

SPONSORS

September 22, 2015

PARTNER

LA Sanitation
City of Los Angeles

Honorable Edmund G. Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

PLATINUM

Cal Recycle

GOLD

Republic Services

RE: AB 1045 (Irwin): Compost – Request for Signature

StopWaste

Tetra Tech

Dear Governor Brown,

SILVER

Anaergia

On behalf of the California Resource Recovery Association, I am writing to request your signature on AB 1045, which establishes a statewide policy to promote the use of compost by requiring state entities to work together to establish a coordinated effort for the development and deployment of compost.

Athens Services

Cascadia Consulting
Services

CH2M Hill

HF&H Consultants

Marin Sanitary Services

PSSI/Stanford Recycling

R3 Consulting

Recology

United Pacific Waste &
Recycling Services

Waste Resources, Inc.

Zanker Recycling

Although California leads the nation in waste reduction and recycling, the state continues to dispose of more than 15 million tons of compostable organic waste each year. The state has adopted numerous goals that will encourage recycling of this waste and will ultimately lead to more compost production in the coming years. The Economic and Technology Advancement Committee, formed under the California Global Warming Solution Act of 2006, identifies composting as a cost-effective technology for reducing greenhouse gases. Furthermore, the application of compost in agriculture and landscaping has been shown to offer significant soil carbon-sequestration and water-quality benefits, provide erosion control, and reduce the need for synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. However, permitting compost facilities remains challenging in California and compost facilities are regulated by several state agencies.

AB 1045 provides authority to the Secretaries of the CalEPA and the Department of Food and Agriculture to work with CalRecycle to ensure the state has a comprehensive compost policy in place. This policy will promote California's waste diversion and greenhouse gas reduction goals, while protecting public health and safety. In addition, AB 1045 sets an ambitious goal to reduce greenhouse gases by 5 million metric tons per years through the use of compost.



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By managing our waste streams more effectively, California can significantly reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change. The state has made great strides toward reducing waste in landfills by setting organics diversion goals. In order to facilitate these goals, California must now look to the permitting process to ensure that state agency actions are consistent with moving organics to composting facilities.

For these reasons, I ask for your signature on AB 1045.

Sincerely,

John H Dane

John H. Dane,
Executive Director

cc: Assembly Member Irwin