



GAIL FARBER  
CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
P.O. BOX 1460, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460  
[www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org)

August 20, 2009

The Honorable Julia Brownley  
State Capitol, Room 2163  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0040

Dear Assembly Member Brownley:

**ASSEMBLY BILL 1329 (AMENDED JULY 1, 2009)  
COMPOSTABLE AND RECYCLABLE FOOD CONTAINERS**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **supports** Assembly Bill 1329 (AB 1329), which would prohibit a retailer from selling, distributing, or importing a single-use rigid or flexible polyvinyl chloride packaging container on and after January 1, 2014.

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 10million. 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 County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the City of Los Angeles, the waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

If enacted, AB 1329 would prohibit a retail establishment from selling, distributing, or importing a single-use packaging container on or after January 1, 2014. In recent years concerns have been raised with regard to PVC being a possible carcinogen due to additives such as phthalates, lead, and cadmium found in PVC products, which can also readily seep into the surrounding environment and groundwater table when landfilled. Moreover, polyvinyl chloride plastic resin is known to be a potent contaminant in the

The Honorable Julia Brownley  
August 20, 2009  
Page 2

recycling stream. It is very challenging to distinguish PVC from other plastics, and if inadvertently included in plastic recycling streams, can contaminate PET plastic (the dominant resin used for consumer plastic packaging). Other plastics that are more readily recyclable do not contain the toxics found in PVC, and can readily replace PVC to make similar packaging.

If enacted, AB 1329 would phase out the sale of PVC packaging, which would enhance recycling efforts and reduce the threat of PVC to the public's health. Therefore, the Task Force **supports** AB 1329. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



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

VJ/SK/CS:kp

P:\SEC\Task Force\ 17, 2009\AB 1329

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 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  
League of California Cities  
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division  
Southern California Association of Governments  
Solid Waste Association of North America  
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