

MOTION

On Tuesday, November 1, 2016 the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Republic Services, the operators of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, having determined that odors that come from the site affect the health and well-being of residents in the surrounding neighborhoods.

The NOV carries a financial penalty of \$1,000 each day that they are in violation, following a 30-day deadline to respond. There may be additional penalties, including the possibility of revoking the landfill's Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

Additionally, Republic Services is the subject of an abatement order for odors from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The Order includes a mandated reduction in hours of operation and tonnage accepted for disposal. This is the second such order from SCAQMD, the first having expired without resolution to the odor issue.

During testimony before the Board of Supervisors, Dr. Cynthia Harding, interim director of County DPH stated that "The sheer volume of complaints have dwarfed the number of complaints from any other landfill from our region." There have been more than 9,000 odor complaints since 2009.

The City of Los Angeles uses Sunshine Canyon Landfill for its municipal solid waste disposal, tipping up to 3,000 or more tons a day at the site. Additionally, on May 10, 2010 the City exercised Contract Amendment 3 with Browning-Ferris Industries of California (now Republic Services) to utilize Sunshine Canyon through June 30 of 2021 for up to \$32 million annually.

As County Public Health has determined that odors from Sunshine Canyon Landfill are affecting the health and the well-being of residents in the surrounding areas, it is unconscionable that the City should continue to dump its trash there.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation immediately begin preparing an RFP for alternative disposal sites. The operator has proven incapable of controlling odors from the site and should this 30-day period pass without resolution, the City should be able to have options that do not affect the health and well-being of residents in the surrounding areas.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation report to Council immediately with an alternate disposal plan so that the City may be prepared if a CUP revocation is initiated by County Regional Planning.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to advise as to legal recourse for community suffering as a result of odors that affect the health and well-being of residents in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Presented by:   
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Seconded by:   
  
 

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