

# MINUTES

## Solano County Local Task Force (LTF) for Integrated Waste Management

Meeting of March 19, 2015

9:00 a.m.

Solano County Administration Center

Member Organization	Representative	Present
CCL Organics	Dave Burnley	
City of Benicia	Sharon Williams	
City of Dixon	Janet Koster	
City of Fairfield	Esther Blanco	X
City of Rio Vista	John Degele	
City of Suisun City	Amanda Dum	X
City of Vacaville	Ivonne Vaughn	X
City of Vallejo	Derek Crutchfield	
Concrush	Allen Hochstetler	
County of Solano	Narcisa Untal	X
County of Solano	Marcy Hannum	X
County of Solano	David Weiss	
County of Solano	Colby LaPlace	
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District	Talyon Sortor	X
Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District	Kevin Cullen	
Pacific Rim Recycling	Steve Moore	
Pacific Rim Recycling	Marissa Wong	
Potrero Hills Landfill	Dave Jappert	
Potrero Hills Landfill	Natalie Hicks	X
Recology Dixon	Paul Bandettini	
Recology Dixon	Melanie Calabrese	
Recology Hay Road	Danielle Lowther	
Recology Hay Road	Chris Taylor	
Recology Vacaville	Julia Lopez	X
Recology Vacaville	Scott Pardini	
Recology Vallejo	Lisa Lefebvre	X
Recology Vallejo	Tom Phillips	
Recycling Zone	Dave Ryan	
Recycling Zone	Chris Aschero	
Republic Services	Susan Hurl	
Republic Services	Marie Knutson	X
Rio Vista Sanitation Service	Nicole Impagliazzo	
Sierra Club	Jane Bogner	X
Solano Community College	Dwight Calloway	
Solano Community College	Jeff Lehfeltd	
Solano Garbage Company	Sandra Gonzalez	X
Solano Garbage Company	Travis Armstrong	X
Travis Air Force Base	Brian Sassaman	
Travis Air Force Base	Milea Franklin	
VALCORE	Ken Hawes	X
VALCORE	Erin Tator	
CalRecycle	Jill Firch	X
CalRecycle	Rachelle Tarver	

**GUESTS:**

Greg Kelley, Napa Recycling and Waste Service  
Dirk Dudgeon, Zero Waste Energy  
Natalie DuMont, Solano Land Trust  
Nedzlene Ferrario, Solano County Planning  
David J. Jappert, Potrero Hills Landfill  
Tracy Swanborn, HF/H Consultant  
Joe Scholtes, KUIC Radio  
Jim Dunbar, Lystek Int'l.  
June Guidotti, 3703 Scally Road, Suisun

**1. Call to Order / Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am. Members and guests introduced themselves.

**2. Public Comment**

The following is verbatim testimony:

Ms. Guidotti: "I'd like to turn in a hearing from July 18<sup>th</sup> on my public comment."

Ms. Dum: "June, are you starting right now? We need to start the time for the three minutes."

Ms. Guidotti: "I'm not going to be talking three minutes."

Ms. Dum: "Okay"

Ms. Guidotti: "I have to turn a public comment in to... On July 18, 2013 on the public comment and also on the July 18<sup>th</sup> on the following testimony that I gave on that date also. I put in for a presentation. I have a couple of questions on the presentation."

Ms. Dum: "Thank you"

**3. Action Items(s)**

**a. Minutes: January 15, 2015**

The minutes of January 15, 2015 were approved.

**4. Presentation**

**a. Napa's Anaerobic Digester**

Greg Kelly, Napa Recycling and Dirk Dudgeon, Zero Waste Energy, gave a presentation on an anaerobic digester facility that will process organics and produce compressed natural gas. The facility is being built in Napa by Napa Recycling and Waste Services and the City of Napa. The planning process for the facility began in July 2010. Construction of the facility is expected to begin in early 2016 with completion of the project by January 2017.

Anaerobic digesting and processing can take the organic waste out of the waste stream and transform it into energy. Organic waste processing facilities take organic material such as food and yard waste and convert them into biogas which can be used to generate either power or CNG vehicle fuel. The process also produces a highly marketable compost product. These facilities reduce the amount of organic waste going into landfills which in turn reduces the amount of methane gas being released into the atmosphere.

There are dry and anaerobic digestion systems specially designed to recover organic waste streams energy content in the form of biogas which is a mixture of bio methane and carbon dioxide. The dry anaerobic digestion system is in a fully enclosed and negatively aerated facility to control odor. Organic waste first enters the facility at the receiving bay where it is inspected for contaminants. The organic waste is then tipped on the floor where

it will be classified and temporally stored prior to processing. This anaerobic digestion can be designed to process as little as 5000 tons per year of organic waste up to more than 100,000 tons per year. The loading of waste is a simple process of stacking the material with a front end loader. Following material loading air is supplied to the waste material through an in-floor aeration system. The additional oxygen supplied by the air system rapidly and evenly heats the material to process temperatures of 125 to 131 degrees F through an anaerobic decomposition process. Exhaust air from the anaerobic heating is treated in a bio-filter to remove odor. The next step in the anaerobic digestion process is called fermentation which consists of spraying a liquid biological inoculant or percolate on the organic waste material. The percolate contains all of the microorganisms necessary to digest the material and produce a high quality bio gas. It is typically stored in an underground tank and the fermentation period lasts about 20 days. The production of biogas can begin within 6 hours of percolation. Biogas from each digester is captured and piped to a below ground percolate tank where it is mixed to create a consistent methane content. The biogas is then piped to storage. Following the fermentation phase the spraying of percolate is stopped and the termination phase begins. Biogas continues to be captured until the content reached a predefined limit. After which air is supplied through the in-floor aeration system to rapidly purge the digester of lean biogas and establish safe conditions for the removal of digestate. Once safe conditions have been established within the digester the material is removed and placed in a settling by to ensure maximum odor control prior to removing the material from the facility. Digestate can be processed to create high quality marketable compost that meets or exceeds federal and state agricultural standards.

Ms. Dum reported that beginning in April food waste and yard waste in Napa will be co-collected at the curb. Residents will receive a kitchen pail for organic waste collection. At the end of the presentation Ms. Dum asked if the LTF members had any questions. Hearing none she asked if there were any questions from the public. Ms. Guidotti asked to speak.

The following is verbatim testimony:

Ms. Guidotti: I have a question. Can I have each of your cards?

Greg Kelly: "I'm sorry I did not bring them."

Ms. Guidotti: "Okay, then you can write your name down in here? You can write your name on the back of his card then."

Ms. Dum: "Okay, what's your first question June?"

Ms. Guidotti: So when you first started your presentation there were a couple of things you mentioned that... Birgitta Corsello, is the director of the... and an engineer was sent to her for problems you haven't addressed and one of them was the ammonia. Birgitta Corsello threw the engineers system, a German system in the garbage can. And when you go from here to Napa you can smell the odor. How will you control the odor in this system?

Mr. Dudgeon: "I'm not sure about the first part of that question."

Ms. Guidotti: "Well no this is where they're given the information on how to control that German system that I'm assuming is... it appears to be that you are using. There was problems that were never fixed and I don't think that..."

Mr. Dudgeon: "I have no idea of what technology you are referring to."

Ms. Guidotti: "The technology system that you are actually using on this dry system, you refer to."

Mr. Dudgeon: "A dry anaerobic digestion system. There's dozens of technologies out there. We acquired one that had been proven in Germany that we..."

Ms. Guidotti: "You are using that."

Mr. Dudgeon: "I don't know who you are referring to. But again..."

Ms. Guidotti: "That's okay because I have your system."

Mr. Dudgeon: "Okay"

Ms. Guidotti: "My other concern was..."

Ms. Dum: "June you have a minute and a half left."

Ms. Guidotti: "Yeah, I will finish in a minute and a half for you if you would stop talking. So going back to your system. If you take food waste and the problem that they were having out in Green Valley that I didn't see the system completely. The coins, the silverware was breaking the system down. I haven't seen a system that you're saying is working. Fine. Now when you're saying that this is agriculture like if Potrero Hills went to do this this is not agriculture because you're doing nothing for agriculture because when you take the food, the... off the trees and branches and stuff off the highway they have oleander in it. Kills a cow in 7 to 9 hours. So I mean we were taught that as a child. If you want rid of someone pick them an oleander salad. The PG&E came out to my property they said we have a problem. Under my tree there was another cow dying. Okay? Thru a test that this county wouldn't... isn't concerned about that you cannot do that. There's certain things that you are doing in your system that you're asking people to put this in the bucket so you're using the fermenting like you're doing pickles. But I don't know what was in your spray. And that was another thing. I wanted to know what was in your spray. When you're spraying this organic because you're saying..."

Ms. Dum: "June, it's past 3 minutes. So it sounds like a good place to stop. It was a question. (to Mr. Dudgeon) So could you..."

Mr. Dudgeon: "The percolate material that we use is a mixture of water and typically dairy manure. All we're looking for is just simple biology. There is nothing secret about it."

Ms. Guidotti: "Dairy manure that has organic...injected with..."

Ms. Dum: "Are there any other questions? Okay I'm going to go ahead and close the public questions."

End of verbatim testimony

Ms. Dum asked if their anaerobic digestion method was proprietary. Mr. Dudgeon answered that parts of their process are proprietary but anaerobic digestion itself is widely used by others in the industry.

**b. AB1826 & AB1594, New Legislation for Diverting Organics from the Landfill**

Ms. Firch reported that AB 1826 (diversion of commercial organic material) was passed in September. It requires the state's commercial sector, including restaurants, supermarkets, large venues and food processors, to separate their food scraps and yard trimmings and

arrange for organic recycling service. Compliance will be phased in. Starting in 2016 businesses that are generating 8 cubic yards of organic waste a week will be subject to compliance. In 2017 businesses that are generating 4 cubic yards of organic waste a week will be subject to compliance. In 2019 businesses that are generating 4 cubic yards of solid waste a week will be subject to compliance. Multi-family complexes are considered a business under AB 1826 but they are not required to divert food waste only green waste. Jurisdictions will need to have a workplan by January 2016.

The reporting requirements for jurisdictions are similar to mandatory commercial recycling. They are responsible for public outreach, education and monitoring of the program. They will be responsible for identifying parameters and barriers such as lack of facilities and transportation distances. Beginning in the 2017 jurisdictions will be required to report on their education, outreach and monitoring programs as well as the number of regulated businesses that generate the organics and those that are recycling in their annual report. Any barriers encountered should also be reported.

AB 1594 overturns a 1996 law that allows landfilled yard trimmings to count as being "diverted" from landfills when used as alternative daily cover (ADC). Beginning in 2020 green material that is taken to the landfill to be used as ADC will no longer be counted as recycling. It will be counted as disposal. In 2018 the cities will have to start reporting on this program as far as what their planned alternate use for the material will be in their annual report. In 2012 308 jurisdictions were using green waste as ADC. In 2020 when the material is no longer counted as recycling and is counted against them as disposal only 9 jurisdictions will not be meeting their per capita target.

CalRecycle has done some restructuring to some of their grants. They are structuring them to increase the infrastructure for organic recycling facilities or expanding current facilities. More funds are becoming available for loans and grants to help the organics program expand infrastructure. There are two grant programs and a loan program. She provided links to pertinent websites and noted that there is an AB 1826 workshop on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**c. MyWaste Software**

John MacDonald of MyWaste gave a teleconference presentation on a mobile application for municipalities to engage and motivate residents to recycle. The application has three main components. The first is "My Schedule" where residents can select where they live within the municipality by choosing an area on a color coded map or entering their address. Once that is done all the collection information pertinent to their location will be provided. Within the collection schedule, reminders can be set that can be delivered to their smart phone. With each collection schedule there is also a detail tab which gives specific information about set up times, maximum weight, and what to do in case of a missed collection or weather issue. There is also an export calendar function which allows residents to select the type of collection schedule that they want to integrate with any existing calendar software and a download pdf option to print out a 6 month calendar of their collection schedule.

The second component is a "Collection & Event Reminder" where a resident is able to sign up for notifications from the municipality. The notifications are sent out as an email. The information can be tailored so that it reaches the particular households that will be affected.

The third component is a "What Goes Where" search that provides the location of local drop off centers and information about what can be dropped off. It is also adaptable for multi-family residential complexes. The software takes existing information that might be scattered and difficult to find and makes it easy and quick to find in one place. By creating an atmosphere where residents can find recycling information in an easy and quick way there is a better chance for recyclables to be put in the right place and thereby increase

diversion. At the conclusion of the presentation Mr. MacDonald asked for questions. Ms. Untal asked about the cost. Mr. MacDonald answered that it depends on population size. There is an annual fee with no long term commitment. Currently they have a 95% retention rate with their clients. Ms. Untal asked what the annual fee would be for a municipality with a population of 100,000. Mr. MacDonald answered that they offer tiered pricing base on the components mentioned earlier. With all the options included it would be approximately \$10,000 per year. They also offer lower pricing and are flexible with their pricing.

## **5. Member Updates**

### Sandra Gonzalez, Solano Garbage Company

Ms. Gonzalez reported that Solano Garbage had a meeting to discuss AB 1826 and AB 1594. They will be present at the Earth Day celebration at the Home and Garden Show on April 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. They will be also be presenting Green Business awards and holding a poster contest at their Earth Day event.

### Lisa Lefebvre, Recology Vallejo

Recology Vallejo will be working with Solano RCD for an Earth Day cleanup. They will also be doing a recycling art contest with VALCORE and the City of Vallejo.

### Jane Bogner, Sierra Club

Ms. Bogner reported that VALCORE will be participating at the downtown Vallejo Earth Day event. The Saturday paper shredding is continuing. Paper is also accepted during the week and is secured until the following Saturday for shredding.

### Marie Knutson, Republic Services

Ms. Knutson reported that the Sustainable Benician continues to be sent out with the garbage bills. The newsletter is a good place to give shout-outs to programs like Habitat for Humanity, VALCORE and Benicia businesses that donate items that can be reused by others. They have had a composting class and a compost giveaway with the help of Ms. Bogner who taught the class. They are planning to hold a drought class. The first annual Benicia Mini Maker Faire is scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup>. For Earth Day they will be working with the Benicia USD for a district wide clean out. Materials will be sorted for reuse, recycling and landfill. In June they are planning a Build Your Own Worm Bin with Ms. Bogner. Ms. Knutson went on a tour of Martin Luther King Middle School in Berkeley where they do tours called Edible Schoolyard.com. They have integrated academics with Common Core and teach kids about healthy foods, composting, diversion and respect for the Earth.

### Esther Blanco, City of Fairfield

The City of Fairfield is starting their confidential paper shredding which will be held on the last Saturday of the month from March 28<sup>th</sup> thru October. Their Earth Day and Kids Day of Fishing events will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Blanco thanked all their Earth Day sponsors – Potrero Hills Landfill, Solano Garbage and Concrush. The Fairfield Farmers Market will begin on Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> and will run to October. There will also be a recycling tent and outreach at the Farmers Market. The Fairfield PD and the Homeless Task Force are looking at shutting down CRV buyback centers because they attract the homeless and are causing issues. However grocery stores are mandated to have buyback centers. There is a requirement to have one within every half mile radius unless they have an exemption. She asked the LTF if other jurisdictions were having the same issues and if they have come up with any alternatives.

### Marcy Hannum, County of Solano LEA

Ms. Hannum noted that currently the solid waste from the City of San Francisco is being taken to Altamont Landfill. The contract between Waste Management and the City of San Francisco is expiring at the beginning of 2016. The City is looking to get a contract in place with

Recology to bring their solid waste to Recology Hay Road by the end of 2015. This would amount to about 1100 tons per day of solid waste coming from San Francisco.

Narcisa Untal, County of Solano IWM

The DEA is no longer sponsoring drug take back events. Ms. Untal is working with Covanta out of Stanislaus County to see if they are willing to waive the cost of disposal. If they do the Solano County Sheriff has agreed to continue to be point of collection for transport to Stanislaus County. Each of the city law enforcement agencies would still be able to have a collection day of their choosing with a consolidation point at the Solano County Sheriff's Office.

Amanda Dum, City of Suisun City

The Girl Scouts are coming up on their one year anniversary of cleaning the Grizzly Island Trail. Ms. Dum noted that Suisun City is very appreciative of their work and they are waiting to hear if they will continue for another year. The City sponsored the Waste Sleuth who gave a presentation at two of their elementary schools. They asked if he would change his presentation so that it was a little more focused on used oil and contaminants getting into the storm water system, sloughs, marsh and the bay; and also focus on beverage containers that are being thrown in the trash rather than being recycled.

Guest Comments

Natalie DuMont, SLT, announced upcoming Solano Land Trust events. The Lynch Canon Kite Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 4pm. The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Rush Ranch Open House will be held on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 3pm. The Lynch Canyon Trail Run is scheduled for Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. She stated that they were expecting about 300 people for the Kite Festival and LTF members were welcome to come and set up a table at the event.

Amanda Dum announced that she had one more announcement. She said that Sal Coniglio has accepted a job with Recology at a location out of the area and that she will be assuming the duty of LTF Chair. She also announced that Sandra Gonzalez will be serving as Vice-Chair.

**6. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

The next regular LTF meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 21, 2015**

Attachment A – Ms. Guidotti Public Comments from LTF 7/18/13 Minutes

**GUESTS:**

June Guidotti, 3703 Scally Road, Suisun, CA 94585  
Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC  
Christine Bradley, Recology

1. **Call to Order / Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dunbar at 9:08 a.m. Those present introduced themselves.

2. **Public Comment**

The following is verbatim testimony: 7:41

*add Guidotti Testimony to Today*  
*3/19/2015 public comment from*  
*July 18-2013 comment*

Ms. Guidotti: "Public comments not on the records is that Potrero Hill Landfill is in the process of mitigating for a piece of property. And they continue not to run the water trucks and it's very upsetting when you have to breathe in this radiation that's in the leakage from Tonnesen's Pet Cemetery. It leaks down into the (not intelligible) property and I see that there was an article in the newspaper that actually had shown a picture of where they're at. And the place that they are actually working at is not in their place of use that they are supposed to be mitigating. They have taken it. It's... in 1985 when they found my brother dead on the ranch. He was fighting for the return of our property rights. And on our northwest corner Jerry Brown needed a road. And when he needed that road he took a right of way and (not intelligible) right of way. And they got an after the fact permit. So basically that is what Potrero Hills right now is doing. I paid eighty dollars for the Marsh Development permit. And where they are supposed to be doing this mitigation is not where the picture in the newspaper says. This is out of the place he used. So again they are going for an after the fact permit and it's a concern because Dianne Feinstein is involved in it because all the leakage that's leaking off that pet cemetery is from Livermore Laboratory and U.C. Davis. And U.C. Davis dogs have low doses of radiation and the beagle dogs. So Dianne Feinstein thirty-five years ago was the director of ABAG. Tonight there is a meeting. ABAG is... she designed it. So... it's a concern. David Tam thirty-two years ago wrote a paper for Dianne Feinstein that she... he was awarded because it was to protect the environment. So my concern is that the public is not given the information that they need. Even today it's being hidden. Page two on the paperwork. Jim has not given it to the public. I just assumed..."

Chair Dunbar: "Thirty seconds."

Ms. Guidotti: "Thirty seconds, it's still not the paper. This is not correct either. I want page two showing that (not intelligible) on the... I still don't have the paper. But we'll... I'll get a chance to talk about that on agenda number 4 because they've been told on East Bay MUD. There's another plan I get to talk about."

End of verbatim testimony.

3. **Action Item(s)**

a. **Approval of the Minutes: March 7, 2013**

b. **Approval of the Minutes: May 16, 2013**

Ms. Dum noted that the "unnamed speaker" on page 6 of 7 was Chris Rose of Solano RCD.

Ms. Untal noted that the minutes should have included a copy of each of the letters from the jurisdictions reporting their annual solid waste disposal capacity

Untal summarized that food scraps are still defined as solid waste. Because they intend to be collecting a solid waste which will be comingled with yard waste they were required to elevate their status to transfer station. The intention for Recology Vallejo to become a transfer station is solely based on the technicality of definition. They don't intend to increase their MSW or residual but the food being brought in will be considered MSW. They will be above their 10% residual rate which allows them to continue to be a recycling center at this time. The decision to also include food scraps from commercial businesses has been brought to the LTF for complete transparency and to inform all the jurisdictions as Recology Vallejo moves forward with their expansion plan. There is no action to be taken by the LTF on the matter because per 2012 legislation there is no longer the requirement for a public hearing for a non-disposal facility element update.

The following is verbatim testimony:

*add Guidotti testimony to 3/19/2015 from July 18 2013 LTF*

Ms. Guidotti: "Does the proposed expansion of the NDF for to not be for development until it has been identified and described to the city NDF. Each proposal of the NDF must comply with project CEQA review and the land use permitting process. The permit of the various Federal, State and regional ... Recology Eastbay Organics they not going to stick for a second to beginning four months after they issue the permit Recology submits quarterly reports identifying the tonnage of material which is transferred to the composting facilities outside Alameda County and they identified Eastbay MUD, anaerobic digester and the material on which side it's going to. Like how much Potrero Hills gets and how much Hay Road gets. There's a problem because you're making a transfer station in Vallejo. Irving Lambert's parcel was used as the transfer station. Jerry Brown was supposed to divest seventeen landfills across the United States. He didn't do it. So the vote of the people on Measure E is still tied up in court on how much tonnage you can haul in here. I don't have the paper work on what went through last Wednesday... two weeks ago from Michael Harris and the problem is when you're hauling mixing food waste in your garbage, your green waste and you're sending it to Hay Road... One cigarette butt, one cigarette butt in there kills all the tomatoes. When you're sending the water from Jim Dunbar from Vallejo up to Potrero Hills Landfill with oleander on the freeway it kills a cow in seven to nine hours. The dust when he's recycling; when it blows over onto my property. Seven to nine hours, there is five chemicals that kills an animal that fast. So I'm not too happy about the recycling that Jim Dunbar is doing up there on... where he doesn't even have his permit yet. And one more thing is in regards to Recology... the food waste that China... the fact that you don't have the figures of how much waste is coming into this county. And I was supposed to get the papers from Diane today. She gave me a paper I don't have the second page still on how much is actually coming in. So I still would like that paper. So, and how much is being transferred into this county."

Mr. Dunbar: "Thank you June."  
End of verbatim testimony.

## 5. Presentations

### a. **KUIC 95.3FM Public Outreach**

Joe Scholtes, 95.3 KUIC, gave a brief Power Point presentation of the KUIC website showing how it can be used as an outreach tool. He noted that KUIC has a number of ways for jurisdictions to get their information out to the public such