



# CITY OF DUBLIN

100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, California 94568

Website: [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us)

C.I.W.M.B.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 24 2008

July 22, 2008

Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director  
California Integrated Waste Management Board  
1001 I Street  
PO Box 2815  
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815

## Re: City of Dublin Urges Support for Extended Producer Responsibility Legislation

Dear Mr. Leary:

The California Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) bans landfill disposal of hazardous materials defined as "universal waste" (U-Waste), which includes such items as household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, thermostats, and items containing mercury. Also included are electronic devices, including video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios. The City of Dublin believes that manufacturers should be financially and/or physically responsible for the recycling or disposal of these products and would like to voice its support for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation.

As producers generate consumer products containing hazardous materials that become U-Waste, the financial burden of collection and disposal falls on local governments to provide legal disposal methods. Furthermore, it has been found that when brand owners are responsible for ensuring their products are re-used or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is a strong market incentive to design and purchase goods that are more durable, easier to recycle, and less toxic. In order to avoid taking on a significant local financial burden and to encourage greater manufacturer responsibility, the City of Dublin supports EPR legislation. EPR is an environmental policy approach where producers assume financial and/or physical responsibility for the management of post-consumer products. This means that those who produce and use products defined as U-Waste bear the costs of recycling and proper disposal of these items.

The City of Dublin believes requiring manufacturers to take responsibility for managing potential U-Waste products should be one of the most basic requirements of a manufacturer of products sold in California. Failure to hold manufacturers accountable for the cost of disposal of their products places an undue burden on local governments who ultimately assume those costs. Due to increased costs that such governments are facing in managing the recycling or disposal of U-Waste, Dublin supports legislation that includes the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility. If you have any questions, please contact the City Manager's Office at (925) 833-6650.

Sincerely,

Janet Lockhart  
Mayor

Attachment: Resolution Indicating Support for EPR Legislation

Area Code (925) • City Manager 833-6650 • City Council 833-6650 • Personnel 833-6605 • Economic Development 833-6650  
Finance 833-6640 • Public Works/Engineering 833-6630 • Parks & Community Services 833-6645 • Police 833-6670  
Planning/Code Enforcement 833-6610 • Building Inspection 833-6620 • Fire Prevention Bureau 833-6606

BB-C

**RESOLUTION NO. 24 - 08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY SUPPORT**

**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 universal waste that is deemed hazardous, such as household batteries, fluorescent bulbs or tubes, thermostats, and other items that contain mercury, as well as electronic devices, including video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios; and

**WHEREAS**, universal waste management costs are currently funded by the residential rate payers of the City of Dublin and costs are expected to increase in the short-term unless policy changes are made; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the list of universal waste determined to be hazardous and therefore banned from landfills will continue to grow with the burden to manage these universal wastes falling on the ratepayers of local jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, and the California Product Stewardship Council are spearheading a campaign to increase awareness about the escalating costs of universal waste disposal to local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dublin supports statewide efforts to hold producers accountable for universal waste management costs; and

**WHEREAS**, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of universal waste; and

**WHEREAS**, since local government ratepayers, rather than product manufacturers, currently bear the costs to properly manage universal waste, local governments are in effect subsidizing the production of universal waste; and

**WHEREAS**, extended producer responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which producers assume responsibility for management of waste products; and

**WHEREAS**, when producers are responsible for ensuring their products are recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is a strong incentive to design and purchase goods that are more durable, easier to recycle, and less toxic; and

**WHEREAS**, it is timely to develop and support EPR legislation to address product stewardship for hazardous products currently banned from landfill disposal and those which will be added to the list of banned items in the future; and

WHEREAS, the California Integrated Waste Management Board is currently considering sponsoring EPR legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Dublin hereby urges its legislative representatives to support extended producer responsibility legislation that shifts universal waste management costs from local government to the producer of the product, which will give producers an incentive to redesign products to make them less toxic and easier to recycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Dublin hereby authorizes the Mayor to send a letter to the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, and the California Integrated Waste Management Board to urge support for extended producer responsibility legislation.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008.

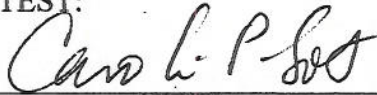
AYES: Councilmembers Hildenbrand, Oravetz, Scholz, and Mayor Lockhart

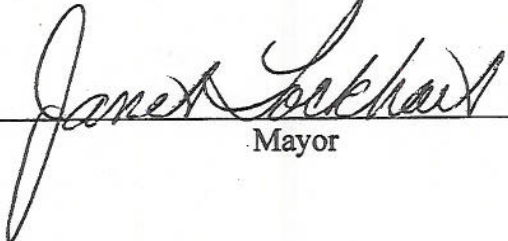
NOES: None

ABSENT: Vice Mayor Sbranti

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy ~~Interim~~ City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor