

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

April 25, 2013

The Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair Assembly Natural Resources Committee 1020 N Street, Room 164 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblyman Chesbro:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1021 (AMENDED APRIL 22, 2013) ALTERNATIVE ENERGY: RECYCLED FEEDSTOCK

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports if amended** Assembly Bill 1021 (AB 1021). If enacted this bill would expand eligibility for financial assistance from the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (Authority) for projects that process or utilize recycled feedstock that is intended to be reused in the production of another product or soil amendment.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939 (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 the 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of ten 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, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

The Task Force has long supported measures that would encourage the full utilization of recycled feedstock. The Task Force has also been an ardent supporter of conversion technologies which are non-combustion thermal, biological, and chemical process that are capable of converting post recycled solid waste into useful products. However, we are concerned that the language in AB 1021 is too board, allowing any project that utilizes recycled materials to apply for funding without any thresholds of significance or prioritization.

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In addition, it is unclear if the bill would allow conversion technologies to qualify for the funding, although conversion technologies are more closely aligned to the original intent of this funding source. In light of limited funding for the program, prioritization is essential for the full realization of the intent of this measure as well to limit or avoid funding projects that utilize marginal amounts of recycled feedstock.

Therefore, the Task Force **supports** AB 1021 **only if it is amended** to clarify the types of projects that would be included to prioritize projects and include conversion technologies.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at <u>MikeMohajer@yahoo.com</u> or (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark

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

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cc: Assemblymember Susan Eggman Each Member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles Each City Recycling Cordinator in Los Angeles County Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force Each Member of the Los Angeles County Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee Gateway Cities Council of Governments San Fernando Valley Coucil of Governments South Bay Cities Council of Governments Westside Cities Council of Governments