

**Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC)
Minutes – January 30, 2006**

Commission members present: Robert Bailey, Krista Clark, Mike Fallon, William Gibson, Whitnie Henderson, Marjorie Namba, Val Siebal, and Frederick Tornatore.

Commission members absent: Sharon Merker.

Commission Staff: Mel Knight, Director, Environmental Management Department (EMD), Karen Nelson, SEC Executive Secretary.

Other Guests: Alicia Enriquez, Supervisor, Consumer Protection Division, EMD, and Linda Jimenez, Administrative Services Officer, EMD; Michael DeAngelis, Program Manager, Advanced, Renewable, & Distributed Generation Technologies, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD); Glennah Trochet, M.D. Health Officer, County of Sacramento.

The meeting was called to order by **SEC Chair Mike Fallon** at 6:30 p.m. Attendance list and sign in sheet were distributed.

1. **Public Comment - Chair Fallon** read a statement regarding videotaping of the meeting and posting of agendas. He then opened the meeting to members of the audience.
2. **Consent Item - Minutes** - It was **moved (Tornatore), seconded (Gibson) and carried** to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2005 meeting as presented.
3. **Presentation to Outgoing Chair Frederick Tornatore - Chair Fallon** called upon **Director Knight**, EMD to present the award. **Director Knight** expressed appreciation to **Commissioner Tornatore** for his work as SEC Chair for the 2004-2005 calendar year, and presented him with an engraved plaque. **Commissioner Tornatore** thanked the members of the Commission and **Director Knight** for the privilege of serving as chair.
4. **Emerging Energy Technologies - Commissioner Tornatore** introduced **Michael DeAngelis**, Program Manager, Advanced, Renewable, & Distributed Generation Technologies, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). Mr. DeAngelis' PowerPoint presentation, "SMUD'S Emerging Renewable Technology Activities", covered renewable energy, and greenergy programs. He noted that their 2011 goal is to provide 23% of their energy in renewable resources. He mentioned that their 2006 renewable supply is composed of 31% wind, 24% biomass, 27% geothermal, 17% small hydroelectric, and 1% photovoltaic.

The SMUD Solano Project Wind Program has been in operation since 1994. Building is ongoing and they are preparing for future growth. SMUD is working with state meteorologists to learn more about predicting wind.

For more than 20 years SMUD has been involved with solar energy. SMUD is in the process of developing a public power consortium. New solar and biomass

technologies are helping convert waste disposal methods to green electricity and helping to mitigate pollution.

Mr. DeAngelis discussed dairy digester benefits, including utility benefits, economic benefits to dairy farmers, and environmental benefits to the public. He asked the Commission to consider new technologies when they evaluate the General Plan.

Commissioner Siebal asked if the wind turbines are manufactured in the U.S. and was told they are manufactured in Europe and the U.S. and that SMUD purchases them from a European manufacturer. **Commissioner Clark** asked if SMUD was looking into fuel cell technology. Commissioners were informed that SMUD has installed fuel cells at several locations and they have an ongoing interest in nuclear fusion power.

5. **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and West Nile Virus Updates - Chair Fallon** introduced **Dr. Glennah Trochet**, Sacramento County Health Officer, who conducted a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Pandemic Influenza Planning in Sacramento County”. **Dr. Trochet** described the current situation and the potential for Avian Influenza becoming a human pandemic, described national, state and local preparedness efforts, and discussed the planning process for County business continuity in the face of a pandemic. She noted approximately 35,000 flu-related deaths occur annually.

Dr. Trochet discussed the incubation and infectious periods for the flu. Currently there is no Avian flu in America. As of January 25, 2006, there were 153 cases of Avian flu and 83 deaths reported worldwide. The Federal government is developing a vaccine against the current strain of the virus.

Dr. Trochet suggested the following precautions for staying healthy and preventing the spread of the flu:

- When speaking with someone stand 3 feet away.
- Use hand sanitizers.
- Get an annual flu vaccination.
- Avoid hand shaking.
- Cover mouth with tissue before coughing.
- Stay home if you are sick.

During a brief question and answer session members were advised the virus has not spread from person-to-person; if a death is caused by the virus the public will be informed; suppliers are working on the level of mask needed to protect us; if a pandemic occurs it is over when deaths stop—2 to 3 years.

Members were advised that the West Nile Virus 2006 presentation will be postponed to a future meeting. Members received a publication titled, "Division of Public Health", and a business pandemic influenza planning checklist.

6. **Environmental Excellence Awards (Update)** - **Chair Tornatore** called upon **Commissioner Namba** (Awards Chair) who noted that an extensive outreach encouraging nominations had been done and several nominations have been received. Nominations must be received by February 10, 2006. She encouraged Commission members to send nomination packets to friends.

Action item: Staff to e-mail Commission members 2005 Award Nomination packet.
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7. **Update on Food Safety Enhancements Program** - **Mel Knight, Director**, introduced **Alicia Enriquez**, Consumer Protection Supervisor, EMD. She explained the Board of Supervisors authorized EMD to develop a color-coded placarding system November 22, 2005. Members of the food industry participated in a Working Group meeting on January 17, 2006; they are invited to attend a second meeting on February 1, 2006. Discussion items include: planning, education, inspections, criteria for pass/conditional pass, reinspections and timeframes. Field trials of the placarding system will begin in June 2006 and placarding of food facilities will begin January 2007.

A workshop will be held February 17, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Supervisors' Chambers. Invitations will be sent to owners and operators of 5,500 facilities. EMD will issue a press release to inform the public about the workshop.

Director Knight announced EMD will be requesting SEC support for the placarding system at the February meeting. **Commissioner Siebal** suggested forming a subgroup of SEC members who are interested in attending the Working Group meetings. **Members Siebal** and **Fallon** expressed an interest in being part of the project. **Member Siebal** suggested using the SEC web page to update the public on Food Enhancements Phase II processes.

8. **Sacramento County Environmental Management Department Director's Report** - Members received a copy of the January 2006 *EMD Update*. **Director Knight** shared information on: (1) Lead hazard reduction and education; (2) Remediation oversight procedures; and (3) Electronic file reviews.

Commissioner Tornatore requested files from EMD for review and he was provided a CD-ROM with all the necessary documents.

Director Knight stated that there are 200-300 closures of food facilities per year, usually related to rodent and cockroach infestations. **Chair Fallon** asked if a "closure" column could be added to the last page of the *EMD Update*.

9. **2005 Environmental Health Report - Environmental Indicators** - **Chair Fallon** called upon **Commissioner Henderson** who stated she had received all the required information for the report and is working on the draft document. When finished she will send it to SEC **Secretary Nelson** for distribution. She hopes to finish next week and looks forward to wrapping it up.
10. **Environmental News Review** - **Vice Chair Siebal** presented three articles to the Commission: (1) *LA Times* article about pharmaceuticals showing up in drinking water sources for which there are no standards; (2) Environmental Tobacco Smoke being adopted as a toxic air contaminant by the California Air Resources Board; and (3) USEPA recent ban on perflouroctanoic acid (PFOA) used in Teflon, which is bioaccumulating in humans and causes cancer in lab animals.
11. **Revised 2006 SEC Meeting Schedule** - Members received and reviewed the revised 2006 SEC meeting schedule.

It was the consensus of the Commission to approve the dates and new location of the January 30, April 17, July 31, and October 30 meetings as presented.

12. **2006 Meeting Topics/Teams** - **Chair Fallon** and the members of the Commission undertook a discussion of potential meeting topics:
 - March 27, Port of Oakland/Port of Sacramento: Potential increased emissions because the Port of Oakland will be diverting some of its shipping from Oakland to Sacramento. **Director Knight** will ask Larry Greene to speak regarding air pollution.
 - March/May, California Climate Action Team Report - reducing and eliminating emissions.
 - Transportation planning activities (Parkways Elk Grove to Folsom). Reducing traffic problems. County planning representatives, SACOG.
 - Presentation on regional planning activities-SACOG-blueprint projects.
 - General Plan update.
 - Water protection/water reclamation project.
 - Flooding.
13. **Correspondence** - **Secretary Nelson** noted that **Commissioner Henderson** had been reappointed for three years. **Chair Fallon** discussed a November 22, 2005 article which appeared in the *Sacramento Bee* on Boards and Commissions. He was interviewed for the article.
14. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next SEC meeting will be held February 27, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Environmental Management Department, 8475 Jackson Road, Sacramento, California.