



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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[www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

September 1, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capital Building  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

**VETO REQUEST - ASSEMBLY BILL 876 (McCARTY)  
COMPOSTABLE ORGANICS - ENROLLED AUGUST 27, 2015**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) respectively requests that you veto Assembly Bill 876 (AB 876). This bill would place an expensive and politically sensitive burden on counties to estimate and report to CalRecycle the generation of, and processing capability for, organic waste within the County and the cities within for 15-year periods. Each county is also required to identify areas in which new or expanded organic waste recycling facilities could be safely located within its unincorporated communities and/or its incorporated cities. The Task Force makes this veto request for the following reasons:

- AB 876 would place counties in a very politically sensitive situation by requiring each county to identify specific locations in their county and its incorporated cities that would allow for the safe expansion or development of new organic waste recycling facilities. This practice would effectively usurp local land-use authority from cities which have the authority to determine the suitability of development and placement of solid waste facilities. Determination of the suitability of the siting and/or expansion of any type of solid waste facility is highly dependent on the local community and operational practices of individual facilities. Moreover, regulatory agencies with land use authority, along with regional, State, and Federal agencies are the appropriate entities which determine whether a particular solid waste facility can be safely developed or expanded.
- AB 876 solely tasks counties to estimate and report to CalRecycle the entire county's or region's organic waste generation and processing capacity. However, these requirements are contrary and duplicative to those mandated

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown

September 1, 2015

Page 2

by Assembly Bill 1826 (Chapter 727, 2014 State Statute). AB 1826 requires each city and each county to develop commercial organic waste recycling programs and report to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) annually regarding commercial organics generation and processing capacity within their jurisdictions well as what additional needs exist for these programs. This new requirement in AB 876 will prove to be duplicative, a costly exercise for counties and regional agencies, and will provide little, if any, in return.

As provided by AB 939 (1989) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of major solid waste planning documents for Los Angeles County and the 88 cities in the County with a population of over 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, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

For the foregoing reasons, the Task Force **respectfully requests your veto of AB 876**. Should you or your staff 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

JJ:fm

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cc: Assembly member Kevin McCarty  
David Lanier, Office of Governor Brown  
Martha Guzman-Aceves, Office of Governor Brown  
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

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown

September 1, 2015

Page 3

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