

County Council Environmental Management Committee Meeting Notes – September 23, 2008

Agenda

In accordance with the agenda, this meeting included the following topics:

- Introductory remarks
- Statements from the public
- CH2M HILL presentation: Draft plan chapter on Recycling, Bioconversion, and Markets
- Council members comments

Council Member Comments

- Donald Ikeda: Asked what was being done with tires and the large glass stockpile and whether or not the State Department of Health (DOH) had expressed concerns about the stockpile. Mike responded that most tires are being shipped to O`ahu and shredded to fuel a power plant or being shipped to the mainland for recycling. The glass stockpile is drawn down when there's a local use for crushed glass as glasscrete. DOH has not expressed concern about the stockpile.
- Bob Jacobson: Asked if a smaller materials recovery facility (MRF) could be cost effective. This would provide local jobs rather than performing this function on the mainland. Dan responded that a highly mechanized plant with sophisticated machinery would be extremely expensive for the relatively small amount of recyclables available in the County. More analysis would be required, but some level of sorting possibly using a small conveyor and pick line workers might be cost effective.
- Brenda Ford: Asked about the cost of expanding recycling if the County did not implement a curbside system i.e., what's the cost of the alternative. Dan responded that this information will be provided as we work through the different sections of the plan. The next section, collection and transfer, will provide information about the cost of the existing transfer system.
- Brenda Ford: Noted that one issue that would occur with a 3-bin curbside system is educating residents to remember which day to put out which can. She thought having all service weekly would be easier for residents to remember rather than having to alternate weeks for recycling and garbage (as some systems currently do).
- Pete Hoffmann: Described a neighborhood bin system that is used in Vienna Austria. Separate cans are used for different materials and people bring materials to the bins. Dan said that he would look for some information on this system.
- Brenda Ford and Bob Jacobson: Asked about the use of micro-organisms and vermiculture, respectively, for large scale food processing operations. Dan responded

that he wasn't aware of large scale systems being used for either technology. Micro-organisms appear to be a promising emerging technology and vermiculture is a very effective approach for smaller scale facilities such as condominiums and resorts.

- Donald Ikeda: Asked about the status of Dr. Hahn's study for pelletizing waste materials. Mike said that he would investigate and see if a report was available.