

State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Resolution 90-57

September 13, 1990

Agenda Item No.: 90-13-4

WHEREAS, the Air Resources Board ("Board") and the federal Environmental Protection Agency have independently established health-based ambient air quality standards for ozone, and these standards are frequently exceeded in several of the state's air basins;

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code sections 39003, 39500, 39602, and 41500 authorize the Board to coordinate, encourage, and review efforts to achieve and maintain the state and national ambient air quality standards;

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code sections 39600 and 39605 authorize the Board to act as necessary to execute the powers and duties granted to and imposed upon the Board and to assist the local air pollution control and air quality management districts;

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 41805.5 directs the districts to evaluate the air quality solid waste assessment test reports in consultation with the Department of Health Services and the Integrated Waste Management Board and take appropriate remedial action at sites where levels of one or more specified air contaminants pose a threat to human health or the environment;

WHEREAS, the statewide Technical Review Group, consisting of staff representatives of EPA, the Board, and local air pollution control and air quality management districts, has developed and approved a proposed Suggested Control Measure for the control of landfill gas emissions (the "Suggested Control Measure") and has forwarded the Suggested Control Measure to the Board for consideration;

WHEREAS, several air pollution control and air quality management districts in California have already implemented requirements for the control of landfill gas emissions, and their experience has been beneficial in developing the Suggested Control Measure;

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act and Board regulations require that no project having significant adverse environmental impacts be adopted as originally proposed unless feasible alternatives or mitigation measures are available to reduce or eliminate such impacts;

WHEREAS, the Board has held a duly noticed public meeting to consider approval of the Technical Review Group's Suggested Control Measure for landfill gas emissions, has heard and considered the comments presented by representatives of the Board, Technical Review Group, districts, affected industries, and other interested persons and agencies, and has made appropriate modifications to the Suggested Control Measure;

WHEREAS, in consideration of the Staff Report, written comments and public testimony it has received, the Board finds that:

The emissions of non-methane organic compounds contained in landfill gas contribute to the exceedance in many areas of the state of both state and national ambient air quality standards for ozone;

The control and reduction of emissions of non-methane organic compounds is necessary to the attainment and maintenance of the state and national ambient air quality standards for ozone;

The implementation of the Suggested Control Measure will reduce the emissions of non-methane organic compounds from landfills;

The implementation of the Suggested Control Measure will reduce the health threat to individuals exposed to uncontrolled emissions of landfill gas at sites containing potentially significant levels of toxic contaminants;

The technology to control landfill gas emissions to the extent provided in the Suggested Control Measure is reasonably available and cost-effective; and

WHEREAS, the Board further finds that:

Adoption of the proposed Suggested Control Measure may result in significant adverse environmental impacts from the emissions of secondary pollutants associated with the combustion of landfill gas and noise impacts on surrounding populations associated with the operation of landfill gas collection systems;

Emissions of secondary pollutants such as carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides may be substantially mitigated by application of best available control technology and, in some cases, through offsets obtained in accordance with district new source review requirements;

Noise impacts on surrounding populations from landfill gas collection and disposal equipment may be mitigated by locating the equipment in an enclosure or in a remote area of the site;

The proposed Suggested Control Measure would result in significant air quality benefits due to reductions of non-methane organic compounds which react to form ozone and site specific reductions in emissions of toxic or odorous compounds at sites having either of these problems, and these considerations override the potential adverse environmental impacts described above; and

Other than the mitigation measures described above, there are no feasible mitigation measures or other alternatives that would substantially reduce the adverse environmental impacts described above, while at the same time providing the substantial overall public health benefits realized by the significant emission reductions of non-methane organic compounds, toxic compounds, and odorous compounds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the Suggested Control Measure, as modified, for control of landfill gas emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Officer is directed to forward the Suggested Control Measure to the air pollution control and air quality management districts for consideration and adoption in regulatory form to the extent necessary to provide for the attainment and maintenance of the ambient air quality standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Officer is directed to provide assistance to any district requesting assistance in adopting, interpreting, or implementing the Suggested Control Measure.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Resolution 90-57, as adopted by the Air Resources Board.

Pat Hutchins for

Judith M. Lounsbury, Board Secretary