



GAIL FARBER, CHAIR  
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

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](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

March 28, 2016

The Honorable Ben Hueso, Chair  
Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee  
State Capital Room 4035  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Senator Hueso:

### **SENATE BILL 1213: RENEWABLE ENERGY: BIOSOLIDS: MATCHING GRANTS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 1213 (SB 1213), as introduced February 18, 2016. Among other things, this bill would require the State Resources Conservation Commission to develop and implement the Biosolids to Clean Energy Grant Program in order to provide matching funds to local wastewater agencies for biosolids to clean energy capital projects.

Pursuant to the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939 [AB 939], as amended) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, 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, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Biosolids, which is a type of organic solid waste left over after waste water treatment, is often managed by landfill disposal and/or land application. With the enactment of Statewide policies and legislation intended to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emission by, among other things, reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills, jurisdictions and waste agencies are in need of viable options and resources to safely process organic waste such as biosolids.

The Honorable Ben Hueso  
March 28, 2015  
Page 2

SB 1213 would establish a matching grant program funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which would assist local waste water treatment agencies in developing capital projects to process biosolids into heat energy or electricity, low-carbon fuels, or other useful products by using non-incineration technologies. Increased processing of biosolids in this manner would reduce the need to landfill biosolids, thereby reducing landfill emission of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

The proposed legislation also makes a one-time appropriation of \$12 million for the Bay Area Biosolids to Energy Coalition for the development of a regional biosolids-to-energy project in the Dublin San Ramon Services District, with an estimated development cost of \$24 million. The Task Force respectfully requests that the bill be amended to also provide a "one-time" appropriation to those Publically Owned Treatment Works that have emissions above the State cap-and-trade program limit for their operations, in order to bring their facilities into compliance.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** SB 1213 with requested amendment. 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  
Mayor, City of Rosemead

GA:kk

P:\epplib\EA\EA\TF\TF\Letters\2016\March\SB1213SEUC.doc

cc: Each Member of the Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee  
Jay Dickenson, Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee Consultant  
California State Association of Counties  
League of California Cities  
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities 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  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force