



GAIL FARBER, CHAIR
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

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

August 8, 2016

Dr. Jonathan Male, Director
U.S. Department of Energy - Bioenergy Technologies Office
1000 Independence Avenue, SW, EE-3B, 5H-021
Washington, DC, 20585

Dear Dr. Male:

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S BIOENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE
MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM PLAN – DATED MARCH 2016**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) would like to express our appreciation to the U.S. Department of Energy's Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) for preparing the Multi-Year Program Plan (MYPP), dated March 2016. The Task Force supports the goals of BETO, which include enabling the sustainable, nationwide production of biofuels that are compatible with today's transportation infrastructure, can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to petroleum-derived fuels, and can displace a share of petroleum-derived fuels to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

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, 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, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Although the MYPP acknowledges that biomass is a renewable energy resource that includes agricultural residues, forest resources, perennial grasses, woody energy crops, algae, biosolids, municipal solid waste (MSW), urban wood waste, and food waste, it mainly analyzes the use of terrestrial and algal biomass as feedstocks for bioenergy production. Future plans should include further analysis of the use of MSW as a bioenergy production feedstock, as this provides significant environmental benefits and

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aligns with BETO's goals. MSW is a resource that is continuously produced in large volumes and can produce energy or fuels via anaerobic digestion or gasification. Unlike certain other types of biomass feedstock, it does not have a detrimental effect on the production of other resources, such as food crops. Furthermore, the use of MSW to produce bioenergy greatly reduces the amount of waste disposed in landfills and also results in significant avoided GHG emissions. Additionally, the by-product of anaerobic digestion or digestate is a valuable resource that can be dried and converted into bioenergy or biofuel via pyrolysis.

The Taskforce recommends that BETO include the conversion of MSW into its current and future priorities and efforts. Should you have any questions regarding these comments, 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: The Bioenergy Association of California
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Each Member of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee
California U.S. Senators
Congressional Delegate
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County