

**SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL – COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Thursday, May 2, 2013, 3:00 p.m.**

Knollwood Country Club, 12024 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee Members: Maria Armoudian, Ken Ashford, Becky Bendikson (Chair), Jeanette Capaldi, Gale Gundersen, Wayde Hunter (Vice Chair and TAC Alt.), Josh Jordahl (Treasurer and TAC Representative) and Joe Vitti.

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of March 7, 2013 Minutes.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becky Bendikson at 3:04 p.m. Mr. Hunter distributed to Committee Members an information packet that included a Balance Sheet, Reconciliation Detail and other related landfill documents, and copies were made available to the public. Roll Call was taken by the Note Taker. SCL-CAC Members present: Ken Ashford, Becky Bendikson, Jeanette Capaldi, Gale Gundersen, Josh Jordahl, Wayde Hunter and Joe Vitti. Absent: Maria Armoudian. A quorum of at least five Committee Members was present.

Landfill and government representatives present: BFI/Republic Services: Anthony Bertrand; SCAQMD: Ed Pupka, David Jones, Laurance Israel; SCL-LEA: Wayne Tsuda, David Thompson; L.A. County Regional Planning Dept.: none; L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's Office: none; L.A. City Council District 12 Office: none; L.A. City Planning Dept.: Nicholas Hendricks; LAUSD District 3: none. Also attending: 18 residents and guests.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Capaldi): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of its March 7, 2013 Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote with no objections; Ms. Bendikson abstained.

**B. Old Business.**

• **Outstanding administrative matters (Chair).**

Mr. Hunter indicated that there were none at this time.

• **Treasurer's Report (Treasurer).**

Mr. Jordahl reviewed balances. The total balance is approximately \$121,000.00.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Gundersen): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee approves the May 2, 2013 Treasurer's Report as presented.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote with no objections.

## **C. New Business.**

### **1. Browning-Ferris Industries/Republic Services Inc. (BFI/Republic) report on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) activities and operations.**

Mr. Bertrand, BFI/Republic Area General Manager, distributed and reviewed five handouts. They met with the City and “hope to have by July a Permit to construct the sewer . . . our goal is to have it completed and installed by October 1<sup>st</sup> . . . irrigation is installed and complete” for the planting project on the slopes; it should be operating by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Cell construction work commenced; [they] hope to have it operating by September. He described their “design report package, which they hope to submit to the Regional Water Quality Control Board by May 31<sup>st</sup>.” Trees will be planted outside the landfill. They hope to complete Phase I of that project this year; Phases II and III have been started and they hope to complete them by 2015. Mr. Hunter was concerned with how BFI/Republic will ensure that the trees thrive and “give us the coverage we need.” Mr. Bertrand replied that “it’ll be fully irrigated”; BFI/Republic “will be submitting this to City Planning.” Mr. Hunter would like and Mr. Bertrand will get review and comments from BFI/Republic. Mr. Hunter requested and Mr. Bertrand will provide copies of communications with the Water Board and notice of their meetings.

Mr. Bertrand reported that an application was submitted to install a backup generator; this will be addressed at the May 21<sup>st</sup> TAC Meeting. Monitors detect odors on a “strong and distinct” to “faint and fleeting” scale. He said gas collection has increased “dramatically” and that “the Abatement Order of 2011 “is working.” Mr. Bertrand described additional efforts being made toward achieving “100%” reduction of the odors. Documentation is available regarding when and where odor readings are made. Stakeholders expressed frustration that sometimes the odors are “strong.”

### **2. South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to report on SCL odors including a status report on their Stipulated Order of Abatement and other matters.**

David Jones, SCAQMD Senior Supervisor for Compliance, reported that the EPA is reviewing the application for Flare #10; copies are at local libraries. They hope to have the backup generator operational by May 2014. In both March and April there were 112 complaints each; one year ago there were 129 complaints and more in 2010 and 2011. “Half the time [they] detected odors”; four NOVs [Notices of Violation] were issued. “Inspectors verified odors at” 14 locations. Mr. Jones reviewed the times of day and levels of odor detections. Ed Pupka, SCAQMD Senior Enforcement Manager, reported that the “alleged complaints” chart heading was changed to “complaints that were reported”; he described other revisions. The inter-agency working group (SCA, LEA, City and County) is “meeting on a regular basis” on what to do to finish eliminating odors. “At present the Landfill is meeting all the requirements.” The SCAQMD is not required to use “Nasal Ranger” or a similar instrument as the Landfill does; the SCAQMD uses their noses. He read aloud some documented complaints. Mr. Pupka described the process of complaint response, including “after-hours,” inviting voicemails and

texts to inspectors, though “they’re not on standby.” He said “we’re not at the point to sit down and talk with the Landfill yet”; they intend to do so “within a month or two.” Mr. Hunter said “we’ve been trying to get them to do something definitive”; he supports the Flare #10 installation.

**3. Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA) to report on SCL inspections carried out, and other matters.**

David Thompson, SCL-LEA Program Supervisor, reported they “conducted daily monitoring of the Landfill” and “have not issued any violations” since the last Committee Meeting. He described work to mitigate the effects of today’s high winds. The SCL-LEA Board will meet June 20<sup>th</sup>. Their reports are on their website [www.scllea.org].

**4. City and County Planning Departments to report on SCL matters within their purview.**

L.A. City Planner Nick Hendricks announced a May 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting. Mr. Hunter reported on behalf of L.A. County Planner Iris Chi that she couldn’t attend and “had nothing to report.”

**5. Other persons representing the City, County, or State.**

No other representative spoke.

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

Stakeholder Andrea Provenzale asked and Mr. Pupka will report regarding the computerized complaint reporting system sometimes not working. Stakeholder Ralph Kroy reported that a BFI/Republic crew working in the Bull Creek mitigation area did not know that it is a protected wetlands area; Stakeholder Bill Hopkins reported that “they dozed the whole thing flat . . . live trees were cut.”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Jordahl): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee will send a letter to L.A. County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, L.A. City Councilman Mitchell Englander and the L.A. County Public Works Dept. stating the SCL-CAC’s concern about and requesting them to ensure the preservation and protection of the Bull Creek mitigation area.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hunter explained history of the area, noting that different crews over time have claimed not to know it was a protected area; this issue is not about BFI/Republic.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote without any objections; Mr. Vitti abstained.

Stakeholder Andrew Rosendahl encouraged staffing Landfill inspectors more when complaints are being made. Mr. Pupka replied that staffing is available Tuesdays through Fridays and they would consider alternate staffing scheduling. Mr. Bertrand described the odor inspector employment arrangement; BFI pays them but doesn’t hire or fire them. Mr. Hunter said frequently asked questions (FAQs) will be posted

on the website [www.scl-cac.org]. Mr. Pupka suggested that BFI talk with residents about the odor detection program. Mr. Bertrand will ask the Brown and Caldwell odor detectors if a representative can present at the July 11<sup>th</sup> SCL-CAC Meeting.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Jordahl): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee will send a letter to the AQMD in support of BFI/Republic’s Notice of Intent to get a Permit for installation of Flare #10.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Pupka noted the May 15<sup>th</sup> comment deadline. Mr. Bertrand described the purpose of the flares. He said that the District reported yesterday on “substantial” improvements in “pulling the gas out” of the Landfill. All “350 grids are monitored every month.”

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote without any objections; Ms. Bendikson abstained.

**Additional Public Comment**

Mr. Hopkins encouraged participating in the Post Office hunger drive food collection.

**E. Set next meeting date and adjourn main Meeting.**

Mr. Hunter announced that the next Meeting will be here July 11, 2013 (the second Thursday, because the usual first Thursday will be the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday) at 3:00 p.m., and declared the Meeting ADJOURNED at 4:58 p.m. with item F not having any budget, banking and financial matters noted for discussion, except for a report on status of audio/visual recording systems.

Recess. There was a brief recess at this time.

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

This discussion was convened at 5:14. Mr. Hunter reported that the new sound system and computer are working; it cost around \$968 of the \$1,000 approved and includes a warranty and video capability. He will make DVDs of the Meetings and store them. As a backup, there is a digital recorder that cost around \$58 from Office Depot.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Jordahl): The Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Community Advisory Committee will purchase two digital recorders.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of the usefulness of the recorders.

**MOTION PASSED** by a voice vote without any objections; Ms. Bendikson abstained.

Mr. Hunter declared and the Board agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes by David Levin, Note Taker.

**Minutes approved September 2, 2013 Meeting**