



**Chair** Curtis Larkin, *Fresno County*  
**Vice Chair** Sharon Green, *LACSD*  
**Treasurer** Frank Caponi, *Retired*  
**Secretary** Deepti Jain, *City of Sunnyvale*

## SWANA Legislative Task Force Meeting Agenda

July 24, 2025

10 Am - 12 pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87807591748?pwd=LoTfW5KGYetQyXhdywaXUwaNoJiqH.1>

### 1. Administrative Items (10:00 – 10:30 a.m.)

- a. Roll Call, Introductions **Corum achieved, 10 voting members and 2 guests present. Refer to the Attendance Roaster for details.**
- b. Approval of May and June Meeting Minutes - **Motion was made, seconded, and passed.**
- c. Approval of June Treasurer's Report – **Motion was made, seconded, and passed.**
- d. Officer's update
  - I. Financial transition to new fiscal year (Frank) **Mr. Caponi discussed the reorganized structure of the Treasurer's spreadsheet to reflect the newly established bank accounts. Mr. Caponi will discuss it with Mr. Kobold and Mr. Larkin.**
  - II. SWANA LTF dues disbursement to LTF (Curtis) – **Mr. Larkin will reach out to the President to resolve the ongoing issue**
  - III. Legal updates (FPLG, Curtis) **Mr. Larkin suggested waiting to connect with FPLG till we get directions from SWANA National.**
  - IV. Insurance (Chris / Sharon) – **Ms. Green informed to fill the financial part of the insurance application, she will coordinate with Mr. Caponi in early August. Ms. Hanson suggested that she would reach out to the insurance company (Gold Country), she was working with in the past for a quote.**
- e. LTF Annual Planning Meeting
  - I. Planning lead (*Need volunteer*) – **Ms. Fajardo to take the lead.**
  - II. Preferred Location (San Diego, Central Coast, Monterey) – **Mr. Kobold suggested to go to San Diego in 20-21<sup>st</sup> November 2025.**
  - III. Workplan Update (*Need volunteer*)- **Mr. Larkin suggested discussing it in the August meeting. He also suggested looking at the sections that appeal to the officers.**
- f. Website update (Doug) – **Mr. Kobold discussed the website changes**

2. **SWANA Update** – **Mr. La Mariana gave update on RCon (11/12-11/15) in Columbus, Ohio and gave an update on the change in the leadership at the regional level. Ms. Green shared the Policy update. Refer to Attachment B.**

### 3. Legislative Review (10:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.)

- a. [AB 28 \(Schiavo\) Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures.](#)
  - I. Oppose unless amended
  - II. [Notes from the Senate Environmental Quality Committee Hearing](#)
  - III. Appropriations (likely suspense)  
**Passed 7-0, fiscal committee hearing reconvenes on August 18th.**

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE

Dylan Hoffman

Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange • 1415 L Street, Suite 1000, Sacramento, CA 95814 • (916) 446-4656 • Fax (916) 446-4318

Substantial amendments were made by the committee. The author's staff sought comments, but Mr. Hoffman was non-committal. High implementation cost expected.

Ms. Green raised technical issues:

- Temperature thresholds misaligned with federal requirements.
- Bill overlaps with existing federal regulations and involves two state regulatory agencies.
- Impact threshold set at 4 miles notification radius.
- Applies to federally regulated landfills only.

Suggested actions:

- Reconvene subcommittee.
- Discuss LTF current position – Oppose unless amended.
- Amendment is due before August 18th.

- b. [AB 70 \(Aguiar-Curry\) Solid waste: organic waste: diversion: biomethane.](#)
  - I. Support
  - II. Suspense  
Update
- c. [AB 80 \(Aguiar-Curry\) Carpet recycling.](#)
  - I. Support
  - II. Appropriations – May get send to Suspense
- d. [AB 476 \(González\) Metal Theft.](#)
  - I. Support
  - II. Appropriations
- e. [AB 864 \(Ward\) Hazardous waste: solar photovoltaic modules.](#)
  - I. Watch
  - II. Appropriations
- f. [AB 978 \(Hoover\) Department of Transportation and local agencies: streets and highways: recycled materials.](#)
  - I. Watch
  - II. Floor 3<sup>rd</sup> reading
- g. [AB 998 \(Hadwick\) Household hazardous waste.](#)
  - I. Support
  - II. [Amended 7/17](#)
  - III. Action Item- Amended significantly, classification of VAPS. Mr. Hoffman will share the previously submitted support letter. Mr. Larkin suggested reviewing the support letter and amendments before deciding our position.
- h. [SB 88 \(Caballero\) Air resources: carbon emissions: biomass.](#)
  - I. Support
  - II. Appropriations Suspense
- i. [SB 279 \(McNerney\) Solid waste: compostable materials.](#)
  - I. Oppose unless amended
  - II. Appropriations

- III. Discussion – if we want to change from oppose to neutral. Bill has been significantly watered down. Timeline – August 20<sup>th</sup>. Only Compost Coalition (CC) and LTF are in opposition positions. Mr. Hoffman to reach out to CC to understand the position.
  - IV. Motion – To authorize Mr. Hoffman to change our position from oppose to neutral after his discussion with Compost Coalition. Motion was made, seconded, and passed. **Mr. Mike opposed the motion and the position.**
- j. [SB 404 \(Caballero\) Hazardous materials: metal shredding facilities](#)
    - I. Watch
    - II. Appropriations
  - k. [SB 561 \(Blakespear\) Hazardous waste: Emergency Distress Flare Safe Disposal Act.](#)
    - I. Support
    - II. Two-year bill

The group discussed the possibility that the Governor may veto the bill or amend it to include fireworks, potentially turning it into a Fireworks bill.
  - l. [SB 594 \(Padilla\) Waste discharge permits: landfills.](#)
    - I. Oppose
    - II. Two-year bill
    - I. Bill failed Will remove from future agenda
  - m. [SB 615 \(Allen\) Vehicle traction batteries.](#)
    - I. Watch
    - II. Appropriations
  - n. [SB 633 \(Blakespear\) Beverage containers: recycling.](#)
    - I. Watch
    - II. Appropriations
  - o. [SB 675 \(Padilla\) California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: streamlining.](#)
    - I. Watch
    - II. Two-year bill
    - III. Will remove from future agenda
  - p. [SB 682 \(Allen\) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.](#)
    - I. Support
    - II. [Amended 7/17](#)
    - III. Appropriations
    - IV. Discussion: Pushing out the cookware deadline to 2030 from 2028

#### 4. Regulatory Update (11:40 a.m. – noon)

- a. CARB Landfill Methane Rule Update – Ms. Green shared CARB meeting notes. New concepts include wellhead monitoring for temp, O2 or N2. Weekly and monthly data, qtr. reports instead of annually. Triggers are similar to NESHAP. Considering lowering temp requirement to 162 ( lower than federal limit). CARB wants comments by August 8<sup>th</sup>. Late 2025 they will release a draft, and it will be effective from 2027. Ab28 subcommittee to look at the LMR too.
- b. SB 54 Regulatory Update

Mr. Kobold provided an update in his capacity as a non-board member. Two Advisory members have resigned. An impact assessment study and update from the PRO will be presented. Public comments will be accepted next month.

- c. New Item - AB2069- Illegal disposal . Comments are due on September 2<sup>nd</sup> . Mr. Sweetser and Mr. Marchese will review the bill.

**5. Rumors (time permitting)**

Effects of the Big Beautiful Bill on reduced federal funding and budget process will be discussed at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53.

Attachments:

- A. June Treasurer's Report
- B. Policy update
- C. Community Meeting Landfill Methane Emissions Community Perspectives and Potential Regulation Updates 7.18.25
- D. Attendance Roster

**SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**  
**June 2025 Treasurer's Report**  
**SUMMARY**

MONTHLY SUMMARY												
	JAN 2025	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE <sup>1</sup></b>	\$56,266.13	\$96,981.84	\$94,470.12	\$89,342.94	\$86,853.70	\$76,908.83						
<b>REVENUES</b>	\$53,685.03	\$2,610.74	\$0.78	\$2,430.72	\$0.70	\$3,680.28						
(from Revenues sheet, Line 7)												
<b>EXPENSES <sup>2</sup></b>	\$8,169.35	\$5,122.46	\$5,127.96	\$4,919.96	\$9,945.57	\$75,549.96						
(from Expenses sheet, Line 6)												
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	\$101,781.81	\$94,470.12	\$89,342.94	\$86,853.70	\$76,908.83	\$5,039.15						
<b>MATCHES BANK STATEMENT?</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes						

YTD	BUDGETED	% BUDGET
\$62,408	\$68,006	92%
(Line 7)		
\$108,835	\$81,100	134%
(Line 6)		

\*\*\*

**NOTES:**

January Ending Balance does not match bank statement of \$96,981.84 because the Shaw Yoder November Invoice payment, which was paid on 12/4/24, did not post until 1/3/25. It was important to include in the \*\*\* December 2024 record. If you subtract this payment (\$4,799.97) from this Ending Balance, bank statement matches. May ending balance does not match bank statement of \$82,291.43 because Shaw Yoder May payment of \$5,382.60, did not post until 6/6/25.

- 1- Bank balance of each listed month. Balance for January reflective of Statement balance on January 2, 2024.
- 2- Expenses reflect checks and debits posted by bank in month shown.

**SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**  
**June 2025 Treasurer's Report**  
**EXPENSES**

Line No.		Posted to Account <sup>1</sup>												YTD	BUDGET	
		JAN 2025	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC			
1	SYASL REGULATORY REVIEW	\$1,130.73	\$1,158.99	\$1,158.99	\$1,158.99	\$1,158.99	\$1,158.99								\$6,925.68	\$14,000
2	SYASL CONTRACT	\$3,669.24	\$3,760.97	\$3,760.97	\$3,760.97	\$3,760.97	\$3,760.97								\$22,474.09	\$45,100
	Transfer of Funds to New LTF Accounts						\$70,500.00									
3	NON-SYASL EXPENSES	\$453.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,091.61	\$130.00								\$1,675.49	\$10,000
4	NETTOP PUBLISHING (WEBSITE)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00								\$0.00	\$1,500
5	Legal Counsel	\$2,915.50	\$202.50	\$208.00	\$0.00	\$3,934.00	\$0.00								\$7,260.00	\$10,500
6	<b>TOTALS<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$8,169.35</b>	<b>\$5,122.46</b>	<b>\$5,127.96</b>	<b>\$4,919.96</b>	<b>\$9,945.57</b>	<b>\$75,549.96</b>								<b>\$108,835.26</b>	<b>\$81,100</b>
7															% INCURRED	134%
8																
9																
10																

Line No.	MONTH SERVICES RENDERED	SYASL Payment Data														
		JAN 2025	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC			
12	SYASL INVOICE NO.	23210	21914	23402	23520	23629	23734									
13	Web Draft No.	5032	5034	5036	5038	5040	5042									
14	AMOUNT	\$4,799.97	\$4,919.96	\$4,919.96	\$4,919.96	\$4,919.96	\$4,919.96									
15	DATE CHECK POSTED	1/21/25	2/24/25	3/21/25	4/14/25	6/6/25	6/27/25									

QUARTERLY LOBBYING PAYMENTS (BY INCURRED DATE)			
1ST QUARTER	2ND QUARTER	3RD QUARTER	4TH QUARTER
\$14,639.89	\$14,759.88	\$0.00	\$0.00

- Notes:
- 1 Invoices are typically paid for the previous month. So, for example, January expenses reflects December invoices.
  - 2 The YTD should be minus the account transfer of \$70,500.

SWANA LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE  
June 2025 Treasurer's Report  
REVENUE

Line No.		REVENUES												YTD	BUDGET	
		JAN 2025	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC			
1	DUES SURCHARGE <sup>1</sup>	\$2,440.00	\$2,610.00	\$0.00	\$2,430.00	\$0.00	\$1,680.00								\$9,160.00	\$18,000.00
2	WESTERN REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM	\$51,244.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00								\$51,244.19	\$20,000.00
3	MOLO COURSE REVENUES	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00								\$0.00	\$5,000.00
4	INTEREST	\$0.84	\$0.74	\$0.00	\$0.72	\$0.70	\$0.28								\$3.28	\$6.00
5	AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00								\$0.00	\$25,000.00
6	WASTECON	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00								\$0.00	\$0.00
	Transfer from New LTF Bank Account						\$2,000.00									
a	Butte County															
b	City of Berkeley															
c	City of Clovis															
d	City of Colfax															
e	City of Fresno															
f	City of Los Angeles															
g	City of Manteca															
h	City of Roseville															
i	City of San Diego															
j	City of San Jose															
k	City of Santa Maria															
l	City of Stockton															
m	City of Sunnyvale															
n	City of Tulare															
o	City of Visalia															
p	City of Vallejo															
q	City of Watsonville															
r	Fresno County															
s	Humboldt WMA															
t	Imperial County															
u	Kern County															
v	Kings County/KWRA															
w	LA County Sanitation Districts															
x	Merced County RWMA															
y	Monterey RWMD															
z	Orange County															
aa	Placer County															
ab	Riverside County															
ac	Sacramento County															
ad	Salinas Valley SWA															
ae	San Joaquin County															
af	San Mateo County															
ag	South Bayside WMA															
ah	Ventura County															
ai	Yolo County															
aj	City of Santa Monica															
6	OTHER														\$0.00	
7	TOTALS <sup>2</sup>	\$53,685.03	\$2,610.74	\$0.78	\$2,430.72	\$0.70	\$3,680.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,408.25	\$68,006.00	
																% OF BUDGETED 92%

FOOTNOTES:

July 16, 2025

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce  
Subcommittee on Environment  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Hearing on *Beyond the Blue Bin: Forging a Federal Landscape for Recycling Innovation and Economic Growth*

Dear Chairman Guthrie, Chairman Palmer, Ranking Member Tonko, and Members of the Subcommittee,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) commends the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment for holding a hearing on the landscape for improving recycling innovation and fostering economic growth. This is a timely and critical discussion. Strengthening recycling systems through federal action is essential to building resilient domestic supply chains, supporting resource management, and driving long-term economic development.

SWANA is committed to advancing from waste management to resource management. Our members — recognized experts across the fields of recycling, organics management, collections, workforce safety, landfills, PFAS mitigation, waste-to-energy, and more — are deeply invested in the outcomes of this hearing.

As a leading professional association in the waste and resource management sector, SWANA serves industry professionals through technical conferences, certifications, publications, and a large offering of technical training courses. We serve as a trusted source of information for both our members and the media on industry trends and emerging opportunities. We are building a stronger waste and resource management industry, empowering our members to deliver essential services to communities today and anticipate their needs for tomorrow.

SWANA supports the use of domestic renewable resources to create high-quality materials for essential infrastructure and consumer goods. The recycling of packaging and products into new materials, and the processing of organic material into compost and energy are key for supporting supply chains. Our industry plays a key role in the recycling supply chain, enabling the use of recycled content in producing millions of products and packaging that Americans rely on daily.

Federal investment through the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants has already made a meaningful impact, enabling communities, states, and territories to launch or expand reduction, reuse, and recycling programs that might otherwise remain unattainable. SWANA encourages the continuation of SWIFR grants and the dedication of additional funding mechanisms. While this support is historic and significant, the demand for infrastructure investment still far exceeds available resources.

SWANA endorses the proposed Cultivating Investment in Recycling and Circular Local Economies (CIRCLE) Act, a creative solution to the challenge of funding recycling systems. The CIRCLE Act would establish a federal recycling infrastructure investment tax credit to incentivize recycling infrastructure development in the US. We encourage the Committee to support this bipartisan legislation which is supported by diverse stakeholders. Many SWANA members are eager to expand recycling operations but face financial barriers. The CIRCLE Act



would provide a much-needed catalyst for investment in this critical sector, and SWANA urges its prompt passage.

On the international front, the upcoming United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meeting at INC-5.2 may have significant implications on US recycling, particularly related to plastic production, design, and available end markets for recycled content. The outcomes may provide changes to financing mechanisms; policies related to extended producer responsibility, product design, and limits on plastic production; and the structure of the implementation. SWANA encourages the US to play an active role in the treaty negotiations and to support an outcome that will support strong, holistic waste and resource management systems.

To support informed dialogue at INC-5.2, SWANA is hosting a stakeholder event in Washington DC on July 29<sup>th</sup>, ahead of the start of INC-5.2. This gathering of stakeholders will serve to raise awareness of the critical importance of the waste and resource management sectors and to align on key points going into the negotiations. We respectfully invite the members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce and colleagues to attend and engage with industry leaders on these pressing topics. Please contact Kristyn Oldendorf at [koldendorf@swana.org](mailto:koldendorf@swana.org) for additional details.

Battery and electronics recycling (e-waste) is another urgent priority. Recovering critical minerals, preventing hazardous materials from entering landfills, and reducing fire risks are essential goals in many industries. Fires caused by lithium-ion batteries are increasingly common in solid waste and recycling facilities and collection vehicles, creating a major safety risk and causing costly damage. Insurance rates for waste and recycling facilities have been increasing due to the risk of fires, an additional cost for businesses and organizations that may force them to go out of business. This has become an emergency in our industry. We urge the Subcommittee to support policy solutions that promote safe collection of batteries and electronics, in order to prevent fires and to promote the recovery of materials, reducing reliance on foreign sources for critical minerals.

Above all, the safety of our workers is our highest priority. Policy solutions should include a lens of worker safety. We encourage the Subcommittee to support workforce development programs that properly train individuals for the wide range of trades and professions essential to modern waste and resource management. Our sector supports a diverse and skilled workforce, creating local jobs and strengthening regional economies.

SWANA welcomes collaboration and stands ready to support the Subcommittee's efforts to advance recycling, protect workers, and build a more sustainable and resilient future. We welcome you to contact the undersigned at [koldendorf@swana.org](mailto:koldendorf@swana.org) for additional conversation and engagement.

Sincerely,

Kristyn Oldendorf  
Senior Director of Public Policy and Communications





## MEMO

FROM: Kristyn Oldendorf, Senior Director of Public Policy & Communications, SWANA  
TO: SWANA Members  
DATE: July 18, 2025

**SUBJECT:** SWANA Summary of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing titled *"Beyond the Blue Bin: Forging a Federal Landscape for Recycling Innovation and Economic Growth"*

On Wednesday, June 25, 2025, the US House Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing titled ["Beyond the Blue Bin: Forging a Federal Landscape for Recycling Innovation and Economic Growth"](#) to address the challenges and opportunities in modernizing America's recycling systems. SWANA senior director Kristyn Oldendorf and summer intern Aidan Fleurdijk attended on behalf of SWANA. SWANA also submitted [comments](#) to the Subcommittee.

Led by Chairman Gary Palmer (AL-06), the hearing highlighted the urgent need for regulatory clarity, infrastructure investment, and technological innovation to improve recycling outcomes.

The panel of witnesses included:

- Ross Eisenberg, President, America's Plastic Makers, American Chemistry Council  
[Witness Testimony](#)
- Matt Bedingfield, Executive Vice President of Commercial Strategy and Growth, Mint Innovation  
[Written Testimony](#)
- Dan Felton, President and CEO, Flexible Packaging Association  
[Witness Testimony](#)
- Keefe Harrison, Founder and CEO, The Recycling Partnership  
[Witness Testimony](#)

Chairman Palmer opened the hearing by stressing the importance of removing regulatory red tape to support both mechanical and advanced recycling. Several members echoed this sentiment, including Congressman Dan Crenshaw (TX-02), who called for regulatory certainty to scale domestic recycling infrastructure. He argued that innovation is being stifled by inconsistent rules and ideological interference.

Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-01) stressed that recycling is not only an environmental issue, but a national security and economic one, citing Iowa's manufacturing

sector, which struggles to access sufficient recycled feedstock. She pointed to the economic loss from landfilled materials that could otherwise bolster American industry.

Participants shared the following data about the current state of US recycling:

- The US generates nearly 300 million tons of municipal solid waste annually; only 32% is recycled or composted.
- The plastic recycling rate has dropped from 8.7% in 2018 to an estimated 5–6%.
- An estimated 34 million tons of potential feedstock is lost each year.
- Only 73% of Americans have access to recycling, and even fewer participate due to distrust and poor infrastructure.

Chemical recycling, often referred to as advance recycling, was repeatedly cited by committee members as a viable solution for processing plastics that are challenging to recycle through traditional methods. The members and some of the panelists shared concerns that lack of regulatory consistency, especially regarding whether advanced recycling is classified as manufacturing or waste management, has slowed investment.

The hearing also discussed the importance of collection e-waste in order to recover critical minerals and reduce dependence on other countries for processing these materials.

With the upcoming UN Global Plastics Treaty negotiations at INC-5.2, there is growing momentum to align federal legislation with international standards and industry innovation. The Congressmembers and the panel of witnesses encouraged the US to continue to engage in the negotiations and to reach an agreement this year.

There was also discussion of federal legislation to support recycling, including the newly introduced Cultivating Investment in Recycling and Circular Local Economies (CIRCLE) Act, which SWANA supports. The CIRCLE Act would establish a recycling infrastructure investment tax credit to spur investment in recycling. The Recycling Partnership called on the members to combine the Recycling Infrastructure Accessibility Act (H.R.2145) and the Recycling and Composting Accountability Act (H.R.4109) into the Strategies to Eliminate Waste and Accelerate Recycling Development (STEWARD) Act (S.351), which has been passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

SWANA continues to advocate for national policy solutions to improve recycling systems.

## Community Meeting: Landfill Methane Emissions, Community Perspectives, and Potential Regulation Updates July 18, 2025

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### Background

California's Landfill Methane Regulation (LMR) requires owners and operators of municipal solid waste landfills to install and optimally operate gas collection and control systems, monitor and repair emission exceedances and other performance issues, ensure that control devices achieve a minimum 99% methane destruction efficiency, and report compliance information annually to CARB. CARB implements the LMR in partnership with local air districts and in coordination with state and local agencies with regulatory authority over aspects of landfill permitting, operations, and impacts to air and water quality.

CARB staff is currently developing potential updates to the LMR that would improve landfill gas control. More information is available on the [LMR Meetings & Workshops](#) webpage.

### Meeting Materials

- [Notice](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Staff Presentation](#)
- [Submit Feedback](#) (July 18, 2025, to August 8, 2025)

### Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Chanell Flether
  - In March, a number of people attended the board members and what stood out to me was the pain that is happening in the community
  - We are here to share more about the regulations
  - Our focus is to prevent what has happened in Chiquita Canyon and other areas

### Community Panel: Living Near Landfills – Local Experiences

- Jennifer Elkins led a panel of 6 community members who live near and around Chiquita Canyon and who discussed how they have been negatively affected by the landfill
  - They talk about how these issues took them by surprise
  - Some experienced severe health issues such as headaches, vertigo, nosebleeds, etc.
    - Many also worry about the long-term impacts
  - They wondered how this huge disaster was missed by so many
  - Many wonder why there isn't a state of emergency, and why the landfill hasn't led an evacuation
  - They urged CARB to take quick action to prevent this from happening to any other communities
  - Chiquita Canyon is now required to have gas monitoring, and check the cover they have on the reaction area on a daily basis
  - They expressed frustration that they counties and regulatory agencies haven't done enough and are asking that they listen to the communities more than the landfills
  - More needs to be done other than fixing this landfill
  - Many outlined how they tried to call state agencies and local air districts and got little to no help

## CARB Presentation: Potential Updates to the California Landfill Methane Regulation

*Will bring the proposal before the board this year*

- Quinn Langfitt

### Agenda

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#### Potential Updates to CARB's Landfill Methane Regulation

- Background
- Goal and scope of potential changes to the LMR
- Regulatory concepts for changes to the LMR
- Next steps
- Open discussion

○

## Background

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- Leads California's fight against air pollution and climate change
- Protects public health, and promotes environmental justice, social equity, & sustainable communities
- Promotes clean, energy-efficient fuels and technology

○



## Tackling Air Pollution



## California Air Resources Board's Role in Landfill Regulation

CARB staff work together with other state, local, and federal agencies who lead efforts on air pollutants, landfill permitting/design, toxics, and water pollution, including local air districts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency



## Landfill Methane Regulation

- CARB's Landfill Methane Regulation (LMR) was initially adopted in 2010
- The LMR set the most stringent threshold in the nation for landfill methane control
- Requires landfill owners and operators to:
  - Install and optimally operate landfill gas collection and control systems (GCCS)
  - Perform routine monitoring for surface emissions and other performance parameters
  - Repair gas leaks and other issues to ensure emissions are minimized
  - Report compliance data and actions to CARB and local air districts
- 22 local air districts have agreements with CARB to primarily implement and enforce the LMR
- 190 landfills are subject to the LMR and 150 operate a GCCS

## Landfill Gas Collection and Control Systems

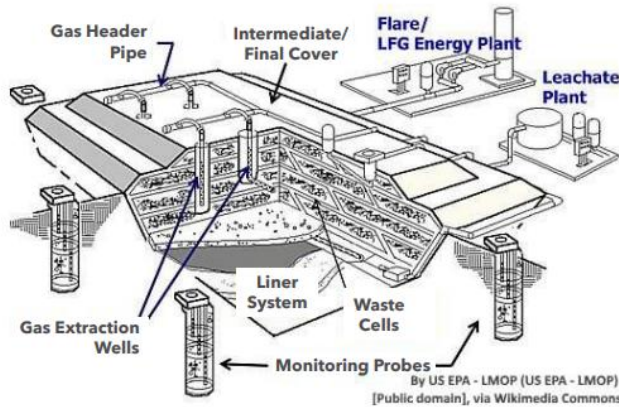
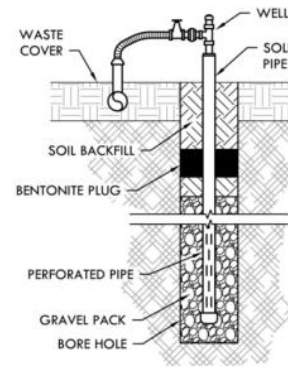


Figure 1-2. Vertical Extraction Well



## Goals and Scope of Potential Changes

Increase Stringency to Achieve CA's Ambitious Climate Targets



Harness Technological Advances



Incorporate Research and Lessons Learned



Improve Alignment with Federal Rules



Streamline Reporting



Set Example for Other Jurisdictions



## Preliminary Nature of These Concepts

These concepts are preliminary. Their purpose is to solicit public feedback on potential changes prior to making any formal regulatory proposal.

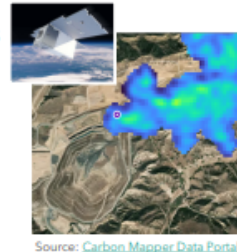
Feedback is requested by August 8, 2025: [LMR Meetings and Workshops](#)

Contact us: [LMR@arb.ca.gov](mailto:LMR@arb.ca.gov)

## Selected Major Regulatory Concepts

### Satellite-Detected Emission Plumes Concept

- A decade of research demonstrates effectiveness of methane plume detection and notification
- CARB is already notifying landfills when methane plumes are detected by satellites
- Concept: Require operator to take action when notified by CARB of a satellite-detected methane plume



### Improved Coverage of Surface Emissions Monitoring Concept



- The current LMR requires surface emissions monitoring (SEM) quarterly with 25-foot spacing, but allows certain areas to be excluded for safety purposes

#### Concepts:

- Require an alternative technology be used in areas that cannot be safely accessed
  - For example, drones or handheld lasers could be operated without walking in the unsafe areas
- Allow emerging alternative technologies to be evaluated and approved for use across the entire landfill

- Some landfills are excluding large areas

## Other Surface Emissions Monitoring Concepts

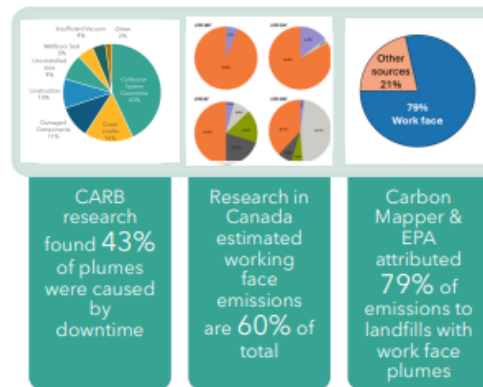
Significant updates to procedures to make SEM more effective and improve oversight, including:

- Reduce timelines for initiating repairs and completing new well installation or other approved remedy
- Confirm repairs are durable by additional re-monitoring 1 month after repair
- Do the following in monitoring grids with recurring exceedances:
  - Increase monitoring frequency from quarterly to monthly
  - Improve cover thickness and materials
  - Investigate the collection system and repair issues discovered

## Gas Collection and Control System (GCCS) Operational Concepts

GCCS downtime, particularly at the working face, is a common cause of the largest emissions

- Multiple concepts to improve GCCS coverage and operational requirements:
  - Limit number of wells that can be offline at once
  - Minimize downtime of individual wells or GCCS components
  - Require earlier installation of gas collectors in new waste areas at large landfills



[click on the graphic to access these studies](#)

## Expanded Digital Reporting Concepts

- Lengthy, non-uniform annual reports require significant time and resources to review and confirm compliance
- Potential new reporting data could:
  - Better support CARB's ability to confirm compliance
  - Improve understanding of causes of methane emissions
- Reporting concepts:
  - Require standardized digital reporting to accelerate data review
  - Require additional reporting parameters to improve oversight and transparency



# Wellhead Monitoring Concepts

## Wellhead Monitoring - Current Requirements

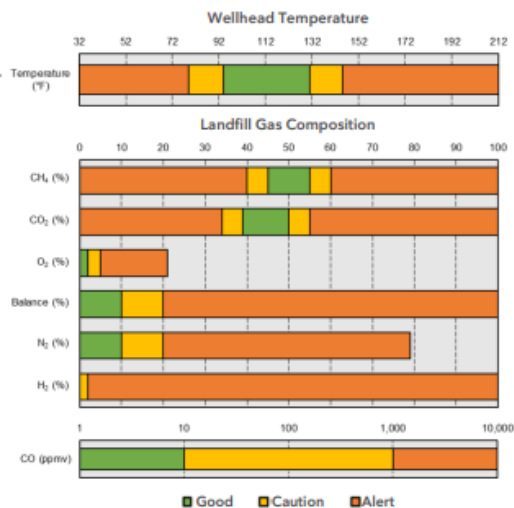
- The LMR requires wells to be under vacuum (suction), and confirm by monthly monitoring of gas well pressure
- Various local and federal rules\* require monthly monitoring of temperature and either oxygen or nitrogen
  - Temperature must be maintained below limits (131-145 °F)
  - Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) or nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) must be reported when over limits
- Typical practice includes measuring gas flow rate and the methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) content of gas

\*Including air district rules and the federal [New Source Performance Standards \(NSPS\)](#), [National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants \(NESHAP\)](#), and Emission Guidelines (EG) [federal plan](#).

## Landfill Gas Characteristics

- Data can signal the need to:
  - Adjust the level of vacuum (well "tuning" or blowers)
  - Repair the landfill surface cover
  - Investigate potential damage or obstructions in the well or other components
  - Investigate potential conditions that may risk subsurface elevated temperature events

Source: Figure 2 of U.S. EPA's fact sheet: [Indicators at Elevated Temperature Landfills - Landfill Gas](#)

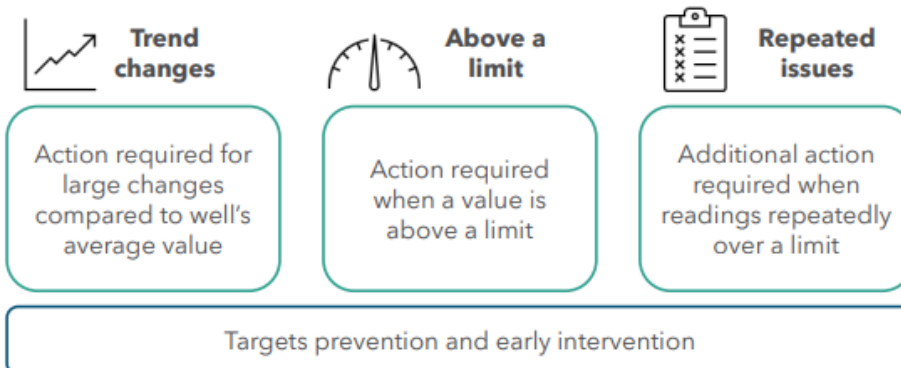


## Wellhead Monitoring Concept - Data

- **Concept:** Require monitoring of additional wellhead data and action based on results
  - Measure the following monthly at each wellhead:
    - Pressure (maintain suction)
    - Landfill gas temperature
    - Landfill gas flow rate
    - Landfill gas composition (methane, carbon dioxide, oxygen)
  - Measure liquid level twice per year
- Monitoring frequency would increase to weekly or continuously at wells with persistent issues
- Report data every quarter, instead of annually

## Wellhead Monitoring Concept - Framework

**Action is needed when measurements show**



## Wellhead Monitoring Concept: Temperature Requirements

- Wellhead temperature >131°F, or a rapid significant change in temperature:
  - Limit oxygen content in gas depending on temperature (see table to right)
  - If persists for 60 days, begin weekly enhanced monitoring [\[more detail on next slide\]](#)
- Wellhead temperature >145°F
  - Initiate corrective action within 5 days
  - Perform and implement rigorous cause and solution analyses and notify regulator if not quickly corrected
  - Violation if corrective action not complete within 120 days
- 24-hour regulator notification for extreme high temperature

Temperature	Oxygen Limit
131-145°F	<5% O <sub>2</sub>
146-160°F	<2.5% O <sub>2</sub>
160+ °F	<1% O <sub>2</sub>



- High oxygen indicates a leak

## Wellhead Monitoring Concept: Enhanced Monitoring

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- **Enhanced monitoring** means increasing from monthly to weekly, and measuring a wider range of information at all surrounding wells, including:
  - Downwell temperature measurement (every 10 feet) is the most reliable way to determine what is happening below the surface
  - Measuring carbon monoxide (CO) and visual indicators such as smoke indicate if a thermochemical reaction is occurring



**Weekly monitoring ensures operators and regulators have all the information needed to inform decision making and appropriate early intervention**



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## Wellhead Monitoring Concept: Oxygen

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Oxygen monitoring is not currently required under LMR, though most landfills are subject to local or federal rules that require it. New concept would require monthly monitoring and:



- If oxygen exceeds 5%, or there is a large rapid increase, do cover integrity and collection system assessments to find and fix the source of air intrusion \*



- When temperature is above 131°F, take action to immediately limit oxygen



- Enhanced monitoring if repeated high oxygen levels are found



\* Exception for "early" gas collectors because oxygen is expected to be present in fresh waste

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## Wellhead Monitoring Concept: Liquid Level Requirements

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Liquid level monitoring is not currently required under LMR. New concept would require monitoring twice per year, and:



- If liquid level high (>50% of perforated length):
  - Remove liquids
  - Increase liquid level monitoring frequency to four times per year



- Install a pump if repeated high liquid levels found



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## Summary and Next Steps

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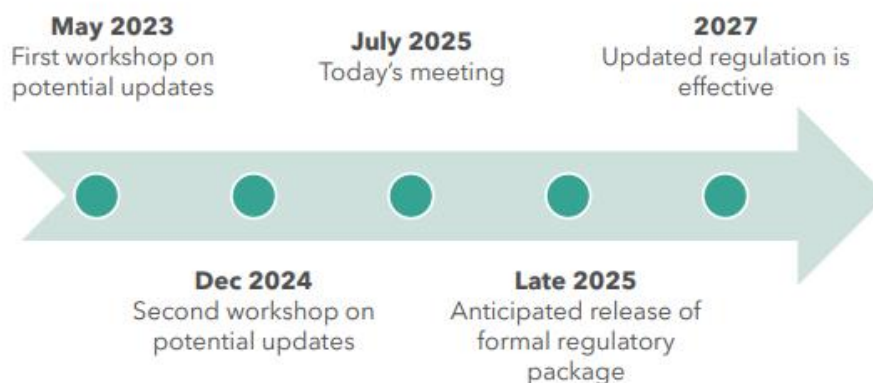
### Expected Outcomes of Concepts Presented Today

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- Greater role for advanced leak detection technologies
- More and faster leak repairs through improved monitoring practices
- Earlier and more comprehensive identification of issues in wellhead monitoring data for prevention and early intervention
- Targeted additional action to address frequent or recurring issues
- Improved gas collection through earlier expansion and less downtime of the GCCS
- Better oversight by CARB and air districts through improved reporting and satellite plume notifications

### Anticipated Timeline

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# Thank You!

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Staff welcomes your input and participation as we develop these concepts into a regulatory proposal

- Written feedback is requested by August 8, 2025
- Submit feedback: [LMR Meetings and Workshops](#)

Contact us: [LMR@arb.ca.gov](mailto:LMR@arb.ca.gov)

Subscribe for future updates: [Landfill Methane Control Measure](#)

Learn more about CARB's Research:

[Landfill Methane Emissions in California](#)  
[Methane Research](#)

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## Community Discussion & Public Comment

- Assemblymember Schiavo
  - Thank you so much to CARB and the community
  - Excited to see that you incorporated a lot of the regulations that are already in my bill
  - It's important to make sure we don't over extract methane
  - Additionally, I am excited to see the incorporation of advanced technologies
  - Need to make sure that there is public access to this information
  - The main thing I hope is top of mind as you finalize these regulations is to be aggressive and quick with them
  - We can't give waivers for higher temperatures and let them be the norm
  - The industry keeps insisting that the higher temperatures are normal
  - Seems like more landfills are inclined to have these heating events
  - Think we need to have real penalties that discourage them from being bad actors
  - Some landfills are doing great work at getting them under control
  - It's important that we hold them accountable
- Veronica Aguirre
  - 15 years is a long time to update the regulations
  - I hope that the Board approves this and that CARB takes quick action
  - We have failed the community
- Zoe Etchison
  - Without equitable enforcement and local investment, the burden will fall on us
  - We are here asking for fairness
- Community Member
  - I am sad to see that these rules won't go into effect until 2027
  - Suggest that these regulations are updated every 2 years
  - AB 28 is stricter than these regulations, pay attention to what she is doing
  - I have had cancer twice – the agencies aren't doing enough
- Community Member
  - People have been fighting this for 5-7 years and nothing has been done
  - This is too late for a lot of us
- Community Member
  - I blame waste connections and LA county for this

- We are living in the mess they created. I would like to see some real consequences
- Community Member
  - There have been 30,000 complaints and hundreds of violations... when will we see enforcement?
- Senior Enforcement Officer – US EPA
  - The LEA has issued orders regarding their violations
  - DTSC has also issued an order that requires changes to be made
  - There are some differences between the order and what the company has done
  - This will be enforced in court – that’s the direction everyone is going in
- Community Member
  - This presentation was disappointing, it’s incomplete, and you don’t know what you are doing
  - It shouldn’t be a concept of an idea, it’s what you are supposed to do
- Coalition for Clean Air
  - Support the community that’s been dealing with this for years
  - There are positive developments – satellite monitoring is helpful, but we need more data
  - Once a month is not sufficient
  - We need stronger enforcement
- Community Member
  - I am horrified by these stories
  - We need stronger enforcement
- Community Member
  - Regarding the technology – landfills lie so you need to closely monitor that the technology works
  - You need to make sure they are using the technology
- Community Member
  - There has been a lot of research into the dangers within 3.5 miles, I request you go outside that range
- California Communities Against Toxics
  - The problem is that these regulations are the good
  - Not everyone is a good actor
  - Avenal just requested a higher operating temperature
  - 11 landfills have higher operating value waivers
  - We need to prohibit the waivers
  - If the Legislature won’t do it, you should
  -

**SWANA CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS – 2025 LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE MEMBERS**  
**July 24, 2025**

<u>VOTING MEMBER/ CHAPTER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
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VM/Gold Rush	Chris Hanson	X	Placer County/Western Placer WMA	530-886-4965	CHanson@placer.ca.gov
VM/Gold Rush	Larry Sweetser	X	Sweetser and Associates/ESJPA	510-703-0898	sweetser@hazman.us
VM/Gold Rush	Deepti Jain (S)	X	City of Sunnyvale	408-730-7791	djain@sunnyvale.ca.gov
VM/Gold Rush	Joe La Mariana	X*	South Bay Waste Management Authority (Rethink Waste)	650-802-3505	jlmariana@rethinkwaste.org
ALT/Gold Rush	Tim Flanagan		SCS Engineers	925-440-5702	tflanagan@scsengineers.com
ALT/Gold Rush	Charles White		Chuck White Consulting	916-552-2365	chuckwhiteconsulting@gmail.com
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VM/Founding	Jim Marchese	X	LA Sanitation and Environment	213-847-5174	jim.marchese@lacity.org
VM/Founding	Mike Mohajer	X	Southern California Waste Mgmt. Forum	909-592-1147	mikemohajer@yahoo.com
VM/Founding	Sharon Green (VC)	X	LA County Sanitation Districts	562-699-7411	sgreen@lacsds.org
VM/Founding	Jane Fajardo	A	City of San Diego	858-997-3300	jfajardo@sandiego.gov
ALT/Founding	VACANT	N/A			
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VM/Sierra	Curtis Larkin (C)	X	Fresno County	559-600-4306	clarkin@fresnocountyca.gov
VM/Sierra	Lynnda Martin		American Refuse	661-758-5316	lynnda@americanrefuse.co
VM/Sierra	Dawyne Balch	A	City of Clovis	559-696-8248	Dawyneb@cityofclovis.com
VM/Sierra	Parveen Sandhu	A	Kings Waste & Recycling Authority	559-410-1117	psandhu@kwrarecycles.net
ALT/Sierra	Keith Hester	A	Caglia Environmental	559-417-8307	khester@cagliarecycling.com
ALT/Sierra	Annie Shelton	A	Fresno County		ashelton@fresnocountyca.gov
Lobbyist	Jason Schmelzer and Dylan Hoffman (X), Olivia Thomas (X)	X	Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange.	916-446-4656	jason@SYASLpartners.com and Hoffman@syaslpartners.com

\*Joined or left call while meeting was in process.

Guests: Tari Heslop\*, City of Santa Maria, Michelle White, City of Roseville,

**Chapter Presidents:**

*Gold Rush – Dave Ghirardelli – [davercy@gmail.com](mailto:davercy@gmail.com)*

*Founding – Michelle Leonard - [mleonard@scsengineers.com](mailto:mleonard@scsengineers.com)*

*Sierra Chapter – Dan Amann – [damann@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:damann@fresnocountyca.gov)*

Quorum: Eight or more voting members, including at least one member from each chapter, must be present to constitute a quorum.

**VM= Voting Member**

**Ch = Chair**

**VC = Vice Chair**

**T = Treasurer**

**S = Secretary**