



DONALD L. WOLFE
CHAIRMAN

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

February 13, 2006

Dear City Mayor:

DIVERSION CREDIT FOR SOURCE SEPERATED GREENWASTE USED AS ALTERNATIVE DAILY COVER

On July 12, 2005, the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) sent a letter to the Legislature opposing Senate Bill 411 (SB 411) (Alarcon), a proposal to eliminate diversion credit for the use of green waste as alternative daily cover (ADC) at landfills (copy enclosed).

Currently, the vast majority of jurisdictions in Los Angeles County utilize green waste as ADC, and many of them rely upon this beneficial use to meet the State's 50 percent waste diversion mandate. In Los Angeles County, green waste accounts for approximately 15 percent of the waste stream, and its beneficial use as ADC has a significant positive impact on the diversion rates of local jurisdictions. If SB 411 had been enacted, it would have put jurisdictions in jeopardy of failing to mathematically comply with the diversion mandate and incurring fines of up to \$10,000 per day.

In January 2006, SB 411 was quickly moving towards passage, however, the Bill stalled in committee thanks to the vigorous opposition of the Task Force and others. Nevertheless, there continues to be a strong movement towards elimination of the diversion credit by influential special interests, and similar legislation could be introduced at any time. That's why it is vitally important for local governments to express their position on this matter. The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County recently informed its member cities regarding this issue and included a sample letter (copy enclosed) that you may use as a template. We encourage you to write to your legislative representatives in Sacramento conveying your City's position.

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 its 88 cities in Los Angeles County. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective 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

City Mayor
February 13, 2006
Page 2

Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (626) 569-2100 or your staff may contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Councilmember, City of Rosemead

VJ/CS:ro

P:\eppub\Secfinal\Task Force\Letters\SB411.doc

cc: Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Each City Manager in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County