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MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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March 11, 2015

The Honorable Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assembly Member Williams:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 199 (INTRODUCED JANUARY 29, 2015)
SUPPORT IF AMENDED
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY: RECYCLED FEEDSTOCK**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 199 (AB 199), **if amended**. In its current form, AB 199 would provide tax incentives for certain projects that utilize recycled feedstock. The Task Force respectfully requests this bill be amended to clarify that projects using recycled feedstock to produce fuels or other type of renewable energy are eligible for these same tax credits.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939 [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 the 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 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, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

The Task Force has long supported measures that would encourage the full utilization of recycled feedstock. The Task Force has also been among the State's most ardent supporters of utilizing organic waste for the creation of biofuels or other type of renewable energy. Proven and safe conversion technologies such as anaerobic digestion are capable of creating biofuels from organic waste that would otherwise be disposed. However, while these technologies provide a multitude of

benefits, they are costly to startup and require large capital investment. This tax incentive could assist with the initial financing of these types of biofuel projects.

The Task Force respectfully requests an amendment that clarifies “products” include low-carbon fuels or other type of renewable energy created from recovered feedstock. Our proposal is closely aligned with the original intent of this tax incentive: to promote, among other things, California-based jobs and the reduction of greenhouse gases. The Task Force believes this tax incentive would assist in the development of California’s market for renewable fuel and energy, by encouraging investment in new and innovative low-carbon fuel or other renewable energy projects within the State.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** AB 199, **if amended** to clarify projects that produce low-carbon fuel or other renewable energy from recovered feedstock are eligible for the tax incentive. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Susan Talamantes-Eggman
Each Member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force