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MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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July 29, 2013

The Honorable Kevin De Leon, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator De Leon:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 997 (AMENDED JUNE 18, 2013)
SOLID WASTE: ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 997 (AB 997). This bill clarifies that when carrying out duties and enforcing provisions specified by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Act), a local enforcement agency (LEA) acts independently of the local governing body; however, when an LEA is enforcing local ordinances they do so under the authority of the local governing body and not the State.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the Act, 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-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.

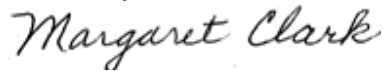
LEAs are designated by the local governing body and must subsequently be certified by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to enforce provisions of the Act. LEAs are usually a department within a local government; for instance, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is the LEA for the Los Angeles County unincorporated areas and all cities in Los Angeles County with the exception of the Cities of Los Angeles, Vernon, and West Covina. Under this authority, LEAs are responsible for inspecting, permitting, and otherwise regulating solid waste facilities within their jurisdictions. When performing these duties, the LEAs are doing so

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under the direction and authority of the Act and regulations adopted by CalRecycle. However, current law leaves uncertainty regarding the relationship between CalRecycle, LEAs and local governing bodies of municipalities. This bill will simply clarify that LEAs are independent from the local governing body when carrying out enforcement programs mandated by the Act.

The Task Force supports a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities for agencies throughout the state. Therefore, the Task Force is pleased to **support** AB 997. If you have any questions, 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

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cc: Assembly Member Wesley Chesbro
Caroll Mortensen, Director, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Each Member of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles 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 City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (Dr. Jonathan Fielding,
Angelo Bellomo, Jacqueline Taylor, Cindy Chen)
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force