



MARK PESTRELLA, CHAIR
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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June 26, 2017

Assembly Member Cristina Garcia
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249

Dear Assembly Member Garcia:

OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED ASSEMBLY BILL 378 (CRISTINA GARCIA, CHRIS HOLDEN, AND EDUARDO GARCIA): GREENHOUSE GASES, CRITERIA AIR POLLUTANTS, AND TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) respectfully **opposes** Assembly Bill 378 (AB 378) as amended on, May 30, 2017, **unless amended to address the concerns expressed in this letter**. If enacted, AB 378, would authorize the Air Resources Board's (ARB) to extend their cap and trade program to 2030. Among other things, the bill would also require ARB to consider and account for the social costs of emissions when adopting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The Task Force is supportive of efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and combat climate change; however, the existing cap and trade program lacks an efficient and effective allocation of the proceeds generated from the program. There must be a more clear process for determining the proceeds allocation such as prioritizing projects that reduce the largest amount of GHG emissions per dollar invested, considering the potency of each individual GHG, (emphasis added). AB 378 must include this process if extending the program.

Organic waste diversion projects are a clear example of a cost-effective solution to reducing a significant amount of methane, the most potent GHG; yet, the funding allocations for organic waste diversion have been vastly inadequate and insignificant over the years. Additionally, the State has established numerous methane reduction, waste diversion, and organic waste reduction goals which are not feasible to achieve without a substantial increase in funding. According to ARB's proposed Short-Lived

Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy (SLCP Strategy), approximately fifty-four new facilities would need to be built in the state by 2020 and approximately seventy-three new facilities would need to be built by 2025 in order to achieve the organic diversion targets in Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383, 2016). The SLCP Strategy estimates that the capital cost to build enough facilities to achieve 75 percent organics diversion is over \$2 billion, emphasis added. The 2016 GHG reduction funding for organic waste diversion projects was only a mere \$20 million. Organic waste diversion projects that develop the necessary infrastructure require an equitable share of funds in order to meet the State's goals.

The Task Force respectfully request an amendment to include reasonable funding for projects that cost-effectively reduce the greatest amount of GHG emissions, specifically identifying organic waste diversion infrastructure.

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 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 respectfully **opposes unless amended** AB 378. 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
Council Member, City of Rosemead

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cc: Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly

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Assembly Members Chris Holden and Eduardo Garcia

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 Los Angeles County

Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force