



GAIL FARBER, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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April 11, 2013

Ms. Caroll Mortensen, Director
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
1001 I Street
PO Box 4025
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

Dear Ms. Mortensen:

AB 341 (2011): 75% DIVERSION GOAL - CALRECYCLE REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), I would like to request the opportunity for public input on the AB 341 Report to the Legislature (Report) prior to the report being submitted.

Assembly Bill 341 (Chapter 476 of the State Statute of 2011) requires CalRecycle to submit a report to the legislature by January 1, 2014, detailing how the State will achieve a goal of reducing the amount of waste disposed by at least 75% through source reduction, recycling, and composting. On May 9, 2012, CalRecycle released the draft Report that suggested monumental structural and legislative changes to the way solid waste has been managed in California for the last several decades. The Task Force reviewed and submitted detailed comments on that draft Report on May 30, 2012, a copy enclosed.

Since the original release of the draft Report, stakeholders from the public and private sectors, including the Task Force, have submitted numerous comments in writing and in person at CalRecycle-sponsored workshops related to the draft Report and its various elements. While the Task Force has been encouraged by your past comments that the draft Report was a conversation starter, we have yet to receive any formal responses to our comments, and have yet to see a revised version of the draft Report. As such, it is unclear what, if any, stakeholder feedback CalRecycle has incorporated in the recommendations that will ultimately be submitted to the Legislature. We have also recently heard assertions by representatives of your agency that the Report may not be released to the public for review or comments prior to being submitted to the Legislature. Given the scope and magnitude of the changes being proposed, in addition to the diverse array of feedback received to date on the various proposals, it is crucial to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to review and provide comments on the final draft of the Report prior to it being submitted to the Legislature for further action.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 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, cost-

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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.

We would appreciate a written response stating whether or not a review of the Report will be available for public comment prior to submittal to the Legislature. Should you or a member of your staff have any question regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (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

Enc.

cc:

Matt Rodriguez, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency
Martha Aceves-Guzman, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Brown
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Each Member of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
Each Member of the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee