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CHAIRMAN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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[www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

February 16, 2005

The Honorable Owen Newcomer  
Mayor of City of Whittier  
13230 Penn Street  
Whittier, CA 90602-1772

Dear Mayor Newcomer:

### **LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT REVISION**

The County of Los Angeles, in coordination with the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), is currently revising the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element (CSE).

Pursuant to Section 41700, et. seq., of the California Public Resources Code, the CSE addresses the solid waste disposal needs of all 88 cities in the County of Los Angeles as well as the unincorporated communities in the County of Los Angeles, for a 15-year planning period. The existing CSE was approved in October 1997 by a majority of the cities within the County which contained a majority of the incorporated population. The CSE was subsequently approved by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors in January 1998, and ultimately approved by the California Integrated Waste Management Board in June 1998.

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 by the County and the 88 cities in the County of Los Angeles. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective solid waste management system in the County of Los Angeles, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the solid waste management system on a Countywide 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.

As part of the CSE revision process, the Task Force is reevaluating the CSE's current goals and policies with respect to the expansion of existing landfills within the County of Los Angeles. The Task Force would like to know if the City of Whittier has any objections to the following revised language contained in the second bullet below regarding the potential Savage Canyon Landfill expansion(s) within the City.

The cities in the County of Los Angeles, the County, and the Task Force will encourage and assist the development, to the maximum extent feasible, of in-County disposal capacity available for expansion, provided it is technically feasible and environmentally sound. The jurisdiction where a specific facility is located will make the final determination as to the use of this capacity.

Specifically, the jurisdictions in Los Angeles County will encourage the following:

- the full development of potentially available capacity at the Scholl Canyon Landfill in the City of Glendale
- the full development of potentially available capacity at the Savage Canyon Landfill in the City of Whittier
- the full development of potentially available capacity at the Antelope Valley Landfill in the City of Palmdale
- the full development of potentially available capacity at the Bradley Landfill in the City of Los Angeles, provided that it is environmentally sound and technically feasible as determined by the Task Force

Please note that any potential landfill expansion identified in the CSE must still (1) comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act; (2) comply with local land use permit/conditions; and (3) obtain a Finding of Conformance from the Task Force, including ensuring compliance with the Siting Criteria of the CSE.

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We look forward to your City's written response regarding this matter. We would appreciate a response from your City by March 15, 2005. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Very truly yours,



Michael Miller, Vice-chair  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force  
Mayor, City of West Covina

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cc: Each Council Member in the City of Whittier  
City of Whittier (Stephen Helvey)