



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460
www.lacountyiswmtf.org

DONALD L. WOLFE
CHAIRMAN

June 4, 2007

The Honorable Cameron Smyth
State Capitol, Room 4153
Sacramento, CA 94249-0038

Dear Assembly Member Smyth:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 1207 (INTRODUCED ON FEBRUARY 23, 2007)
USURPING LOCAL CONTROL ON LAND APPLICATION OF BIOSOLIDS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **opposes** Assembly Bill 1207 (AB 1207), which would override local land use authority and ordinances on the management of biosolids via yet unwritten State standards.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, as amended), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and its 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of 10 million. Consistent with these responsibilities, and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally-sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a Countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

AB 1207 would require the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board) to adopt regulations for the land application of biosolids. The bill would void any existing local ordinances or regulations regarding the land application of biosolids, and prohibit local jurisdictions from enacting future ordinances or regulations that are contrary or inconsistent with the Waste Board's regulations on land application of biosolids. This would effectively undermine local governments' land use authority

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regarding facilities within its own boundaries. For example, a host jurisdiction would be prohibited from imposing regulations on a facility's hours of operation, zoning regulation, quantity of biosolids received on a daily basis, and the distance a facility can be from residences, schools, and hospitals. In fact, a host jurisdiction would not be able to prevent the development of a biosolids land application or composting operation, so long as the operation met the minimum regulations as developed by the Waste Board.

Therefore, the Task Force **opposes** AB 1207 unless it is amended to avoid and prohibit any encroachment by state agencies into the local governments' land use authority. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Council Member, City of Rosemead

CP:\CW\P\Sec\AB 1207

cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez
Each Member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
California Integrated Waste Management Board
California Water Resources Board
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles
Each City Councilmember of the City of Los Angeles
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
Southern California Association of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Solid Waste Association of North America
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County