

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE & AB 939 LOCAL TASK FORCE  
SACRAMENTO CITIES\* & COUNTY**

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December 4, 2007

Jennifer Cannell, City of Galt  
City Clerk, City of Isleton  
Steve Harriman, City of Rancho Cordova  
Cedar Kehoe, City of Elk Grove  
Mary Poole, City of Citrus Heights  
Patrick Quinn, Sacramento County  
Richard Shaw, City of Folsom  
Marty Strauss, City of Sacramento

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Support for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Effective February 2006, the State of California banned landfill disposal of universal wastes (u-waste). Mercury-containing household batteries and fluorescent light bulbs are examples of u-wastes that can no longer be disposed in landfills that handle standard municipal solid waste. Mercury is a significant health hazard. Some mercury-containing wastes pose significant exposure risks to local waste management personnel and the environment during collection, handling, packaging and shipment. Since the State of California did not develop a funding mechanism for u-waste management costs, the landfill ban on u-waste has created a new program burden for local government without funding and without product stewardship.

EPR will establish product stewardship incentives or requirements that shift collection, packaging, and disposal costs for products away from local government and back to the distributors or manufacturers. In September 2007, the California Integrated Waste Management Board adopted an EPR Policy Framework calling for California EPR legislation.

Producer responsibility and product stewardship may also:

- Reduce human exposure and environmental impacts of dangerous chemicals;
- Make proper management alternatives more available to the consumer through retail take-back programs for u-waste;
- Provide an incentive for producers to reduce the toxicity of consumer products;
- Make products more readily recyclable; and
- Reduce overall waste generation.

EPR legislation would significantly reduce the operational burden on waste management, water resource and water quality programs and provide more convenient consumer recycling and disposal options through retailers.

***Mission:*** SWAC shall act as the AB 939 Local Task Force and advise the Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority, the County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors and the city councils of the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Galt, Isleton and Sacramento on all matters relating to the County of Sacramento ***Integrated Waste Management Plan*** and all its elements.

**Integrated Waste  
Management Plan  
Elements**

Public education  
Source reduction  
Recycling  
Composting  
Transformation  
Materials recovery  
Resource recovery  
Marketing  
Storage of refuse  
Storage of recyclables  
Waste storage  
Waste collection  
Waste transfer  
Waste processing  
Waste disposal

**Members\***

Sacramento County  
Cities:  
Citrus Heights  
Folsom  
Galt  
Isleton  
Sacramento

**Non-members\***

Elk Grove  
Rancho Cordova

At its December 4, 2007 meeting, the Cities/County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) adopted the following motion by unanimous vote of those members present:

The SWAC recognizes that the cities of Elk Grove and Isleton have already adopted resolutions supporting EPR. The SWAC wishes to encourage the remaining city councils of the cities in the county and the County Board of Supervisors to adopt resolutions in support of California legislation that would establish product stewardship programs that provide an incentive and/or require product manufacturers to redesign products to make them less toxic, less wasteful and easier to recycle, and shift the end-of-life cost for collection, recycling, and proper disposal of the products from local government to the manufacturers and retailers.

This letter is to support local staff efforts seeking EPR resolutions by the cities and the County. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 456-2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl Hauge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carl Hauge, Chairman  
Sacramento Cities and County SWAC/LTF

c: SWAC members