

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-12-5855

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING
EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY**

WHEREAS, approximately 37,000 tons of municipal solid waste is generated in our community on an annual basis at a cost of \$38.00 per ton, including universal waste products such as household batteries and light bulbs; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2006 California's Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) became effective; and

WHEREAS, the Universal Waste Rule bans landfill disposal of certain products that are deemed hazardous, including household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, thermostats and other items that contain mercury, as well as electronic devices such as video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the list of Universal and other waste products determined to be hazardous and therefore banned from landfills will continue to grow as demonstrated by the ban of treated wood effective January 2007 and sharps in September 2008; and

WHEREAS, state policies currently make local governments responsible for achieving waste diversion goals and enforcing product disposal bans, both of which are unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, Universal Waste management costs are currently paid by taxpayers and rate payers and are expected to increase substantially in the short term unless policy changes are made; and

WHEREAS, local governments do not have the resources to adequately address the rising volume of discarded products; and

WHEREAS, costs paid by local governments to manage products are in effect subsidies to the producers of hazardous products and products designed for disposal; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Signal Hill supports statewide efforts to have producers share in the responsibility for Universal Waste products and other product waste management costs; and

WHEREAS, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of Universal Waste, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and other products; and

WHEREAS, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which producers assume financial responsibility for management of waste products and which has been shown to be effective; and

WHEREAS, when products are reused or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and less toxic; and

WHEREAS, EPR framework legislation establishes transparent and fair principles and procedures for applying EPR to categories of products for which improved design and management infrastructure is in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is an organization of California local governments working to speak with one voice in promoting transparent and fair EPR systems in California; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to incorporate EPR policies into the City's and County's product procurement practices to reduce costs and protect public health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, in January 2008 the California Integrated Waste Management Board, now known as CalRecycle, adopted a Framework for an EPR System in California; and

WHEREAS, in July 2008 the National Association of Counties adopted a resolution in support of a framework approach to EPR, November 2009 the National League of Cities adopted EPR policy, and June 2010 the US Conference of Mayors adopted a resolution in support of EPR; and

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That by adoption of this Resolution, the City urges CalRecycle to continue taking timely action to implement the Framework for an EPR System in California to manage problematic products, and to urge the Department of Toxic Substances Control to implement the Green Chemistry initiative to manage Universal and other toxic products.

Section 2: That the City Council of the City of Signal Hill urges the California Legislature to enact product specific and framework EPR legislation which will give producers the incentive to design products to make them less toxic and easier to reuse and recycle.


Section 3: That the Public Works Director of the City of Signal Hill be authorized to send letters to the California State Association of Counties, League of California Cities, and CalRecycle, and the State legislature and to use other advocacy methods to urge support for EPR Framework legislation and related regulations when deemed appropriate.

Section 4: That the Mayor of the Signal Hill City Council be authorized to sign the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) Pledge of Support and participate with CPSC to educate and advocate for EPR policies and programs.

Section 5: That the City encourages all manufacturers to share in the responsibility for eliminating waste through minimizing excess packaging, designing products for durability, reusability and the ability to be recycled; using recycled materials in the manufacture of new products; and providing financial support for collection, processing, recycling, or disposal of used materials; and communicating with haulers and local governments about end of life management.

Section 6: That the City and its member agencies develop producer responsibility policies such as leasing products rather than purchasing them and requiring producers to offer less toxic alternatives and to take responsibility for collecting and recycling their products and the end of their useful life.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Signal Hill, California, on this 7th day of December 2010.


EDWARD H.J. WILSON
MAYOR

ATTEST:


KATHLEEN L. PACHECO
CITY CLERK

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss.
CITY OF SIGNAL HILL)

I, KATHLEEN L. PACHECO, City Clerk of the City of Signal Hill, California, hereby certify that Resolution No. 2010-12-5855 was adopted by the City Council of the City of Signal Hill, California, at a regular meeting held on the 7th day of December 2010, and that the same was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: MAYOR EDWARD H.J. WILSON, VICE MAYOR LARRY FORESTER, COUNCIL MEMBERS TINA L. HANSEN, MICHAEL J. NOLL, ELLEN WARD

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE


KATHLEEN L. PACHECO
CITY CLERK