

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

May 2, 2006

The Honorable Paul Koretz State Capitol Room 4140 Sacramento, CA 94249-0042

Dear Assembly Member Koretz:

ASSEMBLY BILL 2271 (AMENDED APRIL 4, 2006) RECYCLING HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 2271 (AB 2271), which would increase opportunities for residents to recycle their household batteries.

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

Each year, California consumers generate significant quantities of household hazardous waste, including millions of household batteries. In response, local governments have established household hazardous waste management programs, such as the Los Angeles County Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Management Program. However, the nature of household batteries, which was recently designated by the State as hazardous, being small in size, prolific, and viewed by the average resident as non-hazardous, makes their efficient management a challenge to local governments. AB 2271, if enacted, gives consumers a financial incentive to recycle their batteries and makes it more convenient for them to do so by establishing a 10-cent consumer redemption value on each household battery, helping establish convenient battery collection centers, and providing funding for additional public education activities. To offset local government costs, AB 2271 also

The Honorable Paul Koretz May 2, 2006 Page 2

provides per capita funding to local governments for additional recycling and education activities.

Therefore, the Task Force **supports** AB 2271, since it would increase recycling rates for batteries, support the goal of producer responsibility, and further protect the environment. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark
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\AB 2271.doc

cc: Governor Schwarzenegger

Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez

Each Member of the Assembly Appropriation Committee

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation

Each Member of the California Integrated Waste Management Board

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

Southern California Association of Governments

Gateway Cities Council of Governments

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Solid Waste Association of North America

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force