



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU  
CHAIRMAN

October 1, 2008

Mr. Richard Dixon, President  
Southern California Association of Governments  
818 West Seventh Street, 12th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017-3435

Dear Mr. Dixon:

**SUPPORT FOR THE SOLID WASTE CHAPTER OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS DRAFT 2008 REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

On behalf on the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), I want to thank you for the opportunity to review the Solid Waste Chapter of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Draft 2008 Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). On July 17, 2008, the Task Force considered the subject document and voted unanimously in support of the Solid Waste Chapter. The Task Force commends SCAG's effort in developing the Plan to guide sustainable development and promote environmental policies that would help "green" the region and to address solid waste management issues facing the region.

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 in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of ten million. Consistent with these responsibilities, and to ensure a coordinated, cost-effective solid 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, 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.

The Task Force recognizes that lack of realistic and proper solid waste management planning in the region could have serious health and safety, economic, and environmental consequences. We also recognize that the development of solid waste management facilities is becoming much more complex and costly. As a result, consistent with the

Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element and Summary Plan, the Task Force supports the Solid Waste Chapter's strategy to (1) achieve maximum diversion by emphasizing on "life-cycle" analysis while distributing the responsibility to minimize waste generation on both the consumer and producer, (2) utilize a combination of local and remote landfills for disposal of the residual solid waste in the short-term, and (3) in the mid- and long-term, move to a system of waste prevention and minimization of landfill disposal through a variety of waste management strategies, including conversion technologies with diversion credit.

Moreover, the Task Force supports the Solid Waste Chapter's proposed new solid waste management hierarchy based on a "new paradigm" that relies more heavily on reducing first, then reuse, recycling, conversion technologies and finally disposal to landfill.

The Task Force realizes the need for a combination of short-term, mid-term and long-term policies and actions to effectively address our regional solid waste issues. The Task Force also understands a coordinated effort is critical to implement such policies in the region. Therefore, the Task Force will continue to assist and collaborate with SCAG on the RCP and in developing a regional approach to addressing solid waste management issues.

If you have any questions, please 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  
Council Member, City of Rosemead

BC:cw

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cc: Chair, SCAG Energy and Environmental Committee (Keith Hanks)  
SCAG Executive Director (Hasan Ikhata)  
SCAG (Jacob Lieb)  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,  
Each City Mayor in Los Angeles County  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management  
Task Force  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments