



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

GAIL FARBER, CHAIR
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

June 14, 2010

Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

Dear Mr. Movassaghi:

**COMMENTS REGARDING THE SAFER CONSUMER PRODUCT ALTERNATIVES
DRAFT OUTLINE FOR REGULATIONS**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) would like to provide comments regarding the Safer Consumer Product Alternatives Draft Outline for Regulations (Outline) developed by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) as an integral part of California's Green Chemistry Initiative (Initiative) released on April 15, 2010. Specifically, we would like to provide comments for your consideration regarding the Regulatory Response Action section of the Outline due to its correlation to solid waste as it relates to the end-of-life management of a product.

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 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 County-wide 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.

The Task Force previously commented on the *End-of-Life Management* regulatory response as presented in the Straw Proposal, recommending developing language that corresponds with the Overall Framework for an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) System in California as developed by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (now the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, or CalRecycle). Over the years, the Task Force has been an adamant supporter of EPR as a mechanism for protecting the public and the environment at the source. As such, we strongly recommend regulations regarding disposal issues follow the EPR Framework Policy. The principles of Green Chemistry align with the principles of EPR, which call for preventing rather than treating or cleaning up waste, and developing incentives for remanufacturing products to reduce or eliminate waste and in turn protect public health. A crucial component to manufacturer responsibility is ensuring end-of-life management of discarded products.

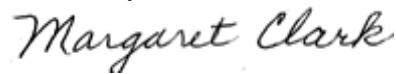
Upon reviewing the end-of-life management options in the Regulatory Response Actions section of the Outline, the Task Force finds it generally in accordance with CalRecycle's Overall EPR Framework. However, to provide a comprehensive yet flexible method for managing products that have significant impacts on the environment and to reduce the potential for different interpretations in the language of the Regulations, the Task Force recommends fully delineating the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder group, as called for in the *Overall EPR Framework*. For example, for each of the categories of responsibilities identified (system effectiveness, informational/outreach, physical management, and financial management), DTSC should specify the stakeholder group responsible (Producer, Retailer, Consumer, State Government, Local Government, Haulers/Collectors, Recyclers/ Processors, Advisory Committees/Local Task Forces).

Furthermore, comprehensively regulating all consumer products and identifying chemicals and products of concern is a far-reaching goal. In order to ensure attainment of that goal and ensure proper end-of-life management, incorporating and specifying a minimum collection rate percentage in take-back programs is necessary to have measureable goals and quantifiable results.

Maziar Movassaghi
June 14, 2010
Page 3

The Task Force is always eager to aid in the development of good solid waste management policies that affect Los Angeles County. We appreciate your consideration of our comments in the ongoing development of the Safer Consumer Products Alternatives Regulations and the considerable time and effort your staff has put into developing Draft Outline for Regulations. We look forward to reviewing the next draft of the regulations. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer 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

MS/RG:ts

P:\epub\ENGPLAN\TASK FORCE\Letters\Draft Outline Comment Letter.doc

cc: Linda S. Adams, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency
Lester A. Snow, Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency
Margo Reid Brown, Director, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
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
California Product Stewardship Council
Southern California Association of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force