

South Bay Odor Stakeholders Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 16, 2020

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams

Recorder: Republic Services

Discussion

Dan North	<p>1. Call to Order and Introductions</p> <p>Call to order at 11:33 a.m. Introductions.</p>
Dan North Tamiko Endow, SBOSG members	<p>2. Overview of Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2019</p> <p>Minutes approved with changes (Tamiko: discussion of the climate study. Not odor study.)</p>
Jerry Bovee, Dan North, Abhijit Basu, Rod Sinks, Ling Kong, Discussion included majority of attendees	<p>3. BAAQMD Odor Study Update</p> <p>Jerry: the contracts with Jacobs and Montrose finalized in March. Before that we distributed work plan to this group and received comments back. Originally scheduled kickoff with contractors in April but with Covid restrictions had to postpone. Had virtual meeting to kick off in May that was attended by both contractors along with key members of team from air district. Went through logistics and planning, comments from this group to try to incorporate in sample plans to be developed. Talked about how to schedule and perform city tours. Tours took place in last week of June for all three facilities. Contract and district reps went through facilities and looked at potential sources of odors and known sources from facilities. Kick off meeting included creating a subgroup that would be directly involved in this effort and meets biweekly to discuss development of sampling plan and details of the study to flush out the specific needs, information, how to sample, where to sample going forward. That's going to be incorporated into a draft sampling plan. Completed by the end of July and will be shared with this group for review and comment. Goal is to try to finalize plan by mid-August. First sampling plan for August. We expect that time to be a period of high complaint so targeting then. Full sampling but scaled back to do a little bit more screening to plan sampling event in October. We look at specific compounds we know are odor causing. We can tailor Oct sampling to be very specific on types of markers we're looking for and concentrations of low-level odor causing compounds so that we can really perform source attribution. Then track back to source. Sampling around facilities and within facilities to try to identify individual sources and attribute what we're seeing chemically and attribute to source of odors. Understand what's coming from facilities and what is naturally</p>

occurring contribution. Putting together source test data, facility ops data, permitting information and identification of specific sources within the facilities that are potential contributors. Sampling event in Winter months where we see significant complaints. Have been operational changes at facilities due to Covid such as decreases in through put, particularly at ZWED. Character of waste at Newby has changed due to Covid and because of contract changes. Regarding the actual sampling itself and the actual study, we want flexibility to structure sampling to meet what we're trying to do. Identify methods of monitoring to determine progress towards mitigating. Dan: We've seen a decrease in commercial volume although it has picked up since early June. If you look at impacts of shelter in place, we did see a reduction over 8 weeks and increase in residential waste. Had a decent recovery on commercial side. Abhijit: Given Covid, there is an input change. How representative is the study going to be with commercial and residential behavior? Jerry: talking to contractors and it's brought up at every meeting. Consensus is with the streams being curtailed; we may see reduction in intensity of odors but not character. We will be able to characterize markers, identify odors although downstream effects in community may differ. We are watching what feed streams are doing and working with facilities to see how they are changing. If there are huge reductions, we'll tailor samples, but we don't think it will be necessary. Abhijit: What are your benchmarks? Jerry: This study is a comprehensive independent effort. We have historical data on emissions but we're not necessarily using that, other than compounds we've found. We're not using this as comparative to the past. Independent study to identify and model what the individual sources are. Dan: We have changes to San Jose contract – wet material now goes directly to ZWED. Newby is no longer receiving or processing those materials. Now through 2032. On dry side, we performed an audit to target customers that have lower quality recyclables. We're separating out higher quality material to process and recycle coordinators will work with lower quality to clean it up or give the customer a trash container. Recyclables will still go single stream, residual to landfill. We will cap at 200 tons a day. Wet stream is eliminated so that source doesn't exist. Done through three-way mediation and it's in best interest of all involved including community. Ling: What about residual from ZWED? Dan: It still comes back to landfill. There are no wet materials coming through the MRF – the wet line is completely shut down. Rod: Does anyone have an idea on the impacts of the study and what does it do to odors in anyone's judgement who's been dealing with this? Jerry: We expect it to have an effect on odors generated from the MRF. We know that a lot of the odors that were being generated were associated with wet organic waste. We expect it to result in odor reduction from Newby. That material is now at ZWED and we don't know how it will impact odors. We expect it won't impact odors because it's closed facility but we don't know that yet. That's something that's got to play out. Rod: It feels like it could be a net improvement. Jerry: That's what we expect from Newby side. Abhijit: Were there some goals set before these changes? What are expectations in terms of reductions? Dan: The change in where the material is processed smoothed over some pain points in the contracts. Universe has changed since 2012 and we've learned there's a better way to do it and that was driving force to make changes. Evan: Regarding changes, the agreement and changes have been done for business reasons and not for odor related. But in regards to the study, since material is in facilities that are part of the study, the odors shouldn't change. Just shifted. Should stay the same regardless of where material resides. Tom: Relates to timing of first survey, it was going to be targeted for late fall. My impression is that was targeted because of STP doing sludge harvest. Initial sampling in

	<p>August, just confirming it's still coordinated with sludge harvest. Will it be part of sampling? Jerry: Yes, we're still planning on it. We have more comprehensive for October but will determine when it's actually happening so that we can incorporate. Jason: It's determined on moisture content of waste so there's variability. We coordinate with BAAQMD. This year we have a construction project with moving decommissioned lagoons so there will be extra material being moved during August and Oct sampling events. Ling: With changes, will there be an impact on changes to MRF design? Dan: Yes. We do see this contract to change the building design. We're working on it right now and hoping to submit to AAQMD soon. Anurag: There's going to be shoreline levy project, will this impact the study? Jerry: Wasn't aware of that but will get information and pose this to the group. Will make sure this won't significantly impact study. Tom: There's going to be an attempt to integrate with others like Milpitas. Wondering how COVID is having impact, is there any info on study that Milpitas is doing and what plan is for coordination on this? Tony: We did have delay because of COVID. We had been doing field sampling. With SIP we did have to send people home but have recently brought them back on limited basis. Plan is still to incorporate with air district study. Jerry: Still our plan to coordinate study.</p>
<p>Dan North</p>	<p>4. Update on Changes to Republic/ZWED Contracts with City of San Jose</p> <p>Update given during Odor Study discussion.</p>
<p>Patrick Wenzinger, Anurag Pal, Rod Sinks</p>	<p>5. Round-Table Update</p> <p>Patrick: Jan-March, 150 odor complaints, second quarter decrease in complaints. Staff still monitoring on a daily basis and patrolling for odors. Second quarter: 40 complaints Anurag: What action is taken on complaints? Patrick: Confirmed one complaint to compost operations at Newby in first quarter. Took enforcement actions. Rod: Do most complaints come from residents? Would think if odors were the same we'd see an uptick since people are home. Patrick: It looks like it's still residents making complaints. Rod: Why has complaint rate dropped? Patrick: We've been looking into it. Factors like SIP and we're also seeing change in through put at facilities, changes from MRF to ZWED. Trying to figure out what's going on with numbers. Rod: Food service hauling is down and maybe process changes. Patrick: Yes</p>
<p>Tracy Lee, Bryan Sousa, Anurag Pal, Ling Kong</p>	<p>6. No public comment</p> <p>Tracy: We're not getting any of the compost complaints. How have complaints been on LEA end? Bryan: Very few complaints either online or from air district. The ones we receive are almost exclusively trash so we refer to air district. Compost isn't getting into the community. MRF change is a tremendous improvement. Anurag: Have there been any changes in phone line staffing due to COVID? Tracy: No changes. Ling: When residents call air district the inspectors no longer allow for face to face confirmation due to Covid. Tracy: We have had to take steps to be safe but we're still investigating complaints. We contact complainant to ask if they want to meet. If they do, we make the effort to meet. We are taking case by case and are out in the communities.</p>

Dan North	7. Suggested next meeting date Next scheduled meeting October 15 via Microsoft Teams
	8. Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Next Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2020, 11:30am to 1:30pm, Microsoft Teams