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MARGARET CLARK, VICE-CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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September 10, 2013

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Lara:

**SENATE BILL 804 (AMENDED SEPTEMBER 9, 2013) -- SUPPORT
SOLID WASTE: ENERGY**

The Los Angeles County Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Senate Bill 804 (SB 804). This bill would revise the definition of “biomass conversion” to include conversion technologies capable of converting biomass into marketable products and fuels through non-combustion thermal, chemical, or biological processes.

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.

The inclusion of conversion technologies in the definition of “biomass conversion” would allow jurisdictions increased flexibility to manage a defined set of their source separated compostable organic solid waste. Additionally, it would make it possible for existing biomass facilities to upgrade from traditional combustion to newer more efficient conversion technologies. Without more options, biomass waste may need to be transported to facilities hundreds of miles away, which are both economically and environmentally costly.

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The Task Force has long been a strong supporter of the development of conversion technologies in California as a way to reduce dependence on landfills, generate energy, and produce fuels. Therefore, the Task Force **supports** SB 804 as amended on September 9, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at 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
Council Member, City of Rosemead

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cc: California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division
Each member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
Each member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
San Fernando Valley 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