; that there was an executive summary, and that he did not

understand what the issues were. Mr. Piazza replied that “the PM10 came up, the Black Carbon issue . . . there was no discussion of the carcinogenic risk or the effects of incremental increases in PM10 and the air standards here in California . . . they are using 150 grams/cubic meter as a threshold, and that’s OK if you live in Montana but if you live in California the ambient air quality standard is 50 cubic grams/meter . . . if we are looking at non-attainment.”

Evenor Masis, Industrial Hygienist, L.A. County Public Health Dept. [213-738-3220; EMasis@ph.LACounty.gov], [http://publichealth.LACounty.gov/eh/TEA/ToxicEpi/index\\_ToxicsEpi.htm](http://publichealth.LACounty.gov/eh/TEA/ToxicEpi/index_ToxicsEpi.htm)], the Ambient Air Monitoring Report’s co-writer, said he attended the TAC meeting along with Mr. Stapleton. Mr. Masis said that CPH’s comments were addressed at that meeting and that they are working on a more understandable letter. When pressed as to when that letter would be forthcoming, he said he did not know the date but that it was being prepared by the TAC’s consultant (STI). Mr. Masis replied to Mr. Hunter that he would let the CAC know when the letter will be sent.

Tim Stapleton, Zoning Enforcement Planner, L.A. County Regional Planning Dept. [213-974-6453; TStapleton@planning.LACounty.gov; <http://planning.co.la.ca.us>] said he also thought the CAC letter had been addressed at TAC. Mr. Hunter pointed out that Mr. Stapleton was also present at the March Meeting of the SCL-CAC where the CAC discussed all of the CAC issues; Mr. Hunter said that there was a miscommunication and that it was his fault that Mr. Piazza did not speak at the TAC meeting because he (Mr. Hunter) thought that Mr. Piazza knew that he did not have to wait to be introduced before speaking. Mr. Piazza reiterated that there had been conversations and a CPH report, some of which agreed with the CAC, but CPH did not address the questions in the CAC letter. Mr. Stapleton concurred, saying that some of the CAC’s questions were answered and others were not. Mr. Hunter summarized the sequence of events, noting that STI agreed to make changes per Mr. Stapleton but that that was not written anywhere. Mr. Piazza disagreed that STI had agreed to anything and indicated that the Health Risk Assessment that the CAC asked for based on the numbers submitted had not been done; he read aloud the STI contract. Mr. Masis added that health impacts are going to be added to the upcoming CPH letter.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Caspi, seconded by Ms. Pietraszko): the Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee requests the LAUSD’s Bill Piazza to draft a letter for the SCL-CAC to send to the L.A. City Planning and L.A. County Regional Planning Departments, with a copy to L.A. County Public Health Dept., requesting a response to the SCL-CAC’s November 19, 2017 letter and/or any other information relating to the SCL-CAC’s request to be provided to the SCL-CAC within 45 days.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hunter clarified that Mr. Piazza will draft and Mr. Hunter will review and send the letter. The Committee wanted the letter sent within a week so that a response would be available by the Committee’s next meeting.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a voice vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Ms. Pietraszko requested and it was agreed for the Committee to always request a date by which entities will reply to Committee letters.

**4. Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA)** to report on any inspections carried out, and other matters within their purview.

Shikari Nakagawa-Ota, Environmental Health Specialist, L.A. County Public Health Dept. [626-430-5540; SOta@ph.LACounty.gov; <http://publichealth.LACounty.gov>], reported that she is the Acting Program Manager for this year. The SCL-LEA (LEA) enforces Title 27 and carries out weekly inspections at the Landfill. During recent rain events BFI/Republic received a Notice of Violation (NOV) regarding drainage and erosion control. BFI/Republic's Landfill Operations submitted a compliance plan; the violation issues were corrected. She explained that the LEA received an April 9, 2018 amendment request from BFI/Republic to update the Joint Technical Document (JTD) language to amend the ADC language. On May 9, 2018 the LEA determined that additional language was needed from BFI/Republic in their submission package and rejected the application. The next LEA Meeting was scheduled for May 30, 2018 in Chatsworth. Mr. Hunter commented that yesterday or the day before he received a copy of the application, but since it had been rejected, he did not forward it to SCL-CAC members because he did not want to confuse anyone. Ms. Nakagawa-Ota noted that that information is available on the LEA website.

**5. County Regional Planning Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Stapleton reported that BFI/Republic's Appeal about the gas fee payment to the County (10% under Condition 64B of the CUP) was heard March 20, 2018 and that BFI/Republic was paying only three percent of the gas fees. He reported that "those fees in arrears so far are \$712,728.80" and that the Appeal was denied; the Hearing Officer sustained the NOV for BFI/Republic's failure to pay. They accrue \$1,000 per day in fees if not remedied within 30 days; BFI/Republic has filed court actions challenging the Hearing Officer's decisions. The County received \$30,000 of the penalty fees that have accrued to date. It has been 177 days since the NOV was issued on November 14, 2017; subtracting the \$30,000 already paid, BFI/Republic owed \$147,000 in penalty fees on top of the \$712,728 in fines. The fees would accrue until there is a resolution with the money going to the County; he did not have any updates to the Court action. Mr. Stapleton reported that there also was a violation in 2016 of Condition 45N of the CUP requiring BFI/Republic to supply certain materials to the County; that was resolved when BFI/Republic supplied the materials and paid \$178,000 in fees; this 2016 Violation also is subject to Court action.

**6. County Public Works** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Gladys Gallardo, Environmental Programs Division, L.A. County Dept. of Public Works [626.458.3561; GGallardo@dpw.LACounty.gov; [www.dpw.LACounty.gov](http://www.dpw.LACounty.gov)], indicated that there was "no report."

**7. County Public Health Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

Mr. Masis confirmed that the comments he gave in Item #C. 3. were his report.

**8. City Planning Department** to report on SCL matters within their purview.

No representative was present and there was no report.

**9. Other persons representing the City, County or State** who wish to report any additional information or subject matter relating to SCL that is within their purview that has not been agendized for this meeting. If necessary, discussion and action will be agendized for another meeting.

There were no other reports at this time.

**D. Public comment** on items NOT on the Agenda.

There were no public comments at this time.

**E. Set next meeting date** (July 12, 2018), & adjourn at 5:00 p.m. (followed by a 5-min. break).

Mr. Hunter noted the above. Ms. Pietraszko announced that she will not be able to attend the next Meeting. Mr. Hunter noted that “some Members have missed three meetings in a row.”

**F. Special Overtime Discussion of Budget, Banking and Financial Matters.**

- Discussion of funding for 2018 budget, if necessary.

Mr. Hunter indicated that there was no more discussion.

Mr. Hunter declared and the Committee agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Levin, Note Taker (Minutes Writer). Edited by SCL-CAC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* Minutes are available at <http://scl-cac.org/agendas-minutes>.

**Approved May 13, 2018 Meeting.**