

Advisory Committee Memory

Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works

Meeting 9
April 21, 2009
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Attendance:

Committee Members: Gary Pacheco, David Sproat, Ted Inouye, George Costa, Mike Curtis, Mary J. Buza-Sims, Michael V. Layosa, Keith Nitta, Palmer Hafdahl, Glenn Frazier
Members Absent/Excused: Edward Kawamura, Diana Simao, Kathleen Hurd, Kenny Ishii
County DPW: Troy Tanigawa, Emily Ishida
Consultant: Brian Takeda
Facilitator: Dee Dee Letts

The meeting began with an overview by the consultant of the draft report previously e-mailed to all of the committee members. The Committee had the following additions, questions and suggestions for both the report and the process as it moves forward.

Committee's letter of introduction: The Committee agreed with what was in the letter and had the following additions and clarifications.

- There needs to be a statement on the importance of education and field trips to the landfill and alternative sites. Many Committee members felt that the field trip taken to the existing Kekaha Landfill and the alternative sites provided important education on the workings of the landfill. They gained new insight into the technology and controls used at the landfill and better understanding of how landfills operate within a community to address issues of noise, odor and other neighbor concerns.
- The Committee requested that the wording concerning the Mayor's charge to the Committee be clarified to better reflect that the task was to develop and weight the criteria which the consultant applied to the sites resulting in the ranking – the language will be clarified.

General Comments:

- Page 11 – Table ES-3: The Committee requests that the consultant double check the Umi site as to whether EJ issues would apply – they specifically noted the presence of housing projects about a third of a mile away from the site – the consultant will double check that those areas were in the block groups looked at by SMS Research, and believes that they were (note: after conferring with SMS Research, it was confirmed that both ethnicity and income data for those populations were included in the analysis).

- The Committee continues to request that Host Community Benefits be developed by the County after the site is selected to provide for some form of compensation or payment based on a flat rate as opposed to the volume of waste disposed.
- The Committee requests that the EIS continue to look at all sites as well as the preferred alternative as the scores are very close and more detailed study could result in changes
- The Committee requests that the EIS look at the distance from transfer stations as not just one of distance but one of ton-miles (that is, the amount of tons hauled per mile) to more accurately address the issue of limiting the haul distance from areas that produce the highest volume of waste
- The Committee requests that the UIC map be referenced in appropriate places in the report and that it be noted that none of the sites considered is within the UIC line. The Committee felt that it was important to consider in the criteria the distance from this line in order to reflect the concern the Committee had about the importance of protecting Kauai's drinking water resources.

Next steps:

- A new draft of the Committee's introductory letter with changes will be e-mailed to members for approval.
- The noted changes will be made to the draft report.
- The Committee will be notified when the report is public so that they may share it with their constituents.

The Committee thanked the Consultant and the Facilitator for what they felt was a fair, open and objective process. The Consultant and Facilitator also thanked the Committee for their willingness to do the homework and spend the time to tackle a very difficult assignment from the Mayor. They noted that this Committee had been a pleasure to work with. The Meeting was adjourned at 2:45.