



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460  
[www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

June 23, 2015

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski, Chair  
Environmental Quality Committee  
State Capital Room 2205 Sacramento,  
California 95814

Dear Senator Wieckowski:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 876 (AMENDED JUNE 1, 2015)  
COMPOSTABLE ORGANICS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **opposes** Assembly Bill 876 (AB 876). This bill would require counties to include in their Annual Report to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), information related to the generation and processing capability of organic waste within the county for a 15-year period, as well as to identify areas in which new or expanded organic waste recycling facilities could be safely located.

The Task Force is supportive of efforts that assist the State in fully understanding the generation of organic waste within the State as well as the capacity to process and ultimately recycle the waste. Assembly Bill 1826 (Chapter 727, 2014) established an urgent need to develop an infrastructure to collect, process, and recycle commercial organic waste. AB 1826 requires each jurisdiction to develop commercial organic waste recycling programs that must report to CalRecycle annually on information about commercial organics processing capacity and additional needs for their programs. As such, these provisions of AB 876 are duplicative and unnecessary.

The provision of the bill requiring each county to identify areas “as locations for new or expanded organic waste recycling facilities capable of safely meeting the additional organic waste recycling facility capacity” is potentially an encroachment on local jurisdiction land use authority. This requirement would be more appropriate when placed on each jurisdiction, a methodology that has already been called for by CalRecycle Guidelines for AB 1826 implementation.

In addition, the bill fails to define the term “organic waste.” The Task Force recommends referencing Subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 42649.8.

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski  
June 23, 2015  
Page 2

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 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.

For the above reasons, the Task Force **opposes** AB 876. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto: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, City of Rosemead

GA:fm

P:\epub\EA\EA\TF\TF\Ltrs\2015\AB876TF-Oppose

cc: Assembly Member Kevin McCarty  
Each Member of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
California State Association of Counties  
League of California Cities  
Each member of the Los Angeles County 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 City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force