

July 3, 2013

Ms. Teri Wion, Senior Specialist
Materials Management and Local Assistance Division CalRecycle
1001 I Street
Sacramento CA 95812-4025
via email: ClimateChange@CalRecycle.ca.gov

SUBJECT: COMMENTS TO DRAFT WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTOR PLANS

Dear Ms. Wion:

Organic Energy Corporation is grateful for the opportunity to submit comments for the collaborative effort of CalRecycle and the Air Resources Board (ARB) as they draft plans for development of Assembly Bill (AB) 341 implementation plan and revision of the AB 32 Scoping Plan. We applaud the coordination and collaboration of the two department staffs.

Much of the regulatory environment regarding waste is based on antiquated technology and processes. The regulatory environment needs to keep pace with technological advancement and be structured to exploit opportunity. All to often the California regulatory environment is a draconian system resulting in lose-lose propositions. California should be on the forefront of technological advancement, for which it often finds itself locked out.

The Public Resources Code defines recycling as:

PRC §40180: "Recycle" or "recycling" means the process of collecting, sorting, cleansing, treating, and reconstituting materials that would otherwise become solid waste, and returning them to the economic mainstream in the form of raw material for new, reused, or reconstituted products which meet the quality standards necessary to be used in the marketplace. "Recycling" does not include transformation, as defined in Section 40201.

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Markets are ultimately going to determine the disposition of segregated waste streams. If the highest and best economic use of a segregated stream is derived through thermal processing as a means to generate high value products, current California regulation will impede societal advancement. Today there are commercially viable processes that can convert what are now considered low-grade segregated materials that at times have no or negative market values into extremely high value products. Specifically, waste derived biomass of any kind can be thermally converted to B-100 transportation fuels (no blending require) that can utilize existing fuel distribution infrastructure.

This is the future. California can stick its head in the sand and say we are not going to accept thermal processing of waste derived biomass, and in doing so put low-grade paper on a ship to China with the illusion it will be made into paper. The current regulatory environment is forcing export of jobs, resources, and wealth to China. In the near future China will produce liquid fuels from our waste paper, and that fuel will have a much higher GHG value. We need to keep our resources here, maximize the value of our resources, and have control of emissions from the manufacturing process.

Clearly we do not want California to allow incineration, or mass transformation of unsegregated materials. When there is the opportunity to thermally convert segregated waste streams into low or negative carbon transportation fuels, while at the same time stimulating economic activity and protecting the environment, we should collectively as a State take full advantage. This means the conversion of waste derived and segregated biomass to B-100 transportation fuel should meet the definition of recycling.

MSW feedstock's may well provide the lowest GHG alternatives for production of locarbon transportation fuels. This would be the goal of AB 32 and AB 341. This goal will be extremely difficult to achieve if the highest and best economic and environmental alternative for recycling is obstructed because the feedstock materials will not be considered diverted from disposal.

If you have questions please contact me at (916) 549-0868 or <u>Buckle@IES-ENG.COM</u>.

Sincerely,

Larry T. Buckle, PE

Chief Technology Office

Organic Energy Corporation

cc: Teri Wion, CalRecycle, teri.wion@calrecycle.ca.gov Mei Fong, ARB, sfong@arb.ca.gov David Mallory, ARB AB 32 Climate Change Scoping Plan, dmallory@arb.ca.gov Michael Picker, Senior Advisor to Governor Brown, michael.picker@gov.ca.gov

