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CHAIRMAN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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November 1, 2005

The Honorable Loni Hancock  
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
State Capitol  
Room 4126  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0014

Dear Chairwoman Hancock:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 1090: CONVERSION TECHNOLOGIES  
COMMITTEE HEARING**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) supports Assembly Bill 1090 (AB 1090), which would reprioritize the waste management hierarchy to include conversion technologies, redefine these technologies more accurately, and allow jurisdictions that use conversion technology facilities to obtain diversion credit toward meeting their 50 percent diversion goal.

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 for the County of Los Angeles and its 88 cities. 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, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

We understand the Assembly Natural Resources Committee has scheduled a hearing on November 16, 2005, regarding this bill, and we wish to stress the importance of the bill's implication on solid waste management in California. Conversion technologies refer to a wide array of technologies that are capable of reducing greenhouse gases, increasing diversion rates, and reducing dependence on landfilling and finite fossil fuels, all while complementing the existing recycling infrastructure and meeting California's strict environmental regulations. Conversion technologies can address not only the State's

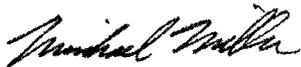
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growing solid waste management needs, but can also utilize California's abundant excess biomass and organic wastes to generate locally produced clean and renewable energy and green fuels, including electricity, biodiesel, and ethanol. In addition, California statutes relating to conversion technologies are technically inaccurate and create unrealistic burdens for the development of much needed alternatives to landfilling and incineration. Without the opportunity to demonstrate the true environmental impacts and benefits of these technologies to handle post-recycled solid waste materials, California will fall behind in the advancement of solid waste management. Therefore, it is critical for this committee to allow AB 1090 to move forward so that these technologies have the ability to be evaluated on a level playing field, based on their relative environmental benefits and impacts, and not be obstructed simply because of regulatory hurdles or lack of locally relevant data.

Because of their ability to reduce dependence on landfills and recover waste materials for beneficial use, the consensus among local jurisdictions throughout the State has been to support consideration of conversion technologies, which AB 1090 would facilitate. Many cities, counties, and other stakeholders have already expressed their support for the passage of this bill, and will be monitoring the results of this hearing. We hope to see unanimous approval of AB 1090 out of committee, so that the full legislature can consider the bill.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Michael Miler, Vice-Chair  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee

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cc: Assemblymember Barbara Mathews  
Each Member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Each Member of the Assembly Agriculture Committee  
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor's Los Angeles Field Office  
Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs  
Cabinet Secretary (Terry Tamminen)  
Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Alan C. Lloyd)  
Each Member of the California Integrated Waste Management Board  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County State Legislative Delegation  
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  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles Counties  
Each Member of the City of Los Angeles Public Works Commission  
City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation  
Los Angeles Regional Agency  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management  
Task Force  
Each Member of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee