



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](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

DONALD L. WOLFE  
CHAIRMAN

May 17, 2007

The Honorable Mike Feuer  
State Capitol Room 4005  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0042

Dear Assembly Member Feuer:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 1473 (AMENDED APRIL 11, 2007)  
SOLID WASTE FACILITY PERMIT ENFORCEMENT**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1473 (AB 1473), which among other things, would provide local enforcement agencies limited discretion in enforcing cease and desist orders for recycling facilities.

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.

Currently, State law prohibits the operation of a solid waste facility without a Solid Waste Facilities Permit. If the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) determines that a facility is operating illegally, the LEA must issue a cease and desist order. AB 1473 would authorize the LEA to stay its cease and desist order for up to three years if the solid waste facility meets the following requirements: a) accepts only source-separated materials for recycling; b) makes a good faith effort in obtaining a Solid Waste Facility Permit; c) an environmental document is being, or has been prepared for the facility;

The Honorable Mike Feuer  
May 17, 2007  
Page 2

d) the facility has been operating on or before January 1, 2007; and e) the facility is otherwise operating in compliance with State law.

California's cities, counties and private industry have invested billions of dollars in recycling infrastructure in order to meet the State's 50 percent waste reduction mandate (AB 939, as amended). Many jurisdictions have come to rely on recycling facilities processing source-separated materials in order to meet their recycling goals and manage their waste streams properly. By providing Local Enforcement Agencies with a limited discretionary authority (as proposed by AB 1473), facilities can be brought into compliance without forcing them to shutdown; hence avoiding the possibility of diverting recyclables towards unnecessary disposal and jeopardizing a jurisdiction's ability to meet the State's 50 percent waste reduction mandate.

Therefore the Task Force **supports** AB 1473. 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

CS:

cc: Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez  
Each Member of the Assembly Appropriation Committee  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation  
California Integrated Waste Management Board  
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors  
Each City Mayor in the County 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  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force