



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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June 29, 2020

The Honorable Ben Hueso, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications
State Capitol, Room 4035
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Hueso:

**SUPPORT – ASSEMBLY BILL 3163 (SALAS) AS AMENDED ON MAY 14, 2020 –
ENERGY: BIOMETHANE: PROCUREMENT**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 3163 (AB 3163), as amended on May 14, 2020.

If enacted, the proposed legislation would revise the definition of “biomethane” for the Public Utility Commission’s procurement targets and goals for each gas corporation, as methane produced from an organic waste feedstock, rather than biogas, that meets those specified standards, and is either produced from the anaerobic decomposition of organic material, or produced from the non-combustion thermal conversion of specified materials. Organic waste feedstock is further expanded to include both livestock waste, and sewage sludge or biosolids.

The Task Force **supports** the proposed legislation because the bill furthers the Task Force’s position that additional forms of non-combustion thermal conversion ought to be eligible for much needed biomethane procurement, allowing for more efficient production and quantities of biomethane from waste and for more short-lived climate pollutants emission reductions. If enacted, the legislation would also help local jurisdictions divert more waste from landfill to meet state’s organic waste reduction goal to divert 75 percent of organic landfill waste and put waste to beneficial use per Senate Bill 1383 (Lara, 2016).

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939), 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 and cost-effective and environmentally

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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, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force **supports** AB 3163 as indicated on this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



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

EC:gl:cso

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cc: Assembly Member Salas
Each Member and staff of the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and
Communications
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Sachi A. Hamai, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
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 City Recycling Coordinator in the County of Los Angeles
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management
Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force