



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

GAIL FARBER
CHAIR

April 20, 2009

TO: All City Mayors and County Board of Supervisors in California

URGENT REQUEST FOR LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 222

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force), I am writing to urge you to **support** Assembly Bill 222 (AB 222). If enacted, AB 222 as amended on April 14, 2009, would level the playing field for the development of advanced biorefinery facilities within California, thereby spurring economic development, reducing pollution, generating renewable energy, and reducing dependence on landfill disposal of waste.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (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 the County of Los Angeles 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 the County of Los Angeles, 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, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

For many years, local governments have led the efforts to establish a pathway for permitting advanced conversion technology facilities that could make more productive use of our waste and biomass resources. Conversion technologies refer to an array of biological, chemical and thermal technologies (other than combustion) capable of converting post-recycled (residual) solid waste into useful products, green fuels, and clean, renewable energy. These technologies, already proven effective in Europe and Japan, hold significant promise for revolutionizing the way we manage waste. AB 222 if enacted, would correct scientifically flawed definitions within the California's Public Resources Code which have dampened the development of conversion technologies. AB 222 would also establish a new category of industries, termed biorefineries, under

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which conversion technologies would be regulated, thereby leveling the playing field for the development of these facilities within California.

AB 222, which is co-authored by a bipartisan coalition of ten Assembly Members, is set to be heard in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee on April 27, 2009; therefore it is vital to get as many letters of support in advance of the hearing in order to support the passage of this legislation. A sample letter is enclosed for your use.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark

MARGARET CLARK, VICE-CHAIR
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor, City of Rosemead

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Enc.

cc: Each City Council Member
Each City Manager
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Officer

SAMPLE LETTER

April _____, 2009

The Honorable Anthony Adams
State Capitol, Room 4015
Sacramento, CA 94249-0059

The Honorable Fiona Ma
State Capitol, Room 3091
Sacramento, CA 94249-0012

Dear Assembly Members Adams and Ma:

SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 222 (AMENDED APRIL 14, 2009) BIOREFINERIES

The City of _____ supports Assembly Bill 222 (AB 222) relating to biorefineries.

Currently, State law (AB 939) requires cities and counties in California to reduce the amount of waste disposed in landfills and incinerators. If enacted, Assembly Bill 222 would correct scientifically flawed definitions within the California's Public Resources Code (PRC) which have dampened the development of conversion technologies, and establish a new category of industries, termed biorefineries, thereby leveling the playing field for the development of these facilities within California.

With landfill space at a premium, and disposal rates estimated to increase, California jurisdictions must invest in landfill alternatives, such as conversion technologies and biorefineries that reduce disposal rates, generate jobs, and utilize abundant biomass and organic waste material in an environmentally beneficial manner. Developing such facilities in California has the potential to reduce the environmental impacts of solid waste management (including the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere), complement our recycling industry, and lessen our dependence on landfilling all while complying with strict environmental standards.

Assembly Members Adams and Ma
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We understand the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee will be reviewing AB 222 on April 27, 2009 which we will be closely monitoring, and we urge your full support for this important legislative proposal. Should you have any questions, please contact _____.

Sincerely,

Mayor, City of _____

cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Senate President Pro-Tem
Speaker of the Assembly
Each Member of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
Each Member of the California Integrated Waste Management Board
Each Member of the Los Angeles County State Legislative Delegation
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
League of California Cities
California State Association of Counties
Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force