

## SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING INDUSTRY

# FOCUS

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## LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISPOSAL ASSOCIATION

### LACDA TOURS PUENTE HILLS MRF



LACDA members were given a tour of the new Puente Hills Material Recovery Facility in February. Conducting the tour and answering a lot of questions was facility supervising engineer Robert Asgian of the County Sanitation Districts, standing at right with notebook. Construction is scheduled for completion in mid-2005.

### WASTE ORIGIN VERIFICATION PROGRAM PHASE 2 FOR FACILITIES BEGINS JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>

Following a series of L.A. County Dept. of Public Works workshops for facility operators and industry haulers the Phase 2 portion of the County Waste Origin Verification Program is set to begin on June 1, 2005. The program will apply to transfer/processing facilities that accept and process solid waste for delivery to the Puente Hills Landfill.

The Origin Verification Program is the continuation of the Waste Disposal Origin Reporting System, which took effect at the Puente Hills Landfill in March 2004. The system is required by the County and is intended to assist the County unincorporated areas to comply with the State-mandated waste diversion requirements. Under the Phase 2 guidelines only waste loads which weigh more than one ton, are collected from County unincorporated areas and are delivered by transfer/processing facilities to the Puente Hills Landfill for disposal are included in the reporting requirements.

Transfer/processing facilities using the Puente Hills Landfill for waste disposal that fail to comply with the requirements of this program will be subject to penalties and/or suspension of disposal privileges at the landfill. All haulers are required to present a completed Waste Origin Report Form at the facility scales every time they use the TS/MRF for waste loads originating entirely or partially from the County unincorporated areas. Regular routes can be pre-registered with the County. There will be County audits and if the County finds that a hauler **not affiliated** with a facility has provided inaccurate information for a waste load that was processed and subsequently delivered to the Landfill, that hauler will be notified of the infraction and has 15 days to correct it. The facility will be notified and must take steps to ensure that the hauler complies. If no correction is made within the 15-day period, the hauler will be deemed to be in non-compliance.

It is also an infraction if the hauler, **not affiliated** with a facility, fails to substantiate the business or other relationship for the collection of refuse with the owner or user of the property which is indicated as the origin of the waste.

During the waste hauler workshop sessions several concerns were voiced by the haulers. A key concern is the amount of information needed to verify a customer relationship. Many haulers don't keep old checks, don't have specific collection contracts (such as residential collection), nor do they retain paid invoices. LACDA will meet with County officials prior to the start of the program to review those issues of concern to the haulers.

### LOS ANGELES AREA DISPOSAL UPDATES

The Lancaster Landfill, owned and operated by Waste Management, has submitted an application to L.A. County for an increase in its daily permitted disposal capacity from 1,700 to 3,000 tons per day. A draft EIR is currently being prepared. Over at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, BFI continues their efforts to develop Phase 1, Unit 2, of the landfill in the City of Los Angeles. As proposed, Phase 1 would provide approximately 7.5 million tons of disposal capacity and an average daily disposal rate of 5,000 t.p.d. Phase 1 development is currently underway and should become operational by June, 2005.

A new CUP has been drafted for the combined operation of the portions of Sunshine Canyon in the City of Los Angeles and the County. On January 12th the County Regional Planning Commission held a public hearing in Granada Hills to receive public comment on the proposal and the draft CUP. The hearing is continued to April 6, 2005.

The Athens MRF, owned and operated by Athens Services, continues to seek approval to increase its operating capacity from 1,920 t.p.d. to 8,500 t.p.d. Two public hearings have been held in 2005 and Planning Commission direction to staff is to revise the conditions of approval to address community concerns including a tonnage limit not to exceed 5,000 t.p.d. The next hearing is set for May 4, 2005.

**L.A. County Non-Exclusive Franchise Agreement draft** for the unincorporated areas of the County continues to work its way through the County Counsel's office. Last September the Board of Supervisors adopted the proposed County Code revisions for authorizing franchising of solid waste collection services in the County unincorporated areas, the ordinance took effect October 28, 2004. County Counsel is finalizing the draft model franchise agreement which would be utilized in establishing future franchises. Comments received from the working group's industry representatives, including LACDA, are being considered in the process and the agreement should be finalized by the end of March. Once the agreement is finalized, Public Works, in consultation with the Board offices, will be conducting a series of community meetings; and based on community input, the franchise agreements will be finalized and submitted to the Board for consideration. **It is anticipated this will be the topic of a LACDA membership dinner meeting in April - provided the document is available.**

# Association News

## PUENTE HILLS MRF TOUR



"So how big is this place," might be the question Board member Dan Agajanian, Direct Disposal, center, is thinking during the recent association Puente Hills MRF tour. The short answer is the MRF is located on 25 acres along Workman Mill Road, adjacent to the Puente Hills Landfill. The building is approximately 217,000 sq. ft..



With a permitted capacity of 4,000 tons/day, and a six-day weekly capacity of 24,000 tons, residual waste will be pushed into containers via these loading drops. The containers will then be trucked to a nearby intermodal facility for rail transport to the Districts-owned and fully permitted Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County, about 200 miles from Los Angeles.

### LACDA BOARD NAMES GIDEON KRACOV ASSN. LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Gideon Kracov has been retained by the LACDA to represent the association as legal counsel in connection with general corporate and regulatory advice. The law office will provide legal services as directed by the association Board of Directors.

"We are glad to be able to have Gideon join us," said Board of Directors Chairman Mark Blackburn of Universal Waste Systems. "As our work environment becomes more complex and regulatory issues continue to expand, legal representation for our association and our members has become a necessity. We are fortunate to have a young man with Gideon's background and experience representing our interests."

Prior to opening his own law firm, Gideon Kracov served as Deputy to Los Angeles City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo. In that role he specialized in environmental issues, the Calif. Environmental Quality Act, regulatory and planning matters and general business matters. He was legal counsel to the Departments of City Planning and Sanitation on regulatory and land use permits for landfills and waste transfer facilities. He negotiated the historic \$168 million settlement from litigation concerning trash in the Los Angeles River. While serving as a city attorney, Gideon prosecuted environmental crimes under the Environmental Justice Initiative.

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## PUENTE HILLS MRF PROJECT FACTSHEET

### FACILITY

Size of Facility: Approx. 217,000 sq. ft.  
Types of Waste Accepted: Municipal Solid Waste  
(Mostly Commercial Waste)  
Permitted Capacity: Max. 24,000 tons/week (Avg. 4,000 tons/day, 6 days/week)

### OPERATION START-UP

Initial Start-Up Capacity: 500 tons/day  
Anticipated Opening/Functioning Date: Mid-2005

### LOCATION/ACCESS

The Puente Hills MRF is located on a 25-acre site along Workman Mill Road adjacent to the Landfill.  
Access to the MRF will be from the Crossroads Parkway entrance to the Landfill. No access to the MRF will be allowed from Workman Mill Road.

### RESIDUAL TRANSFER

Initially the residual solid waste from the MRF will be transported by truck to existing regional landfills. As remaining urban landfills reach their permitted capacity, residual waste will be placed in containers for rail transport to the Districts-owned Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County. Mesquite is scheduled to commence operation in 2009 for waste shipments from L. A. County.

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# Associate's page

Note: In each issue of FOCUS, LACDA spotlights Associate Supplier members. Associate members represent an important part of the association and member haulers are encouraged to do business with member associates who provide products and services to the solid waste industry.

## AMERICAN COMPUTER SERVICES "OUTSOURCING MADE EASY"

ACS, (American Computer Services, Inc.), is "Outsourcing Made Easy". Since 1970 ACS has provided outsourcing services to the refuse industry and municipalities. The firm is unique, their services represent a single source of refuse and water/sewer MIS needs. ACS provides system hosting, printing/mailing, remittance processing, and viewing, printing and payment of bills via the Internet. All services are provided from a modern 8,000 sq. ft. facility in Buena Park.

ACS client's have no need to buy, install, and maintain expensive hardware or software. Clients simply access the ACS systems via dedicated data lines or the Internet. In addition, the company recognizes after 30 years of serving the industry that not all companies operate alike. What is important to one may not be to another. Therefore ACS maintains an in-house programming staff to make changes to the base system to meet the individual needs of each client.

The company maintains their own mail processing equipment and statements/invoices are CASS certified for the optimal postage discount. They are processed by a state-of-the-art folding/inserting facility for prompt entry into the mail stream. Client's preprinted statements/invoices can be warehoused at the ACS facility and customer payments are sent to P.O. boxes (addressed to the client) located at their post office. ACS remittance processing services relieve the client of the tedious job of opening, balancing, posting, and depositing customer payments. Payments are processed and deposited into the client's bank account, and automated clearing house (bank transfer) processing is also available.

In the "innovative and new" category, ACS has developed a generic web site that acts as a link from the client web site. On this generic site the customer can view and print his statements/invoices via the Internet. Both the current and historic statements/invoices are accessible by entering a customer number and a password. ACS interfaces with client banks to provide convenient and secure credit card, debit card and on-line processing for those customers who wish to pay via the Internet. The company maintains a Disaster Recovery Facility with back-up computer systems and trained personnel in the event of a catastrophe at the main facility. These systems receive daily downloads of programs and data files and can be accessed via the Internet.

ACS can be reached at (714) 521-1023 or visit their web site at [www.acsoutsources.com](http://www.acsoutsources.com).

## HEFFERNAN INSURANCE BROKERS SERVING INDUSTRY COVERAGE NEEDS

Heffernan Insurance Brokers, formed in 1988, provides comprehensive insurance and financial services products to a wide range of businesses and individuals throughout California and nationwide. The solid waste industry is one of many industries being served by over 200 employees located at their Walnut Creek headquarters and regional offices in San Francisco, Petaluma, Palo Alto, Los Angeles, Portland and West Palm Beach, Florida.

The company was named Agency of the Year by Rough Notes Magazine in 2003 and is ranked in the top 50 Agents and Brokers by Business Insurance Magazine. Heffernan focuses on providing the highest quality products and services to their clients with a team of experienced professionals who develop creative, competitive and strong solutions to their customer's needs.

Heffernan reports that for the refuse industry the insurance marketplace has continued to become more challenging. They say a few of the issues we are seeing today include:

- Increasing insurance costs with shrinking numbers of carriers
- Alternative workers compensation markets and products
- Restriction in coverage, including pollution and upset/overturn and IEPP certification protocol

The lead producer and market liaison for Heffernan Insurance Broker's refuse program is Peter Picetti who joined the Group in 1997 after working for Picetti & Williams for ten years. Peter is a third generation insurance broker whose other clients include contractors and manufacturers. For more information Peter can be reached as (415) 808-1344 or visit the web site at [www.heffgroup.com](http://www.heffgroup.com).

## LACDA WELCOMES NEW MEMBER WASTEQUIP, INC.

Wastequip, Inc., headquartered in Beachwood, Ohio, manufactures waste equipment at 26 plant locations throughout North America. The company recently acquired assets of the container division of United Steel and Metals, including a production facility in Los Angeles called Wastequip Los Angeles. Wastequip's LACDA representative is Ron Schlemmer who can be reached at (626) 279-5440.

Wastequip's new Los Angeles production facility will serve the Southern California region with a full line of containers, compactors, balers, hook hoists, cable hoists, and other waste handling and recycling products.

"Our new Los Angeles location is another step in our western expansion. This location, along with our Wastequip McLaughlin facility in Lockeford, California, will enable us to serve our western customers with a full line of waste handling and recycling equipment," stated Bob Rasmussen, president and chief executive officer of Wastequip.

Since its founding in 1989, the company has become arguably the nation's largest manufacturer, designer, and marketer of equipment used to collect, process, and transport solid and liquid wastes.

## HULS IN CHINA PREPARING FOR WORLD RECYCLING CONGRESS

Michael Huls, Huls Environmental Management, recently returned from Beijing, China, where he participated in the first meeting of the Scientific Committee of the World Recycling Congress. This was part of the Advisory Committee which is preparing for the 7th World Recycling Congress, entitled the R'05 Congress, set for September 25-29, 2005, in Beijing.

Michael reports the R'05 Congress holds great promise in terms of new technology, markets, green chemistry, and much more. Of particular interest to many are the expected sessions on construction and demolition debris recycling, organics recycling, and similar topics presented by specialists from literally dozens of nations. The working language is English.

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