

FILED

AUG 04 2008

RESOLUTION NO. 08-116

ANA MORALES, CLERK OF THE BOARD
BY Julie Dackitts
DEPUTY

Resolution Supporting Extended Producer Responsibility

WHEREAS, approximately 180,000 tons of discarded materials and products are currently sent to disposal from our community on an annual basis at a cost of \$36.00 per ton; 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 of the Yolo County area and are expected to increase substantially in the short term unless policy changes are made; 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 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, costs paid in 2007 for managing household sharps was equivalent to \$3,050 and if the County were to collect all of the sharps generated in Yolo County, such a service would cost at least \$115,000 annually ; and

WHEREAS, costs paid in 2007 for managing household batteries was equivalent to over \$4,500 per ton and the costs paid by the Yolo County Division of Integrated Waste Management to properly dispose of fluorescent tubes at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events was over \$1,800 per ton; and

WHEREAS, if Yolo County were able to collect all of the batteries and fluorescent tubes generated within the County, such a service cost would be at least \$500,000 or equivalent to the total cost of the current household hazardous waste program for all HHW; and

WHEREAS, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors support statewide efforts to hold producers responsible 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, and other products; and

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

WHEREAS, when producers are responsible for ensuring their 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, in January 2008 the California Integrated Waste Management Board adopted a Framework for an EPR System in California; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2008, Yolo County adopted an updated Green Procurement Policy that supports the purchase of recycled and environmentally preferred products in order to minimize the County's carbon footprint and increase sustainability relating to county government operations; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF YOLO THAT:

- 1) The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- 2) The Board of Supervisors urges the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to continue taking timely action to implement the Framework for an EPR System in California to manage universal and other wastes.
- 3) The Board of Supervisors urges the California Legislature to enact framework EPR legislation that shifts Universal and other waste management costs from local governments to the producers of the product, giving producers the incentive to redesign products to make them less toxic and easier to reuse and recycle.
- 4) The Board of Supervisors shall send letters to the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, the CIWMB, and the State Legislature to urge support for EPR Framework legislation and to request the use of all advocacy methods available to advance this cause.
- 5) The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to sign the CPSC Pledge of Support.
- 6) Yolo County 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.

7) Yolo County 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.

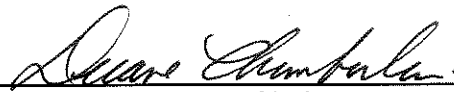
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Yolo, State of California on August 5, 2008 by the following vote:

AYES: McGowan, Thomson, Yamada, Chamberlain.

NOES: Rexroad.

ABSENT: None.

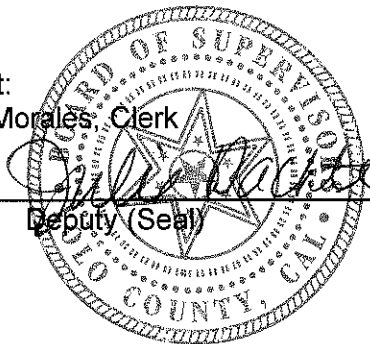
ABSTAIN: None.



Duane Chamberlain, Chairman
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Ana Morales, Clerk

By: 
Deputy (Seal)



Approved as to Form:
Robyn Truitt Drivon, County Counsel

By: 
Hope P. Welton, Deputy

