



# COMMUNITY MONITOR COMMITTEE

## *Altamont Landfill Settlement Agreement*

Minutes of January 13, 2010

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### **DRAFT**

1. Call to Order  
Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.
2. Introductions  
Introductions were waived.
3. Roll Call  
Members Present: Jeff Williams; Donna Cabanne; Arthur Boone; and Tianna Nourot, Waste Management Altamont Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility (ALRRF)  
Absent: Cindy McGovern, City of Pleasanton; Eva Chu, Alameda County Environmental Health; Robert Cooper, Altamont Landowners Against Rural Mismanagement  
Staff: Judy Erlandson, City of Livermore Public Works Department; Kelly Runyon, ESA, Community Monitor; Matthew Hall, Treadwell and Rollo, Community Monitor subconsultant
4. Approval of Minutes  
Approval of the minutes of the November 4, 2009 meeting was deferred to the next Committee meeting, in order to have three members present who had attended the November 4 meeting.
5. Open Forum  
No comments were made.
6. Matters for Consideration
  - 6.1 CMC Meeting Calendar for 2010  
Ms. Erlandson provided background information on the Committee's prior decision to hold meetings on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months, and she presented a calendar of meeting dates in 2010. Mr. Boone moved, and Ms. Cabanne seconded, approval; the Committee voted unanimously to approve the calendar.
  - 6.2 Responses to Committee Members' Questions  
Mr. Runyon presented responses on the following topics:  
Percentage of refuse brought to ALRRF by the general public: 0.0025%.

Sources of high volume of biosolids in June and July: stockpiled biosolids from an in-County wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Boone asked if there was a way to get information on biosolids production regionally and county wide. Ms. Erlandson offered to assist Mr. Boone in finding that information, but stated that it was outside the scope of the committee.

Recycling of materials from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory: ALRRF manages these materials as Class II materials and requires that they be profiled. To be consistent with the management of other Class II materials at the site, these materials remain on site and are not recycled. In response to Ms. Cabanne's interest in recycling by the Lab, Mr. Williams suggested that she call the Public Affairs Office for further information. Mr. Boone asked if the Lab hauls its own wastes or has a contractor do it. Ms. Nourot did not have that information on hand.

Expected opening date for Fill Area 2: Construction should be completed in 2011 and initial waste in place in 2012.

Acceptance of landfill gas probe installation by CalRecycle (formerly CIWMB): Two probes that encountered shallow groundwater during drilling have not been installed. One probe location that was extremely difficult to access will have its probe installed when Fill Area 2 development activities provide access.

6.3 Community Monitor Updates: Class 2 Soil File Review; Reports Received  
Mr. Runyon reported the following:

- The quarterly review of Class 2 soil profiles is continuing, and no discrepancies were found in December of 2009.
- The first semiannual groundwater monitoring report did not identify any critical new issues. Concentrations at some wells continue to vary, and will continue to be reviewed in detail. Matt Hall of Treadwell and Rollo also presented their detailed review memorandum. In discussion of that memo, Mr. Williams asked if the detections of chloromethane and carbon disulfide were unusual for a landfill; Mr. Hall responded that these are not commonly seen in his experience, but the types and concentrations of these compounds are not indicative of a release (from the landfill). Ms. Cabanne asked about the timing of information regarding the third and fourth quarters. Mr. Runyon responded that he would have preliminary information at the March meeting. Also, Mr. Boone expressed concern about the highly toxic nature of furans; Mr. Hall stated that he would continue to monitor these data. Mr Runyon also remarked that although some furan compounds are highly toxic, that should not be assumed about tetrahydrofuran. Mr. Boone also expressed concern about the amount of laboratory contamination of samples that had occurred, and asked if that

implied that the lab was having problems. Mr. Hall stated that this type of contamination is fairly common for analytical laboratories analyzing groundwater.

- The Alameda County Plant Debris Ban Compliance Plan has been approved by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (ACWMA). Mr. Boone asked about the process for preparing the plan, and Ms. Nourot responded that the ALRRF had prepared the plan, as directed by the ACWMA, and submitted it for approval. Ms. Nourot explained that mixed loads are being screened at the ALRRF and at transfer stations. Mr. Runyon also mentioned that the L.E.A. will be enforcing the ban at disposal sites. **Correction from Eva Chu, representing the LEA: The LEA will inspect for compliance, note any observed non-compliance, and report such observations to the ACWMA, which may then take enforcement action.**
- The monthly truck count data have shown no exceedances of Conditional Use Permit limits. Similarly, the monthly reports of incoming refuse tonnage show no exceedances.
- The Landfill Gas Probe Installation Report was discussed. Also, Mr. Runyon mentioned having just received a copy of CalRecycle's approval of this report. Ms. Nourot stated that she believes that this report does not require that alternative locations be found for the two probes that were not completed due to shallow groundwater.

#### 6.4 Review of Reports from Community Monitor (ESA)

Mr. Runyon reported the following:

- Since the previous meeting, four monthly reports on tonnage and vehicle counts have been received (on time) and reviewed. Class 2 cover soil quantities were higher than usual in November 2009, although some comparably high values had occurred in the past two years. Mr. Williams asked if the high tonnages of biosolids that occurred in October (and several months prior) had also occurred on previous occasions. Mr. Runyon responded that those higher tonnages had not occurred since ESA began reviewing these reports, in early 2008. He added that these higher quantities appeared consistent with biosolids stockpile removal or digester cleanout work at a wastewater treatment plant.
- November and December site visits found no items that required special attention. In November, the ALRRF began to use a man-made pond area for raw water storage, to supplement water that is ordinarily drawn from the nearby canal. Canal water is currently unavailable due to work being done on the canal.
- Mr. Runyon also mentioned that it is becoming possible to see the highest part of the landfill approaching the final elevation. However, there does appear to be significant volume available to either side of the ridge that is the highest part of the landfill at present.

Mr. Williams asked how long the landfill has been open. Ms. Nourot responded that it has been open since 1980.

Mr. Runyon also mentioned the recent snowfall at the site, and the ongoing installation of 25 new wells at the site.

Regarding site inspections, the primary problem that has been evident is windblown litter, which occasionally moves beyond the landfill property line. Also, erosion from heavy rain in October required repairs in several areas. It was noted that the landfill has begun to actively sort recyclable materials from loads brought in by the general public (i.e. not in transfer trucks.)

#### 6.5 Draft Annual Report Outline

Mr. Runyon described the outline and solicited comments from Committee members.

Mr. Boone mentioned the possible completion of the disposal contract with San Francisco, and its effect on tonnage received.

Mr. Boone asked if a substantial amount of the Revenue-Generating Cover originates in San Francisco. Mr. Runyon stated that he was unsure if the available data would enable him to respond to that question.

Mr. Williams asked how much waste originates from San Francisco, as a percentage of all waste received? Ms. Erlandson responded that her office had done some rough calculations and they indicate that about 33% of ALRRF wastes are from San Francisco.

Ms. Cabanne requested further information about waste diversion by San Francisco. Ms. Nourot pointed out that this would be outside the scope of the Community Monitor's activities under the Settlement Agreement.

Mr. Boone asked when Fremont tonnage would be received at the ALRRF. Ms. Nourot gave an estimate of mid 2011. In response to a question from Mr. Boone, she also mentioned that the ALRRF receives some, but probably not all, of the solid waste from the City of Berkeley.

#### 7. Agenda Building

Mr. Boone mentioned a recent policy statement from the Sierra Club opposing the production of energy from landfill gas. He suggested that a presentation from the Club describing their position would be of value to the Committee. Ms. Nourot remarked that this topic appears to be outside the defined scope of the Community Monitor Committee's activities.

Mr. Boone also mentioned that he may soon be replaced by a different representative of the Northern California Recyclers Association.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 10 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Livermore Maintenance Services Division at 3500 Robertson Park Road.