



AB 341 Report to the Legislature

Environmental Programs Division

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

AB 341 (Chesbro, 2011)

- ▶ Established a Statewide goal for 75% of solid waste generated to be source reduced, recycled or composted by 2020.
- ▶ Requires all California businesses generating four or more cubic yards each week of waste and multi-family complexes of 5 units or more to recycle.
- ▶ Required CalRecycle to prepare a report to the Legislature outlining strategies to achieve the 75 percent recycling goal by January 1, 2014.

Report Assumptions

- ▶ CalRecycle estimates that by 2020 Californians will generate about 80 million tons of solid waste.
 - ▶ 60 million tons of solid waste will need to be source reduced, composted or recycled.
 - ▶ 37 million tons will be met by current programs.
 - ▶ 23 million more tons will need to be reduced, composted or recycled by 2020 to meet statewide goal.

Background

- ▶ Draft report released May 2012
 - ▶ Consisted of 10 policy drivers
 - ▶ Task Force submitted comments in May 2012
- ▶ Update on AB 341 Legislative Report was released in October 2013
 - ▶ 10 policy drivers became 6 focus areas
- ▶ August 2015 report has different structure:
 - ▶ 5 priority strategies
 - ▶ 3 “focus areas”
 - ▶ Legislative and regulatory recommendations
 - ▶ Program reviews, updates and recommendations

Five Priority Strategies + Three Focus Areas

- ▶ 1. Moving Organics Out of the Landfill
- ▶ 2. Expanding the Recycling/Manufacturing Infrastructure
- ▶ 3. Exploring New Approaches for State and Local Funding of Sustainable Waste Management Programs
- ▶ 4. Promoting State Procurement of Post-Consumer Recycled Content Products
- ▶ 5. Promoting Extended Producer Responsibility
- ▶ Focus Areas: Source Reduction, Commercial Recycling and Other Products (packaging, waste tires, e-waste and used oil)

Challenges Identified by CalRecycle

- ▶ Low Cost of Landfilling
- ▶ Limited Domestic Manufacturer Demand for Recycled Feedstock
- ▶ Commercial Markets for Recycled-Content Products are Underdeveloped
- ▶ Local Opposition to Expanding Infrastructure
- ▶ Conflicting Mandates and Goals

Legislation and Regulatory Recommendations

- ▶ 1 page in the report, but included multi-page appendices with many concepts
- ▶ Top priorities include many bills already signed into law, such as:
 - ▶ AB 1826 (Mandatory Organics Recycling)
 - ▶ AB 1594 (Green Waste Alternative Daily Cover credit)
 - ▶ AB 876 (Organics Infrastructure Plans)
 - ▶ SB 254 (Mattress Recycling)

Program Reviews, Updates and Recommendations

- ▶ 1. Review and update of market development strategies with emphasis on new and emerging trends in resource management.
- ▶ 2. Identification of problematic waste streams and recommendations for handling.
- ▶ 3. Evaluation of program effectiveness and recommendations for change.
- ▶ 4. Recommendations for reprioritizing existing resources to best achieve 75 percent.
- ▶ 5. Recommendations for legislative and regulatory changes to achieve 75 percent.

Task Force Comments on May 2012 Draft Report

Comments Addressed

- ▶ The inadequacy of the proposal to constructively address the need for development of in-State manufacturing facilities/markets for recovered materials and recyclables.
- ▶ The lack of sufficient emphasis on the importance of product stewardship role in the achievement of higher diversion rates.

Task Force Comments on May 2012 Draft Report

Not Addressed

- ▶ Elimination of the diversion credit for the landfill alternative daily cover (including green waste) and other solid waste beneficial reuse at landfills.
- ▶ The lack of any provision for a lifecycle analysis to fully understand the benefits and disadvantages of diversion options.
- ▶ The lack of adequate recognition of new technologies for the production of non-fossil fuels and renewable energy and the importance of eliminating barriers to their development and use.
- ▶ The failure to recognize and address the cost of the proposed plan on local governments.



Questions?