
Subject: FW: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

From: erickfeff@mac.com <erickfeff@mac.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 4:21 PM

To: Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Wayde Hunter <whunter01@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Thank you for reaching out to include our input. In speaking with Nicholas Sanchez at SCAQMD he decided against an Abatement Hearing with the belief that would expedite mitigation measures by BFI/Republic, however a consequence of this inaction was that the community is rendered with NO VOICE in the matter despite the community being most impacted by the decision-making. Even if he is correct that BFI/Republic would not have been as willing to improve the situation it has both inherited and created, his choice to not call for an Abatement Hearing only kicks the can further down the road.

The group I am representing is a collection of about 40 households in the neighborhood who have banded together to improve a situation that continues to deteriorate with no end in sight. We are informal group of parents, neighbors, and residents who are doing what we can to improve our situation while trying to raise children, run households, and provide for our families. The fact we have been burdened with ensuring the SCL & BFI/Republic are abiding by their permit, while making sure the regulatory agencies meant to ensure public health & safety are fulfilling their duties is quite honestly, shameful. From becoming more involved in this fight to protect our community over the past year it has become clear to me that the city and county are more than willing to sacrifice the health and well being of one neighborhood in exchange for cheaper solid waste disposal. If this were Beverly Hills and not Granada Hills this situation would have never devolved to where it currently is.

Thank you again. Any help you and your agency can provide is much appreciated.

Erick Fefferman

On Jul 6, 2023, at 3:43 PM, Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Hello Mr. Fefferman,

Thank you for your input. Your comments regarding AQMD's odor mitigation measures have been received and will be provided to the Task Force members for consideration in the review of AQMD's response letter dated June 1, 2023. Additionally, can you please identify the community group you are representing for these comments or if comments are provided as a private citizen.

Thank you,

Michael Harmon, P.E.

Staff to the Task Force
(626) 458-5934

From: erickfeff@mac.com <erickfeff@mac.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 3:02 PM

To: Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Wayde Hunter <whunter01@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello Mr Harmon,

From my experience in talking with neighbors, parents, and community members we are in agreement with the Task Force's requests to hire independent third-party monitors to evaluate what contaminants are being emitted from the landfill. In speaking to one of the environmental scientists at LA County Dept of Health it seems it is not uncommon that whomever is *paying* for a study tends to receive a more favorable result; given that unfortunate circumstance, perhaps payment for a comprehensive study of contaminants should not come from BFI/Republic directly. Rather, the money needed would be put into some type of escrow or operating account held by the Task Force or another regulatory body or agency who would then hire and interact with the environmental monitoring agency selected for the study, rather than the facility and operator being evaluated. I think we can all agree that to best ensure the integrity of the study and its results those whose business could be impacted ought to be removed from the transaction portion of this endeavor.

Same approach should be applied to whomever is hired to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

Another subject I have broached with Nicholas Sanchez in addition to Supervisor Horvath's office is to enact a condition to the CUP wherein if the SCL receives 2 NOVs on consecutive days that should automatically trigger an order to prevent SCL/BFI Republic from receiving any fresh tonnage until the operator has fixed whatever infrastructure or conditions are impacting its ability to reliably prevent odors and emissions from impacting the surrounding neighborhood and communities. As has been stated elsewhere, with the anticipated wet weather patterns related to El Niño that will most likely be coming to the region this upcoming Fall/Winter, the community does not want to find itself in a similar situation to last season's "atmospheric rivers" wherein it was known weather conditions would arrive that could impact the landfill operator, yet absolutely nothing was done to mitigate the effects of wet weather on the landfill's abilities to process new, wet trash. Once BFI/Republic can demonstrate their wells are no longer flooded or trash into flowing out the front entrance into the nearby creek, then operations can return to normal, but until that can be demonstrated then the waste streams that head to SCL should be diverted to other facilities that are capable of handling fresh tonnage.

What I have written above is certainly not comprehensive, these are just the big ticket items that seem like basic common sense that should be implemented immediately to ensure the city and county can provide this public utility without damaging the health, safety, and quality of life for an entire neighborhood. The problem of SCL has existed for decades now - the site should never have been allowed to re-open in the 1990s given the topography and proximity to schools and private residents - yet here we are, decades into this problem, still dealign with "legacy damage" meanwhile no regulatory agency acting in good faith has done a proper environmental study or planned for worst case scenarios that will continue to become more frequent given our new climate realities.

Thank you,

Erick Fefferman

On Jul 6, 2023, at 1:16 PM, Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Fefferman,

The Los Angeles County Integrated Solid Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), is soliciting input on the on-going mitigation measures conducted by the South Coast Air Quality Management Districts' (AQMD) at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (Landfill). For more information regarding the Task Force its Subcommittees, please visit the following [link](#).

During the June 15, 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting of the Task Force, the Subcommittee received an update regarding the AQMD's letter (see attached) outlining mitigation measures the Landfill needs to undertake to improve/reduce the odor nuisance situation in the surrounding community. During the discussion, the Subcommittee requested Staff to reach out to the local school and community committees for input on AQMD's odor mitigation measures.

As referred by Mr. Hunter, we would like to know if you have any comments regarding AQMD's June 1, 2023 letter, or mitigation measures noted within. **We would appreciate your response by Wednesday July 12, 2023**, so a report may be prepared for the Subcommittee members at the next FPRS meeting scheduled for July 20, 2023.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this request or any questions regarding the Task Force.

Thank you,

Michael Harmon, P.E.
Staff to the Task Force
(626) 458-5934

From: erickfeff@mac.com <erickfeff@mac.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 11:51 AM

To: Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Cc: Wayde Hunter <whunter01@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

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Hi Mr Harmon,

I have been thrust into the position to spearhead a local group of parents and neighbors who are concerned about the environmental hazard posed by the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. I have been in touch with Principal Stevens at Van Gogh Charter and the Van Gogh PTO about the health hazards the most vulnerable members of our community are being exposed on a daily basis by the SCL.

I can assure you, those who are engaged are desperately concerned about both the fugitive odors and EMISSIONS of both known and unknown chemicals coming off that dump. The fact the 5th largest landfill in North America is located a mere 1/4 mile from an elementary school is of grave concern to many parents. I would also add that adults who live in the area also don't want to have their health impacted by this hugely problematic public utility.

If there is something we should speak about please feel free to contact me.

Erick Fefferman
323-363-4618

On Jul 5, 2023, at 9:33 PM, Wayde <whunter01@aol.com> wrote:

Hi again Michael:

I forgot to say that the contacts for the LAUSD might not respond as the schools are out and they might be on vacation.

I also realized that that I did not send your request to Mr. Erick Fefferman who is running another residents group, and I just forwarded your email to him minutes ago. Hopefully he can get something to you.

I am really suffering with this new aol email which is 10x harder to use and I lost contacts in the changeover to which I did not agree to.

Regards,

Wayde

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov>

To: WHunter01@aol.com <whunter01@aol.com>

Cc: Carol Saucillo <csaucillo@dpw.lacounty.gov>; Dave Nguyen <dnguyen@dpw.lacounty.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 05:20:12 PM PDT

Subject: RE: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

Good Afternoon Mr. Hunter,

Thank you for your input. Your comment letter has been received and comments will be provided to the Task Force members for consideration.

Thank you,

Michael Harmon

Staff to the Task Force

(626) 458-5934

From: Wayde <whunter01@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 5:03 PM
To: Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Sunshine Canyon Landfill - June 2023 Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee Request

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hi Michael:

Please find NVC reply to your request attached.

Regards,

Wayde Hunter

President, NVC

On Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 04:55:27 PM PDT, Michael Harmon <mharmon@dpw.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Hunter,

We missed you at the last Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee (FPRS) meeting on June 15, 2023. At the meeting, the Subcommittee received an update regarding the South Coast Air Quality Management Districts' (AQMD) letter dated June 1, 2023, (see attached) outlining mitigation measures that the landfill needs to undertake to improve/reduce odor nuisance situation in the community surrounding the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. During the discussion, the Subcommittee requested Staff to reach out to the local community groups and the nearby school for feedback on AQMD's imposed odor mitigation measures.

As President of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens Inc. and Chair of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill-Community Advisory Committee, please let us know if you have any comments regarding AQMD's June 1, 2023 letter, or mitigation measures. **We would appreciate your response by July 6, 2023, so an update may be prepared for the Subcommittee members** at the next FPRS meeting on July 20, 2023.

Additionally, based on your active involvement with the community, we'd appreciate if you could share an appropriate contact person representing Van Gogh Elementary School that we may work with to request for their respective input. We appreciate if you can provide this contact at your earliest convenience.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this request.

Thank you,

Michael Harmon

Staff to the Task Force

(626) 458-5934

<Response to AQMD letter to Task Force 060123 v1.pdf>

<6-01-23-Response to LACO SWMC-IWMTF-SCL Odor Mitigation
Measures.pdf><TF_Letter_to_AQMD_Odor_Mitigation_Measures_4.13.23.pdf>