



GAIL FARBER
CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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April 29, 2010

The Honorable Bob Blumenfield
State Capitol Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 94249-0040

Dear Assembly Member Blumenfield:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 2176 (AMENDED APRIL 22, 2010)
CALIFORNIA LIGHTING TOXICS REDUCTION AND JOBS ACT**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 2176 (AB 2176), which would enact the California Lighting Toxics Reduction and Jobs Act, requiring producers of mercury containing lamps to submit a product stewardship plan to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control that would ensure the collection and proper final disposal of these lamps. The Task Force has been an adamant supporter of product stewardship as a mechanism for protecting the public health and safety and the environment at the source, thereby addressing the highest rung of the waste management hierarchy, source reduction, which in turn reduces end-of-life management costs for local governments.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 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.

AB 2176, if enacted, would require producers of mercury containing lamps, by September 30, 2011, to submit a mercury lamp product stewardship plan that addresses their environmental impacts including the collection, transportation, recycling, processing, and final proper disposal of these lamps to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). AB 2176 would also define "class 1 lamp" as a lamp containing mercury and "class 2 lamp" as a lamp that produces less than 45 lumens of

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light per watt, and require the producer of a class 2 lamp, by January 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, to pay to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission a fee in an amount established by the commission for specified research to improve class 2 lamps' lighting efficiency and reduce environmental impacts from class 2 lamps. With the enactment of these provisions, AB 2176 would lessen the burden to proper disposal of lamps on local jurisdictions and generate funding for research on producing future generations of lamps that are more energy efficient and environmentally friendly.

Extended producer responsibility seeks to encourage manufacturers to redesign their products to minimize waste, such as excess packaging, and hold manufacturers accountable to collect and manage their products at the end of their useful life. By holding manufacturers accountable, the burden on local governments to manage product waste will be significantly lessened. The Task Force supports the establishment of meaningful producer responsibility programs in California to increase diversion of materials from landfills and protect the health and safety of all our residents.

Therefore, the Task Force **supports** AB 2176. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force 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

SK/RG:

cc: Assembly Speaker John A. Perez
Assembly Member Martin Garrick, Minority Leader
Each Member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
California Product Stewardship Council
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force