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LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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May 7, 2012

The Honorable Christine Kehoe, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2206  
Sacramento, CA 94248-0001

Dear Senator Kehoe:

**SUPPORT IF AMENDED SENATE BILL 1128 (AMENDED MAY 1, 2012)  
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FINANCING**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports, if amended** Senate Bill 1128 (SB 1128) which, if enacted, would allow the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority to expand a sales and use tax exemption to include projects that promote the utilization of advanced manufacturing.

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 supports legislative efforts that promote alternative sources of energy and the State economy. While the Bill's intentions include both of these aspirations, if enacted as amended, it would exclude the eligibility of the tax exemption for the purchasing of manufacturing equipment designed for projects associated with certain viable renewable energy technology processes collectively known as Conversion Technologies (CTs). SB 1128 does include a biomass as an eligible renewable energy technology process, but according to Public Resources Code (PRC) 40106, "biomass conversion" excludes proven technologies such as anaerobic digestion and gasification which convert unrecyclable residual municipal solid waste into green fuels and

renewable energy. The inclusion of these proven technologies would help bring the intentions of this bill to fruition.

Each year, nearly 40 million tons of solid waste is disposed by residents and businesses in California. Converting this waste to green fuels would curb greenhouse gas emissions and could substantially reduce the amount of organic waste sent to landfills. Additionally, CT projects create a range of new, high-tech green collar jobs in scientific research and development, engineering, construction, and facility operations. Moreover, converting organic waste into green fuels would reduce vehicular emissions resulting from long distance shipping of waste and eliminate methane production from organic waste that would otherwise be landfilled.

The Task Force has been an ardent supporter of CTs and believes this bill is a great opportunity for the State to incentivize an industry that has the potential to provide multifaceted environmental and economic benefits. For more information on CTs, please visit [www.SoCalConversion.org](http://www.SoCalConversion.org).

For these reasons, the Task Force **supports** SB 1128, **if amended** to expand the eligibility of CT projects including, but not limited to, anaerobic digestion and gasification. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto: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: Senator Alex Padilla  
Senator Michael Rubio  
Each Member of Senate Appropriations Committee  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles  
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