

**NOTICE OF MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT**  
**LOCAL TASK FORCE**

Merced County Association of Governments  
Conference Room  
369 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95340

(209) 723-3153

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008 3:00 PM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA DURING CONSIDERATION OF THAT ITEM.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATION**

**PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS OR COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA, MAY DO SO AT THIS TIME. COMMENTS ARE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD. FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA, NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. IF IT REQUIRES ACTION, IT WILL BE REFERRED TO STAFF AND/OR PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.**

**COPIES OF STAFF REPORTS OR OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO ITEMS OF BUSINESS REFERRED TO ON THE AGENDA ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF MERCED COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS. PERSONS WITH QUESTIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS MAY CALL MCAG TO MAKE INQUIRY REGARDING THE NATURE OF THE ITEM DESCRIBED ON THE AGENDA.**

**ITEM**

**STAFF**

- \* **4. Minutes of the August 26, 2008 IWMLTF meeting**
- # **5. Updated “Tire Care & Recycling Program” Brochure** Jennifer Halpin  
For information only.
- # **6. Home Depot Taking Back CFL’s for Free** Jennifer Halpin  
For information only.
- # **7. New Recycling Laws** Jennifer Halpin  
For information only.
- # **8. 2008-09 First Quarter Report to the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority Board** Scott Johnston  
For information only.
- # **9. Ag-Chem Container Recycling** Jennifer Halpin  
For information only.
- # **10. New Recycling Hauler for the Merced County Area** Jennifer Halpin  
For information only.
- 11. Adjournment**

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\*Action

#Attachment

+Enclosure

**INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT  
LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**August 26, 2008**

**MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the **INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE** held Tuesday, August 26, 2008 at the Merced County Association of Governments front conference room, 369 W. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced, California, was called to order by Tom Grave at 3:07 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Keith Hester, Private Refuse Hauler, Allied Waste  
Stan Murdock, Public Refuse Hauler, City of Merced  
Tom Grave, Environmental Representative, Merced Alliance for Responsible Growth  
Dennis Shuler, Private Refuse Hauler, Gilton  
Joe Sousa, City Citizen-at-large, City of Los Banos

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Manuel Cardenas, Private Refuse Hauler, Waste Management  
Paul Fillebrown, Merced County Director of Public Works

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Scott Johnston, Merced County Solid Waste Division  
Mary Kay Cruz, Merced County Solid Waste Division  
Jeff Palsgaard, Merced County Department of Environmental Health  
Candice Steelman, Merced County Association of Governments  
Jennifer Halpin, Merced County Association of Governments, IWMLTF Secretary

**3. Oral Communications**

Tom Grave asked that an item of discussion be placed at the end of the agenda on the purpose of the Local Task Force when the meetings should be held. Agreed by consensus.

**4. Minutes of the April 25, 2006 LTF**

Tom Grave requested that he be shown as present at the April 25, 2006 meeting and asked who else attended. Stan Murdock said he also attended. Tom asked why the attendance was not recorded and Mary Kay Cruz informed the members that formal minutes were lost from the previous IWMLTF secretary's records.

Stan Murdock moved to accept the minutes of the April 25, 2006 IWMLTF meeting as corrected.

Seconded by Keith Hester.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. 2006 Annual Report to the California Integrated Waste Management Board**

Mary Kay Cruz announced that the California Integrated Waste Management Board moved the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority's (MCRWMA) base year from 1990 to 2004. Joe Sousa would like a copy of the diversion study. Figures for the 2007 diversion study will not be known until March 2009.

Currently, Merced County has a 71% diversion rate, of which 23% is from residential recycling and 77% from commercial waste diversion. Scott Johnston stated that legislation is being considered to push the diversion rate to 75% by 2020.

**6. Bi-Annual Survey Results for 2007**

Jennifer Halpin presented the results of the recycling survey conducted in November of 2007. Dennis Shuler suggested that a future question could be, "What are you willing to pay for recycling services?" The City of Modesto had this question on their recycling survey a few years ago.

It was requested by those present that Keith Hester send out a copy of a recycling survey conducted by Fresno State students.

**7. 2007-08 Annual Report to the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority Board**

Scott Johnston presented the report which included improvement projects for the Highway 59 and Billy Wright Landfills, the proposed solid waste facility fee increase, the City of Los Banos' new curbside recycling services and commercial diversion programs, the tire grant award, a chart of how much tire grant funds the jurisdictions spent in 2007 on tire amnesty, and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's proposed Rule, which would cause MCRWMA to landfill green waste instead of having uncovered compost piles due to cost issues.

**8. Announcement of a Grant Award for the Waste Tire Cleanup and Amnesty Event Program from the California Integrated Waste Management Board**

Mary Kay Cruz presented the grant award for the waste tire cleanup and amnesty event program from the CIWMB. Each incorporated city is entitled to a limit of \$2000 and \$6500 for the County. Unused funds from any one jurisdiction may be applied to another jurisdiction that may exceed their allocated amount.

Each City and the County will be responsible for their own implementation of a tire amnesty program before seeking reimbursement.

## **9. Oral Presentation – Sharps Disposal**

Jeff Palsgaard, from the County of Merced Department of Environmental Health, announced that home-generated sharps would be banned from disposal starting September 1, 2008. The press release, which will go out next week to the local newspapers and websites, was handed out along with Frequently Asked Questions and a flyer on Safe Disposal of Home-Generated Syringes and Sharps.

CA Pharmaceutical Drug Waste Disposal Guidelines were also handed out. Jeff pointed out that it is no longer recommended that medicine be flushed down the toilet because wastewater treatment plants cannot remove traces of medications. Now the recommendation is to keep the pharmaceuticals in the original containers, mix the pills with anything undesirable such as kitty litter or coffee grounds to deter anyone from wanting to use the medication, scratch out any personal information, tape the container shut, and throw it into the garbage.

Department of Environmental Health applied for a \$400,000 grant for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Sharps disposal. Sharps currently go to the Sanitec transfer facility in Atwater.

Sharps also include ones from farms, dairies and ranches. Jeff said that a medium-sized dairy could generate 10-25 buckets of sharps each year.

## **10. Outreach Events**

Jennifer Halpin presented a table of community events at which MCAG has had a recycling information booth since September 2007 to present. Presentations to organizations such as Boy Scouts and school ASSETS programs were also included on the table.

Joe Sousa mentioned that the Salute to Seniors is coming up in September, along with Earth Day coordinated by Sandy Lemas in the spring, and two street fairs.

## **11. Recycling Media Available to the Public**

Jennifer Halpin presented three forms of print media available to the public, as well as the [www.mercedrecycles.com](http://www.mercedrecycles.com) website, which was presented on screen to the IWMLTF.

## **12. Alternative Media – Recycling Show for Schools**

Jennifer Halpin announced that Allied Waste funded a “Magic of Recycling” tour for the K-5 elementary schools of Los Banos Unified School District. The “Magic of

Recycling” is an alternative media type that could be funded by the jurisdictions’ California Department of Conservation (DOC) funds.

**13. Membership Status of the Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force**

Membership status was reviewed. The task force is soliciting recommendations to fill two county at-large and one city at-large positions.

**14. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2008-2009**

Stan Murdock moved to recommend Tom Grave as Chairman for 2008-2009.

Seconded by Joe Sousa.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Tom Grave moved to recommend Joe Sousa as Vice Chairman for 2008-2009.

Seconded by Keith Hester.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**15. Adjournment**

Joe Sousa suggested meetings of the IWMLTF be held twice a year while Tom Grave and Scott Johnston would like to see quarterly meetings. Stan Murdock stated that the meetings were held quarterly in the 1990’s and that they became repetitive.

Joe Sousa moved to recommend the meetings of the IWMLTF be held quarterly, with the option to change to twice a year if warranted.

Seconded by Stan Murdock.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The next meeting of the IWMLTF will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:30 PM.**

**ITEM 5**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE (LTF)**

**FROM: JENNIFER HALPIN, PUBLIC PROGRAMS SPECIALIST**

**SUBJECT: UPDATED “TIRE CARE & RECYCLING PROGRAM” BROCHURE**

**BACKGROUND**

The Merced County Tire Care & Recycling Program brochure contains information for residents on how to care for their tires and how to properly dispose of them. The brochure was created sometime around 2000 to 2001.

The updated brochure includes the new landfill tire rates as well as new tire care guidelines. It is offered in English and Spanish.

Tire care guidelines and Phillip the Tire<sup>®</sup> were provided by the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA).

Spanish translations were performed by Inter-Lingua of Carlsbad, CA.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachments: “Merced County Tire Care & Recycling Program” brochure – English  
“Condado de Merced Programa de Cuidado y Reciclaje de Llantas” – Spanish

**ITEM 6**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**FROM: JENNIFER HALPIN, PUBLIC PROGRAMS SPECIALIST**

**SUBJECT: HOME DEPOT TAKING BACK CFL'S FOR FREE**

**BACKGROUND**

Home Depot announced in June that they are accepting expired, unbroken carbon fluorescent lights (CFLs) for free at all of their nationwide stores. CFLs contain mercury and are considered household hazardous waste (HHW). CFLs must be brought to the store intact to make sure the mercury is not released from the light.

Most people do not know that they cannot throw away or recycle their CFLs inside their curbside containers. Before the Home Depot take-back program, residents who were aware that CFLs were HHW would have to take their CFLs out to the Environmental Health drop off site located at the Highway 59 landfill in Merced.

There are currently two Home Depots in Merced County: one in Merced and one in Los Banos. The CFL collection box can be found at the returns desk.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachment: Home Depot Press Release

**ITEM 7**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**FROM: JENNIFER HALPIN, PUBLIC PROGRAMS SPECIALIST**

**SUBJECT: NEW RECYCLING LAWS**

**BACKGROUND**

Governor Schwarzenegger signed five bills that restrict recyclers:

AB 844 will become effective on December 1, 2008.

- Introduced by Assembly Member Tom Berryhill, R-Modesto, co-sponsored by the Farm Bureau
- Requires a junk dealer or recycler to have a three-day holding period on any payment for nonferrous material
- Requires the dealer or recycler to obtain and retain certain identifying information for a certain period of time, (such as license plate number, thumbprints, and photograph of the metal) and take a photograph or video of the seller
- Anyone convicted of metal theft is to pay restitution for the materials stolen and for any collateral damage caused during the theft
- Recyclers who break the law face suspension or revocation of their business licenses, and increased fines and jail time

AB 1778 will become effective on January 1, 2009.

- Introduced by Assembly Member Fiona Ma, D-San Francisco
- Requires payments of \$50 or more to be made by check for newspaper and California Redemption Value (CRV) containers
- The dealer or recycler needs to obtain identifying information of individuals who bring in more than \$50 worth of newspaper and California Redemption Value (CRV) containers

AB 1859 will become effective on January 1, 2009.

- Introduced by Assembly Member Anthony Adams, R-Hesperia
- Creates a fine of not more than \$3,000 for any person who knowingly receives any part of a fire hydrant, including bronze or brass fittings and parts

SB 447 will become effective on January 1, 2009.

- Introduced by Senator Abel Maldonado, R-Santa Maria
- Requires scrap metal dealers and recyclers to daily report to the chief of police or sheriff on what materials are being scrapped at their facilities and by whom (These rules already apply to pawnshop dealers.)

SB 691 will become effective on December 1, 2008

- Introduced by Senator Ron Calderon, D-Montebello
- Requires recyclers to take thumbprints of individuals selling copper, copper alloys, aluminum and stainless steel
- Sellers must show ID and proof of their current address

### **REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachments: Notice from the California Department of Conservation  
Merced County Sheriff's Rural Crime Prevention and Reporting brochure



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Solid Waste Division**

**Paul A. Fillebrown**  
*Director*

2222 "M" Street  
Merced, CA 95340  
(209) 385-7388  
(209) 725-1901 Fax  
[www.co.merced.ca.us](http://www.co.merced.ca.us)

*Equal Opportunity Employer*

**ITEM 8**

**ITEM 8**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**FROM: R. SCOTT JOHNSTON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
SOLID WASTE DIVISION**

**SUBJECT: 2008-09 FIRST QUARTER REPORT TO THE MERCED COUNTY  
REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BOARD**

Attached for your information is the 2008-09 fiscal year First Quarter Report to the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority Board from the Merced County Solid Waste Division

In January of 2007, the Merced County Solid Waste Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was amended to accommodate the provisions necessary for the regional agency to issue Solid Waste Revenue Bonds. The amended JPA also formally created the Merced County Regional Waste Management Authority, comprised of Merced County's six cities and unincorporated Merced County.

The amended JPA also strengthens provisions to ensure that member agencies would continue to use Merced County landfills and not divert solid waste to non-regional agency facilities; the term of the JPA would continue at least as long as there was bond indebtedness to be repaid; the agency had the authority to issue debt; the agency would acquire title to the landfill property; and, the agency would have control of the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

The amended JPA also required the development of an "operator agreement" between Merced County Solid Waste Division and the Regional Agency.

The operator agreement establishes guidelines for the Solid Waste Division to carry out facility maintenance and operations; material handling, disposal and diversion; and, facility use, planning, reporting, budget preparation and audit. As part of the reporting duties, the Solid Waste Division provides quarterly and annual reports to the MCRWMA Board.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachment: 2008-09 First Quarter Report to the MCRWMA Board

## **I. FACILITY OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

The Merced County Solid Waste Division operates the MCRWMA Highway 59 and Billy Wright Landfills; the Highway 59 and Billy Wright Composting Facilities; and, the Highway 59 and Billy Wright Curbside Recycling Transfer Facilities.

### **Capital Improvement Projects**

- **Highway 59 landfill expansion**, including construction of new scale house; improvements to State North Highway 59 at the landfill entrance; Phase 1-4 closure and landfill gas control system; landfill expansion Cell 6A construction; and, Phase 5 closure and gas control system
- **Billy Wright landfill expansion**, including construction of interim transfer pad and transfer / processing facility

### **HIGHWAY 59 LANDFILL**

#### **Construction of New Scale House Expected to Begin in Summer of 2009**

The project consists of the design of the scale house and all associated systems, scales, traffic lanes and signs, and the internal roadway from the entrance to the scale house. Preliminary (60%) plans have been reviewed and comments provided back to the design consultant. Ninety percent (90%) complete plans are expected within the next two months. Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2009.

#### **North State Highway 59 Improvements: Cal-Trans Approves the Traffic Study**

On September 18, 2008 the Solid Waste Division received a letter from Cal-Trans that the final traffic impact study for improvements to North State Highway 59 at the landfill entrance has been approved (See Attachment 1).

Preliminary design plans for North State Highway 59 improvements are currently being reviewed by Cal-Trans and negotiations are taking place.

#### **Phase 1-4 Closure and Landfill Gas (LFG) Control System: Still Awaiting Regional Water Quality Control Board Review**

Closure of the initial and oldest phases of the Highway 59 landfill, phases 1-4, is planned to begin in the spring of 2009. Closure is planned to consist of placing a 5-foot soil cap over the landfill, installing drainage facilities and seeding the area. Closure will also include constructing the first phase of the LFG control system.

Design for closure and installation of a LFG control system was completed and submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board in May 2007. Both the Solid Waste Division and our design consultant have been in contact with Regional Board staff regarding when the Solid Waste Division could expect action; Solid Waste Division staff was recently informed that the plans are “on the list of work for this quarter” awaiting review by Regional Board staff.

### **Highway 59 Landfill Expansion Cell 6A Fully Complete**

Cell 6A of the Highway 59 landfill expansion was completed in the fall of 2007. The Class II leachate pond was redesigned and approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board in April of 2008. Construction of the Class II leachate pond is now complete. The expansion project for Cell 6A construction is now fully complete.

### **Phase 5 Closure and LFG Control System**

SCS Engineers have provided the Solid Waste Division with preliminary plans for this closure project. The project will tie together with the LFG control system for Phase 1-4. Solid Waste Division is currently reviewing the preliminary plans and will provide comments to SCS soon.

## **BILLY WRIGHT LANDFILL**

### **Preliminary Design Plans for the Transfer/Processing Facility Currently Being Reviewed**

The County has contracted with Bryan A. Stirrat and Associates (BAS) for design and permitting of the Billy Wright Transfer Station, Phase 1. On September 19, 2008 BAS provided the County with a preliminary site plan for the transfer / processing facility (See Attachment 2). Solid Waste Division and Professional Services staff is currently reviewing the plans. Construction is expected to take place during the summer of 2009.

### **Billy Wright Landfill Expansion-Army Corps Concurrence of “Non-jurisdictional” Waters**

On August 1, 2008, the Solid Waste Division received official notification from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that the Corps concurs with the January 2008 Supreme Court ruling that deemed delineated waters on the Billy Wright site as “isolated”, and therefore non-jurisdictional (See Attachment 3). Non-jurisdictional waters are considered not to be “waters of the United States.” The landfill expansion may now move forward without further oversight from the Corps.

This official notification follows a June 5, 2007 report entitled *Delineation of Waters of the United States* identifying 5.48 acres of potential “jurisdictional waters” that was submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the 175 acre Billy Wright Landfill expansion project. In March 2008 a representative from the Corps performed a site visit to verify the wetlands delineation and evaluate the isolated waters conclusion of the January 2008 ruling.

### **MCRWMA’s Solid Waste Facility Fee Increase Adopted August 21, 2008**

At the close of their August 21, 2008 public hearing, the MCRWMAB adopted Resolution No. 2008/08-21-01 for the purpose of implementing a solid waste facility fee increase.

At the May 15, 2008 meeting, the MCRWMA Board was presented with several options for a proposed tip fee increase for the regional agency’s solid waste facilities. The MCRWMA Board approved a recommendation to move forward with implementing a solid waste facility fee increase of 5.2% each fiscal year over a five fiscal year period beginning on July 1, 2009. The fee increase is the result of a significant decrease in tonnage received at each landfill over the past two fiscal years.

### **Residential Development Policy Rescinded at the Highway 59 Landfill Expansion**

On June 17, 2008, Merced County Board of Supervisors (BOS) adopted Resolution No. 2008-112, rescinding the residential development policy that restricted residential development within one-half mile of the Highway 59 Landfill expansion. The residential development policy was created in response to a mitigation measure contained in the Federal Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). The mitigation measure required the establishment of a one-half mile non-residential development easement to be obtained by the County of Merced from the affected landowners.

In place of the residential development policy, Resolution No. 2008-112 establishes a notification and disclosure to be provided to prospective buyers or tenants of residential properties within one-quarter mile of the landfill. The disclosure states that the landfill is active, will continue with operations and that operations may be noticeable to residents within one-quarter mile of the landfill (See Attachment 4).

The new noticing and disclosure requirements are the result of a recent Addendum to the Highway 59 Landfill Expansion Final Environmental Impact Report wherein it was determined that sanitary landfills are not inherently incompatible to residential land uses.

## **II. DIVERSION ACTIVITIES**

### **Compost Sales are Highest on Record**

The first quarter of FY 2008/09 saw some of the highest compost sales ever for the regional agency's solid waste facilities. In general, demand for compost has been strong in the agricultural industries for farming applications.

From July through mid-September, compost sales of 13,000 cubic yards have taken place-generating revenue in the amount of \$69,000. Revenue generated from compost sales help to offset the regional agency's preferential tip fee of \$10.50 per ton for clean green waste, for member jurisdictions' curbside Greenwaste programs.

## **III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### **Governor Signs SB1016, Disposal Measurement System, on September 26, 2008**

SB 1016 was introduced with the premise that the measurement system for diversion progress needs to change in order to ensure increased accuracy and timeliness. In order to achieve this, SB 1016 proposes to change from a diversion-based measurement to a disposal based measurement system that adjusts for growth using a jurisdiction's annual population figure as reported by the Department of Finance.

Each year, jurisdictions are required to submit an Annual Report to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to report diversion progress and program implementation. From this report the CIWMB generates a jurisdiction's diversion rate, using a set of adjustment factors, in order to determine whether or not a jurisdiction is maintaining a 50% or greater diversion rate as required by AB 939, the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989.

SB 1016 does not change the diversion goals of AB 939. Rather, SB 1016 will change the way diversion progress is measured and reported during the annual report process.

In summary, SB 1016 will accomplish the following:

- To use disposal as reported in the CIWMB's disposal reporting system (DRS) and population as reported by the California Department of Finance as the two factors for determining a jurisdiction's progress in meeting AB 939 diversion mandates. The disposal reporting number used to determine compliance will be reported as a per capita disposal rate, where per capita disposal is defined as total annual disposal divided by total population.
- The CIWMB will first establish each jurisdiction's per capita disposal equivalent by calculating the per capita disposal a jurisdiction would have had if it had been at exactly 50% diversion during the reporting period of 2003 to 2006 (the 'base period' for purposes of SB 1016).
- An increase in per capita disposal in subsequent years would indicate that a jurisdiction has allowed disposal amounts to increase faster than population. The CIWMB would then begin to examine a jurisdiction's program implementation and recommend that the jurisdiction enhance program development.

#### Reporting Requirements

Each jurisdiction or regional agency will continue to submit their Electronic Annual Report (EAR) to the CIWMB each year on or around March 1.

#### Compliance and Enforcement

Under SB 1016, the compliance and enforcement that a jurisdiction could incur is still the "compliance order" for failing to maintain the diversion requirement and "civil penalties" for failing to meet the requirements stipulated in the compliance order.

If a jurisdiction fails to implement the plan of correction as contained in a compliance order, civil fines could be levied of up to \$10,000.00 per jurisdiction per day.

#### **Local Costly Organics Rule Development May Be Postponed to late 2010**

In March of 2008 the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) introduced draft Rule 4566 for Organic Waste Operations. This new rule would establish volatile organic compound (VOC) limits, including operational and administrative requirements, for organic waste composting and other related operations.

The SJVAPCD recently announced that it will hold a public hearing on October 16, 2008 to consider approving a request to extend to late 2010 the rule adoption timeline. Originally the SJVAPCD slated early 2009 for adopting the final rule.

The draft Rule as written would significantly increase the cost of composting Greenwaste at both Authority composting facilities. Costly infrastructure, processing equipment replacement and regulatory compliance requirements are estimated to increase our composting facility costs by

300% to 500%. The estimated cost to comply with the draft rule could exceed \$50 per ton for the composting of organics.

On April 29, 2008, the MCRWMA had submitted a comment letter to address significant technical and scientific errors in the compliance requirements of the draft rule.

**Senate Bills Failed: 1020-Solid Waste Diversion, 2640-Organics Management and 2866-Integrated Waste Management Fee**

Introduced in February 2007, SB 1020 proposed that each jurisdiction was to achieve a 60% diversion rate from landfill disposal by 2012, and a 75% diversion rate by 2020.

Introduced in February 2008, AB 2640 stipulated that on and after January 1, 2015, the use of “green material” (for example curbside collected green waste) for beneficial reuse at a landfill would not qualify for diversion under the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) and would instead be considered disposal. Examples of beneficial reuse of “green material” at a landfill may include Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) and erosion control.

AB 2640 also proposed that the CIWMB create and administer policies and programs that would require jurisdictions to reduce the number of tons of organics landfilled by 50% by the year 2020 and annually thereafter, based on 2008 figures.

The bill would have also required that if an operator used green material as beneficial reuse on-site, including the use of green material for ADC, the operator would be assessed a \$1.40 per ton fee on this material, to be paid quarterly to the State Board of Equalization (BOE).

AB 2866 would have increased the solid waste disposal fee to the State Board of Equalization (BOE) to \$2.00 per ton from \$1.40 per ton.

**ITEM 9**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**FROM: JENNIFER HALPIN, PUBLIC PROGRAMS SPECIALIST**

**SUBJECT: AG-CHEM CONTAINER RECYCLING**

**BACKGROUND**

The Merced County Agriculture Commissioner has partnered with Interstate Ag Plastics to provide free recycling of ag-chem containers. Ag-Chem containers are the agricultural containers used by growers and commercial applicators. Usually, these containers are hauled to the landfill and disposed of or recycled for a fee.

At the drop off locations, containers up to 55-gallons will be accepted for free. Containers that originally held veterinary products, consumer products, or home and garden pesticides will NOT be accepted. Growers and commercial applicators will be asked to follow the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) checklist (attached) before bringing their containers to the drop off events. Any grower or commercial applicator that does not follow the checklist will need to take back their containers.

For more information, please contact Sean Runyon at the Merced Ag Commissioner's office at 209-385-7431 or MCAG Recycling Information Specialist Jennifer Halpin at [Jennifer.Halpin@mcagov.org](mailto:Jennifer.Halpin@mcagov.org), 209-723-3153 ext. 315.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachments: Schedule of Ag-Chem Recycling Events  
ACRA Checklist

## Recycling Events for Used Pesticide Containers

Please contact the Merced County Ag Commissioner's office to arrange for a pesticide container rinse certification before the scheduled recycling dates.

- Containers should be triple rinsed in accordance with CCR section 6684. Containers should not have excess materials or "caked" on formulations left in or on the container. Unacceptable containers will be returned if not rinsed correctly. (Click [here](#) for examples of acceptable and unacceptable containers) It is recommended that large loads of containers be brought in trailers, which can be left at the site and picked up later.
- Please remove: any label booklets, container lids, metal handles of buckets, rubber gaskets, and foil seals. However, glued on labels identifying the product must remain on the container.
- Please view the Interstate Ag Plastics' [inspection checklist](#) for container preparation before recycling.
- Only HDPE # 2 containers (symbol located on bottom of container) that were used by Growers or Commercial Applicators are acceptable. Home use pesticides are not acceptable. 35-gallon containers or larger should have the tops and bottoms cut off and disposed of, and the middle cut into three rings.

Please contact the Agricultural Commissioner's office at 385-7431 for questions about the events. Below are the locations and dates for the recycling events. The participating locations should be thanked for their participation and commitment to promote environmental stewardship.

Events are from **9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**, but will be extended if needed. Ag Commissioner staff will be onsite to provide assistance.

### **October 27**

Simplot Grower Solutions  
10985 Ballico Ave. in Ballico

### **October 28**

Western Farm Service  
265 N. Arboleda Dr. in Merced

### **November 13**

Helena Chemicals  
50 E. Reilly in Merced

### **January 12**

Wilbur Ellis Co.  
782 W. Washington Rd. in El Nido

October 10, 2008

**January 13**

Cortez Growers Association  
12714 Cortez Ave., Turlock (within Merced County)

**January 14**

Mid Valley Agricultural Services  
11019 Eucalyptus Ave. in Livingston

Information about recycling is available at the Ag Container Recycling Council website at [www.acrecycle.org](http://www.acrecycle.org). Click to view the ACRC [Recycling Brochure](#).

Please view the Interstate Ag Plastics website's [checklist](#) for container preparation before recycling on [www.interstateagplastics.com](http://www.interstateagplastics.com)

For more information, please call the Merced County Agricultural Commissioner's Office at (209) 385-7431.

## ACRC INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Preparing containers for recycling is important. Just be sure to follow this checklist before your ACRC Contractor arrives for pickup.

- **TYPE:** Include non-refillable containers made from HDPE (high density polyethylene) only; embossed with recycling symbol #2.
- **PRIOR USE:** EPA registered crop protection products labeled for agriculture, forestry, vegetative management, and specialty pest control are acceptable. Also acceptable, containers holding crop protection adjuvants, crop oils and surfactants.
- **EXCLUSIVE PROFESSIONAL USE:** The ACRC accepts containers for products applied by Growers or Commercial Applicators only. Do not include containers that held veterinary, consumer or home & garden protection products. These are not acceptable for recycling in the ACRC program.
- **SIZES:** All sizes up to 55-gallon capacity drums are routinely accepted.
- **RESIDUES & CLEANING:** **Containers must be empty and triple rinsed or pressure rinsed to remove all standing residue. Staining is acceptable. Caked on residue is not. Be sure there is no residue that can be smeared or will flake off when touched with a glove. Container insides must be dry.**
- **STORAGE:** To keep container insides dry, store in a building, trailer, or under a plastic tarp.
- **PARTS & CAPS:** Non-HDPE parts such as caps, metal handles and rubber linings cannot be recycled, and should be disposed of as normal solid waste. Do not put a cap back on a rinsed container.
- **LABEL & BOOKLET REMOVAL:** Labels and booklets will interfere with the recycling process and should be removed. However, a few local authorities require that labels remain affixed. If you have doubts, check with your local authority. If you have trouble with label removal, check with your ACRC Contractor.

Containers that originally held veterinary products, consumer products, or home and garden pesticides are NOT ACCEPTABLE.

**ITEM 10**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

**TO: INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

**FROM: JENNIFER HALPIN, PUBLIC PROGRAMS SPECIALIST**

**SUBJECT: NEW RECYCLING HAULER FOR THE MERCED COUNTY AREA**

**BACKGROUND**

There is a new recycling hauler for the Merced County area: Eagle Recycling. Eagle Recycling will have a recycling center located in Newman and will haul recyclables to its main facility in Hollister.

Eagle Recycling has contacted schools in Merced County to see if there will be enough schools on board for it to offer free recycling services.

For more information, please contact Eagle Recycling Educational Resource/Recycling Consultant Sunny Brawley at (831) 637-1743 or fax (831) 637-1767.

**REQUESTED ACTION**

For information only.

Attachment: Eagle Recycling, Inc. Informational Flyer

