



GAIL FARBER, CHAIR
MARGARET CLARK, VICE-CHAIR

Sent via Facsimile and E-mail

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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August 29, 2011

***** NO on AB 1178 *****

To: Senator Joe Smitian, Chair, California State Senate Environmental Quality Committee
Members of the California State Senate Environment Quality Committee

From: Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Re: **OPPOSE ASSEMBLY BILL 1178**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force continues to OPPOSE AB 1178 should the Bill be referred back to your Committee since it:

- **Infringes upon the will of California voters, interferes with judicial matters, and usurps local government authority.** The Bill prohibits the adoption of a local ordinance that restricts the importation of solid waste into a privately owned solid waste facility in that city or county based on the place of origin. Based on the existing solid waste management system in California, the Bill's provisions would promote private landfill owners/operators to expand their efforts to attract more waste materials to their facilities for disposal solely to enhance their economic well-being without any regards to recycling and other waste diversion activities as well as less attention given to the public health and safety of the local citizens.
- **Prevents locally elected officials and voters from placing reasonable limits upon the flow of solid waste even when it is in the best interest of local communities.** The discretion local governments currently have to establish boundaries for purposes of controlling the flow of solid waste, on a case-by-case basis, has provided an avenue by which to effectively advance local interests as well as enhance public health and safety. Wasteshed restrictions have been established to preserve local disposal capacities, reduce traffic impacts, and address other site-specific factors. The existing system has served and continues to serve the California residents and businesses extremely well, and there is no justifiable reason (other than profit) to break it.
- **Creates a negative statewide impact in its attempt to overturn a decision intended for a single facility in Solano County.** The Bill's impetus to overturn Measure E in Solano County would have staggering statewide consequences while benefiting the subject landfill owner/operator. It is critical for local governments to preserve their authority to place reasonable constraints on the flow of waste since impacts of solid waste disposal facilities are most acute at the local levels.

The Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of major solid waste planning documents for Los Angeles County and the 88 cities in the County with a population of over ten million (pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989). Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force addresses issues impacting the system on a countywide basis. Task Force membership includes 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 other governmental agencies.

For these reasons, the **Task Force opposes AB 1178 and respectfully requests your NAY vote on the bill.** If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147 or mikemohajer@yahoo.com

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: Caroll Mortensen, Senate Environmental Committee
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrate Waste
Management Task Force