



GAIL FARBER
CHAIR

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SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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August 20, 2009

The Honorable Paul Krekorian
State Capitol Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 94249-0043

Dear Assembly Member Krekorian:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 64 (AMENDED JUNE 23, 2009)
RENEWABLE ENERGY: RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **opposes** Assembly Bill 64 (AB 64). AB 64 will increase renewable electricity requirements and include local publicly owned electric utilities in the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) program. However, AB 64 would also impose contradictory requirements that prohibit municipal solid waste from being counted as an eligible source of renewable energy, and would override local governments land use authority by expanding the California Energy Commission's purview (CEC) in siting renewable energy generating facilities.

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 its 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of 10 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, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

AB 64, if enacted, would amend the RPS program to include publically owned electric utilities, effective January 1, 2011, and require program participants increase their purchase of renewable electricity to 23% by December 31, 2014, 27% by December 31, 2017, and 33% by December 31, 2020. AB 64 would also impose new requirements that effectively remove municipal solid waste from eligibility under RPS. The Task Force supports efforts to advance renewable energy, which is vital to enhancing the environment, reducing our dependence on foreign oil, and creating local green collar jobs, yet we oppose any contradictory and/or regressive legislation which

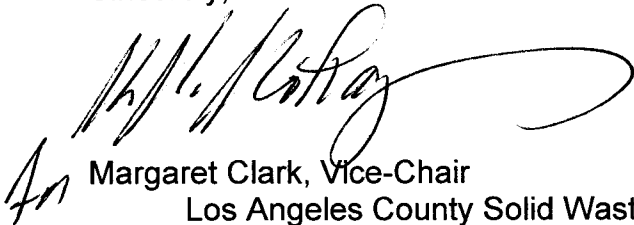
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would essentially eliminate the potential for recovering beneficial use from waste materials and is conflicting with the State's bioenergy action plan. A letter requesting that these provisions be removed from the bill was submitted to you on March 25, 2009 (enclosed).

Additionally, the CEC is currently authorized to site power plants with a generating capacity of 50 megawatts (MWs) or more. AB 64 would expand this authority to power plants as small as 5 MWs, under certain conditions. This revision preempts cities and counties land use authority regarding facilities that may have substantial impacts on local communities and should rightfully be made at the local level.

Therefore, the Task Force **strongly opposes** AB 64. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



For Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor, City of Rosemead

SK/CS:kp

SEC\TF Letter AB 64 August 17-09

cc: Senate President Pro Temp Darrell Steinberg
Assembly Speaker Karen Bass
Senator Dennis Hollingsworth, Minority Leader
Assembly Member Michael Villines, Minority Leader
Each Member of the Senate Appropriation Committee
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation
Each Member of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Each City Mayor in the County of Los Angeles
California State Association of Counties
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
League of California Cities
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
Southern California Association of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force