



DONALD L. WOLFE  
CHAIRMAN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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March 30, 2006

Margo Reid Brown, Chair  
California Integrated Waste Management Board  
Cal-EPA Building  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

Dear Chairperson Brown:

**CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE  
AB 2770 (MATTHEWS, 2002)**

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), I would like to congratulate you on your appointment to California Integrated Waste Management Board and election as its Chair. The purpose of this letter is to follow up with you regarding the status of the Assembly Bill 2770 Report to the Legislature regarding conversion technologies (which your Board approved over a year ago), as well as the supplemental document to that Report (which your Board voted to create in order to provide details beyond what was statutorily requested by Assembly Bill 2770). To date, it is our understanding that neither document has been released to the public.

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.

We appreciate the Waste Board's continuing efforts to evaluate and promote alternatives to landfilling and pursue new promising technologies that can improve and even revolutionize our solid waste management system. As part of those efforts, on

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March 15, 2005, the California Integrated Waste Management Board formally adopted the *Conversion Technology Report to the Legislature*. This Report was prepared by the University of California at Davis, University of California at Riverside and others (under contract with the Waste Board) in response to a request from the State Legislature in 2002. At a cost of nearly \$1.5 million dollars and three years of intense study, the Report represents a culmination of efforts by the Waste Board and stakeholders to assess the current status and best course of action regarding conversion technologies in the State. Conversion technologies, already popular in Europe and Japan, not only would reduce our dependence on landfills but would also reduce net greenhouse gas emissions and other criteria pollutants, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and create local, sustainable "green collar" jobs. At a time of dwindling fuel supplies, energy disruptions, and significant need for economic development, emission reductions and sustainable renewable energy sources, California needs conversion technologies now more than ever.

Regrettably, in the midst of discussions that will determine the future of conversion technologies in the State and the nation, the critical information contained in the March 15, 2005, version of the Report has been entirely withheld from the public and key decision-makers because the Waste Board rescinded the Report and has yet to re-release it. As an expert source of comprehensive and impartial solid waste information, the Waste Board is relied upon by stakeholders and decision-makers throughout California to formulate sound public policy. Thus, the Task Force urges the Waste Board once again to release the Report to the public, so that this relevant information is available to decisions makers at this critical juncture. The Task Force also requests to be provided with the date that the subject Report and its Supplemental Report would be **officially** released.

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  
Council Member, City of Rosemead

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cc: Each Member of the California Integrated Waste Management Board  
Each Member of the California Energy Commission  
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors  
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles  
Federal Office of Science and Technology Policy  
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  
Each Member of the City of Los Angeles' Ad Hoc RENEW LA Committee  
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, Davis  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force