

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-008

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIO VISTA
APPROVING SUPPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP
COUNCIL EFFORTS REGARDING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Rio Vista supports statewide efforts to hold producers responsible for product waste; 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, manufactured goods and packaging constitute the vast majority of the materials filling up California landfills, costing residents and businesses millions of dollars a year in refuse rate; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2006, California's Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) took effect and makes it illegal to throw items in the garbage defined as "universal waste," which includes household batteries, fluorescent bulbs or tubes, thermostats and other mercury-containing devices, as well as electronic products that include but are not limited to VCRs, microwaves, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the list of products determined to be hazardous as declared by California's Department of Toxics and Substances Control (DTSC) will continue to grow and therefore be banned from landfills and burden the management of these items to become the responsibility of local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with household products that present a danger to handlers or contain toxic ingredients including mercury, lead, cadmium and other toxic chemicals that when disposed of improperly can contaminate water supplies through landfill leachate;¹ and

WHEREAS, local governments have no input on the design of the products, make no profit from the products, and do not have the resources to address adequately the rising volume of discarded products; and

WHEREAS, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is an environmental policy approach in which producers assume both financial and/or physical responsibility for the end-of-life management of post-consumer products; and there is an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and less toxic; and

WHEREAS, EPR is a strong incentive for producers to efficiently accomplish the reverse logistics necessary for product take-back; and

