



September 16, 2009

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of West Sacramento
1110 W. Capitol Ave.
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Re: Support for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

The West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce encourages the City of West Sacramento Council to adopt a resolution in support of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) otherwise known as Product Stewardship. EPR encourages producers to consider end-of-life (EOL) impacts of products and packaging waste to foster cradle-to-cradle product management systems to reduce waste and the high costs of product management currently born by local government and ratepayers.

The Chamber supports the concepts as outlined in the "Extended Producer Responsibility Framework" policy document of 2008 that was developed by a public stakeholder process and provides guidelines for state and producer efforts to reduce EOL environmental impacts. If implemented, this framework will provide future harmonization of EOL systems, as opposed to the state's current costly and time-consuming product-by-product legislation. EPR framework will provide the consistency that businesses want, will create a level playing field, will assure a transparent public process, and will allow for flexibility to address the uniqueness of each product by letting producers design and manage the systems.

We look forward to participating in the regulatory process to define the EPR system that fosters the design of products for reuse and recycling and which will protect the environment and the residents of West Sacramento that come in contact with these products. We also support stewardship policies that allow the private sector to manage systems instead of government to reduce public costs and ensure free-market competition.

Sincerely:

Denice A. Seals
Chief Executive Officer
West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce