

INSIDE SOLID WASTE

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INSIDE SOLID WASTE IS PRODUCED QUARTERLY BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

New Commercial Recycling Regulations Being Considered

As a part of the implementation of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32), the California Air Resources Board (CARB) incorporated a Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR) Measure. CARB argued that mandating commercial recycling through the AB 32 Scoping Plan would be an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas (GHGe) emissions when it adopted the plan in late 2008.

Up until October 2011, the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and CARB were in the process of finalizing years of work that was to yield the final draft MCR regulations, which were to be considered at the October 20-21 CARB meeting.

However, both agencies are taking a new approach following the October 6 signing of Assembly Bill 341 (AB 341, Chapter 476 of the 2011 State Statute) by Governor Jerry Brown, which requires the implementation of mandatory commercial recycling (MCR) starting **July 1, 2012**.

As provided by AB 341, the MCR is applicable to any business (public and/or private) that generates more than four cubic yards of commercial solid waste per week or any multifamily residential dwelling of five units or more. Local governments are required to ensure compliance by businesses and applicable multifamily residential dwelling.



The provisions of AB 341 provide sole authority to CalRecycle to implement the MCR program. As a result, CalRecycle has commenced its rulemaking process to implement the statute. These regulations will reflect the statutory provisions and provide additional procedural clarifications.

Because of the extensive stakeholder input received at eight public workshops and numerous stakeholder meetings over the past two years, CalRecycle began its formal rulemaking with a 45-day comment period starting on October 28 and ending on December 12, 2011. A public hearing will follow on

December 13 in Sacramento. The exact timing for the effective date of the proposed regulations will depend on CalRecycle's ability to submit a new regulatory package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and receive its approval to begin the rulemaking.

For more information, please visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/Recycling or contact Coby Skye of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-5163 or CSkye@dpw.lacounty.gov, or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMANENT COLLECTION CENTERS

City of Los Angeles Permanent Collection Centers are *open on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.* For information, call **1 (800) 98-TOXIC (988-6942)**. Services suspended during rainy weather.

Gaffey Street Collection Center

1400 N. Gaffey Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Hyperion Treatment Plant

7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

Washington Boulevard Collection Center

2649 E. Washington Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90021

Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center

11025 Randall Street
Sun Valley, CA 91352

UCLA Location (*E-waste accepted on Saturdays only*)

550 Charles E. Young Drive
West Los Angeles, CA 90095

Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4600 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90039

Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center Antelope Valley Public Landfill

1200 West City Ranch Road
Palmdale, CA 93551

Note: Open 1st and 3rd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., rain or shine.

Common items accepted include household cleaners, paint, unused medications, sharps waste, household batteries, TV's, computers, stereos, and printers

*For more information, call County Public Works at
1 (888) CLEAN-LA (253-2652)*

WEEKLY HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUNDUPS

**Household Hazardous Waste/
Electronic Waste Roundups** are conducted on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine, unless otherwise noted. For more information, call County Public Works at **1 (888) CLEAN-LA (253-2652)**, or visit www.CleanLa.com.



INSIDE SOLID WASTE NEWSLETTER

Task Force PE & I Subcommittee Chair - **Mike Mohajer** • Writer - **Suk Chong** •
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For information, call Tranette Sanders at 626-458-3562,
M -Th, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Visit www.lacountyiswmtf.org where you can find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.

JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste*, please contact **Suk Chong** at 626-458-5167, (schong@dpw.lacounty.gov), or **Michael Kaspar** at 626-458-4088, (mkaspar@dpw.lacounty.gov). Quarterly meetings are held at the County Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you want to be involved or to contribute, please join the Subcommittee!

ONE STEP CLOSER TO A LITTER FREE LA COUNTY!

Phase two of the County's plastic bag ban ordinance in unincorporated communities goes into effect on January 1, 2012. Approximately 700 small grocery stores, convenience stores, foodmarts, and pharmacies located in the unincorporated County areas, will no longer provide single-use plastic carryout bags. Instead, customers will brown bag use their own reusable bags or buy recyclable paper carryout bags for a charge of ten cents per bag.

The ban on plastic carryout bags will substantially reduce litter, protect the environment, and strengthen the County's efforts to reduce the negative impact of single-use plastic bags.

Phase one of the plastic bag ban ordinance went in to effect on July 1, 2011 and applied to supermarkets and large pharmacies.

For more information please visit, www.aboutthebag.com or call (888) CLEANLA.



AQMD Promotes New Energy Policy

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Governing Board's recent approval of the "Air Quality-Related Energy Policy" (Energy Policy) marked a major milestone in the promotion of zero and near zero emission strategies, energy efficiency and conservation, and greater use of renewables in the South Coast Air Basin.

The approval followed several months of extensive input from more than 140 business, community and environmental organizations, the Task Force and government agencies.

The 10 policies and 10 action items spelled out in the Energy Policy provide an insight into the SCAQMD's efforts to achieve these challenging objectives, given the fact that transportation sources, which account for approximately 90 percent of those emissions, are not regulated by the SCAQMD.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works estimates

that emission reductions could be realized in three ways: (1) reducing transportation emissions resulting from long distance shipping of waste, (2) eliminating methane production from waste that would otherwise be



landfilled; and, (3) displacing the use of fossil fuels by net energy (fuel and electricity) produced by conversion technologies.

The Energy Policy continues to reflect the SCAQMD's commitment to "technology neutrality", provided the technology has the potential to reduce air emissions and meet other performance standards. One of the actions outlined in the Energy Policy promotes further development of low emitting biogas technologies and other clean energy sources from biomass.

The Task Force is supportive of this particular proposed action and in its September comment letter encouraged the SCAQMD to recognize the "net emission reduction potential" of solid waste conversion technologies.

For more information regarding the Energy Policy, please visit SCAQMD's website: www.aqmd.gov/prdas/climatechange/EnergyPolicy.html.

CAP-AND-TRADE REGULATIONS ON TRACK FOR JANUARY 2012

As the lead agency for implementing the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32, Núñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006), the California Air Resources Board (CARB) developed and adopted the Scoping Plan, which identifies a cap-and-trade program as one of the strategies California will employ to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGe).

In October 2010, CARB began the rulemaking process to develop cap-and-trade regulations that would create an overall limit on GHGe from capped sectors. Facilities subject to the cap will be able to trade permits (allowances) to emit GHGs.

The goal of AB 32 is to reduce GHGe from all sectors of California's economy to 1990 levels by the year

2020. CARB forecasts that the cap-and-trade program would achieve approximately 20 percent of the total reductions needed to meet this target.

Both the County of Los Angeles and the Task Force submitted letters to CARB, outlining specific changes that need to be made to the draft cap-and-trade regulation so that it would not have unintended negative impacts on the existing waste-to-energy facilities in the County or future conversion technology facilities. The regulation is expected to become enforceable January 1, 2012.

For more information regarding the proposed cap-and-trade regulation, please visit CARB's website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm>.

Legislature pulls Assembly Bill 1178

The Task Force welcomes the news that AB 178 has been pulled from consideration from the first half of the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

The Bill, which would have prohibited cities and counties from adopting local ordinances that restrict the importation of solid waste into a privately owned solid waste facility, will now be revisited in the second half the current legislative session starting in January 2012.

Task Force Member Mike Mohajer said, unless this bill is drastically amended, he feels that the Task Force would be prepared to once again "be on the front lines fighting for the best interests of Los Angeles County."

"AB 1178 was a slow-moving freight train accelerating to destroy years worth of public voter results and local control," Mohajer said. "Luckily the County of Los Angeles and the Task Force were actively involved to help derail this potential loss of local land use control."



TIRE RECYCLING EVENTS

Don't let your tires get wasted!

Los Angeles County residents are encouraged to bring their used tires to one of the County's upcoming free Waste Tire Collection Events. Tires collected from these events are recycled into playground fill and crumb rubber. Don't miss an opportunity to clean out those old, worn out tires from your yard or community. Thousands of your neighbors have already taken advantage of this service.

UPCOMING RECYCLING EVENTS:

La Puente - November 19, 2011
Saturday, 9 am - 3 pm, at
County Road Yard
14959 E Proctor Avenue @ 9th Ave
(flyer with map)(en Español)

Hawthorne - February 25, 2012
Saturday, 9 am - 3 pm, at
Betty Ainsworth Sports Center
3851 W El Segundo Blvd. @
Doty Ave

The events in Antelope Valley are conducted in partnership with the Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, and provide an important resource to clean up their communities.

Please note the following restrictions for County Waste Tire Collection Events:

Tires from LA County residents only.

No tires from businesses.

No oversized or tractor tires. Rims accepted.

If you plan to transport 10 or more tires per trip, you must contact the County Public Health Department a week ahead at (626) 430-5540 to obtain a tire transport form.

For more information on the next waste tire collection event, please visit www.CleanLA.com.

Los Angeles County Conversion Technology Update

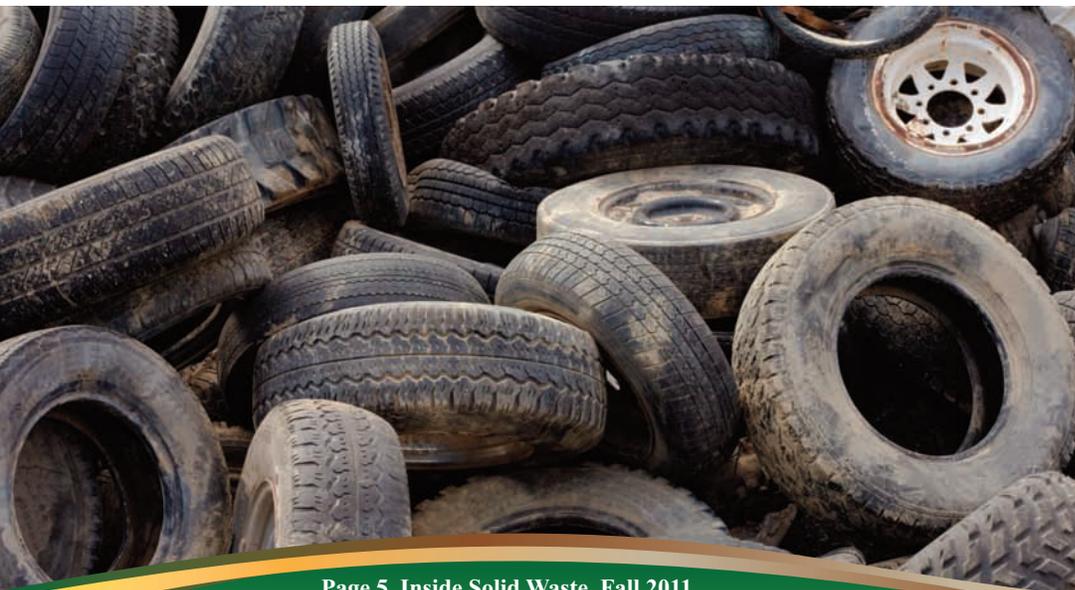
Enthusiasm for conversion technology continues to grow. County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works has received nearly 50 new proposals from area technology vendors and financial firms looking to get involved in the groundbreaking new technology.

The vendors were responding to Public Works' recently issued Requests for Expressions of Interest (RFEIs) seeking companies interested in partnering to develop conversion technology facilities.

The information gathered from the RFEIs submittals will be broken down into two different categories of potential technology or financial partners. Once compiled and vetted, the County will make the information available through an online database to the various stakeholders.

The County is also developing an economic modeling tool that will be available online for local stakeholders to estimate tipping fees for various sizes and types of conversion technology facilities. As interest in development of conversion technologies continues to grow in the County, these tools will help facilitate partnerships and information sharing that will enable projects to move towards development.

More information regarding both of these public resources will be available soon. Contact Coby Skye at eskye@dpw.lacounty.gov or Tobie Mitchell at tmitchell@dpw.lacounty.gov with questions about the County's Conversion Technology Program.



New Stewardship Models for Carpet and Paint Retailers



As reported in the Spring issue of *Inside Solid Waste*, California is taking another bold step forward in environmental protection by pioneering the field of extended producer responsibility (EPR). State law now mandates implementation of stewardship programs for post-consumer carpet and architectural paint.

The Task Force has consistently supported EPR and was actively involved to ensure the enactment of stewardship bills for paint (AB 1343) and carpet (AB 2398) in 2010. EPR relieves a significant burden from local governments by requiring manufacturers to share responsibility for the end-of-life management of their products.

State statute now requires a five cent stewardship assessment fee per square yard of carpet sold in California. This upfront cost will be used to run a new stewardship program that will provide convenient opportunities for carpet collection and reprocessing to divert would-be waste carpet from landfill disposal. Carpet recovery will reduce virgin oil demand and preserve California's valuable and diminishing landfill space, while providing post-consumer material feedstock for both recycled-content products and green energy generation.

Likewise, architectural paint stewardship will provide multiple benefits. Due to their toxicity, paint products are unsuitable for disposal in sanitary landfills, placing a burden on local jurisdictions to collect and properly manage the unused paint through their Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection programs and permanent centers. Architectural paint is the most

voluminous and the most expensive component of HHW programs in Los Angeles County. Yet the composition of paint also allows for a high rate of recyclability. A stewardship assessment for paint will be approved by CalRecycle upon review of the submitted stewardship plan(s).

The Task Force has been actively submitting comments to improve carpet and paint regulations throughout the process. The main points of emphasis include: not excluding transformation and conversion technologies (carpet), ensuring fair share compensation to local agencies (paint), increasing market development efforts (both), and developing effective local retailer outreach/consumer education efforts (both). Complete Task Force comment

letters can be found by visiting ladpw.org/epd/TF/Corresp.cfm.

The Task Force is hopeful that millions of taxpayer dollars will be saved with the implementation of paint and carpet stewardship while natural resources will be protected. CalRecycle is currently in the final stages of the formal rulemaking process to adopt the carpet and paint stewardship regulations.

For additional information contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at 909-592-1147 or MikeMohajer@yahoo.com. For up to date information on the status of proposed regulations please visit [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rule making/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rule%20making/).



State Drafts New Regulations for Composting Facilities

The California Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) is developing proposals for a statewide order for composting facilities designed to reduce threats to groundwater due to liquid discharges from compost facilities.

According to the draft regulatory concepts, compost facilities will need to either obtain a waiver or a Waste Discharge permit and implement Water Quality Protection Measures (WQPMs).

Additionally, the concept includes development of tiered WQPMs based on waste type and facility location, and assessment of annual fees commensurate with WQPMs regulatory efforts.

According to the Water Board, the proposed policy would be consistent with the objectives of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, codified in California Water Code, Division 7, Section 13000, which requires facilities to report discharges affecting waterways. It would also be consistent with California Code, Title 27, Chapter 3, which applies to composting facilities that discharge liquids that could be classified as “designated waste” to be managed under a Class 2 waste management system.

As of end of October 2011, the Water Board has conducted three stakeholder meetings in Southern California and additional three in Sacramento. The Task Force has been participating in

the stakeholder meetings to ensure consistency of composting regulations among State agencies (CalRecycle, Water Board, Air Resources Board) and local Air Pollution Control Districts/Air Quality Management Districts. As



such, the Task Force has raised concern with lack of consistency of definitions of the “organic” waste and “compostable organic” waste by these agencies and the impact that this would have on local governments due to the CalRecycle’s policy wanting jurisdictions to reduce the amount of organic solid waste disposed in 2008 by 50 percent by the year 2020.

For more information, contact Wu Tan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-2193. email wtan@dpw.lacounty.gov, or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force, at (909) 592-1147 or MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or visit http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/compost/index.shtml.

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OCTOBER 2011 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

2011-2012 Legislative Session



The Task Force continuously monitors and analyzes pending legislative bills that may impact solid waste management in Los Angeles County. Below is a summary and status of bills the Task Force has taken a position on through October 2011.

Bill Number	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
AB 34	Oppose	2 year bill	This bill would establish site-specific odor performance thresholds for compost facilities. The Task Force was opposed to provisions that would prohibit a Local Enforcement Agency from verifying a complaint that originates from a compost facility unless the odor violates those performance thresholds.
AB 341	Oppose	Chaptered	This bill will, among other things: (1) declare the State's policy goal that not less than 75% of all solid waste generated be source reduced, recycled, or composted by the year 2020, excluding all other solid waste management options such as conversion technologies; (2) eliminate Local Task Force review and CalRecycle approval of amendments to Nondisposal Facility Elements (NDFEs); (3) establish mandatory commercial recycling (MCR), including requiring a jurisdiction to implement a MCR program and include that program in a jurisdiction's AB 939 compliance review.
AB 358	Oppose	Chaptered	This bill will, among other things, authorize the Water Resources Control Board to require closure of any underground storage tank (UST) case. The Task Force expressed concerns that the bill would result in lowering the standards for UST case closure while imposing an unfunded mandate on local governments.
AB 480	Oppose	2 year bill	This bill would, among other things, specify that an insurance carrier established by a solid waste facility operator shall not be required to be a California admitted insurer. The Task Force opposes this bill since it would weaken existing regulations and releases captive insurance companies from State requirements which would pose a financial risk to the State and local governments.
AB 525	Support if Amended	Chaptered	This bill authorizes CalRecycle to set aside grant funding for local government public works projects that use waste tires. The Task Force requested amendments related to per capita distribution of grant funding related to projects using waste tires for the Los Angeles County region. The bill also reauthorized the fee collection mechanism for AB 2398, the paint stewardship law passed in 2010 but subject to Proposition 26.
AB 712	Oppose	Chaptered	This bill will prohibit CalRecycle, on and after July 1, 2012, from making any payments, grants, or loans to a jurisdiction that has adopted or is enforcing a land-use restriction that prevents the siting or operation of a certified recycling center at a supermarket site. The Task Force expressed concern that this bill is an infringement of local land-use autonomy.

OCTOBER 2011 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



Bill Number	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
AB 789	Support if Amended	2 Year Bill	This bill would require CalRecycle to set aside 16 percent of grant funding for local government public works projects that use waste tires. The bill would sunset the grant program on June 30, 2015. The Task Force requested amendments related to per capita distribution of grant funding for the Los Angeles County region.
AB 812	Support	2 year bill	This bill would, among other things, require the Department of Transportation to increase the allowable amount of recycled asphalt pavement to 50 percent unless it is determined to not be practical.
AB 818	Oppose	Chaptered	This bill would have required an owner of a multifamily dwelling, defined as consisting of five or more living units, to arrange for recycling services for the multifamily dwelling. The Task Force opposed this bill as local governments have the ability to implement recycling requirements. This bill would have become operative only if AB 341 was not chaptered.
AB 960	Support	2 Year Bill	This bill would, among other things, require development of regulations to ensure E-waste is properly managed and not improperly exported if the E-waste is receiving reimbursements under the Electronic Waste Recycling Act of 2003.
AB 1149	Support	Chaptered	The bill will extend the State's recycled plastic market development program an additional five years.
AB 1178	Oppose	2 Year Bill	This bill would prohibit any restrictions on the importation of solid waste into a privately owned solid waste facility based on place of origin. The Task Force strongly opposed the bill since it would overturn the will of California voters, interfere with judicial matters, and usurp local government authority.
AB 1189	Oppose unless Amended	2 Year Bill	The bill would, among other things, require battery manufacturers to submit a household battery stewardship plan to CalRecycle, by January 1, 2012. The Task force expressed concerns with provisions that would require governmental entities that operate an HHW collection program to sort batteries from other collected materials.
AB 1303	Support	2 Year Bill	This bill would, among other things, extend the Public Interest Energy Research program utilized to promote renewable energy and clean technology projects.
SBX1-2	Oppose	Chaptered	This bill delayed the current 20 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard by one year, to Dec. 31, 2013, and increased the amount of renewable energy utilities were required to procure to 33 percent by Dec. 31, 2020. The Task Force opposed the provisions of the bill that perpetuate inaccurate definitions that hinder the development of conversion technologies in California.

OCTOBER 2011 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



Bill Number	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
SB 41	Support if Amended	Chaptered	This bill will authorize a physician or pharmacist to furnish 30 or fewer sharps to a person 18 years of age or older without a prescription or permit while requiring pharmacies to provide consumers with options for the disposal of sharps. Amendments requested related to local land use encroachment and the need to ensure the proper collection and management of the needles provided.
SB 515	Support	2 Year Bill	The bill would establish an extended producer responsibility program for household batteries.
SB 568	Support	2 Year Bill	This bill would, among other things, prohibit a food vendor from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam (EPS) food container beginning Jan. 1, 2013.
SB 589	Support if amended, oppose if not amended	2 Year Bill	This bill would, among other things, establish an extended producer responsibility program for household mercury-containing lamps. The Task Force sent suggested amendments for the bill addressing provisions that did not fall within the Extended Responsibility Framework set forth by CalRecycle.
SB 771	Support and Amend	Chaptered	This bill will, among other things, include as 'eligible electricity generating systems' continuous clean renewable energy resources that utilize waste gases from landfills, digesters, or wastewater treatment facilities to generate electricity. Amendments requested related to providing the incentive to all conversion technologies.
SB 833	Oppose	Vetoed	This bill would have, among other things, prohibited a person from constructing or operating a solid waste landfill disposal facility located in the County of San Diego that is located within 1,000 feet of the San Luis River or a site considered sacred by a Native American tribe. The Task Force expressed concerns regarding the potential unintended impacts of the bill and the negative precedent for overturning local land use authority.
SB 915	Oppose	2 Year Bill	This bill declares the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to require a reduction in plastic bag use. The version opposed by the Task Force would have suspended local plastic bag ordinances.

For more information on these bills or to obtain copies of Task Force letters, please visit the Task Force website, www.lacountyiswmtf.org, or contact Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at 626-458-5163, M-Th, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or Mike Mohajer, Task Force, at 909 592-1147.