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SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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July 21, 2009

The Honorable Christine Kehoe
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 64 (Krekorian) Energy: renewable energy resources: generation and transmission – Oppose

Dear Chairwoman Kehoe,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is composed of approximately 7000 public and private sector solid waste management professionals throughout North America dedicated to the development and enhancement of environmentally and economically sound practices and policies for the integrated management of municipal solid waste. There are approximately 900 members of SWANA in California, and on their behalf I am writing to **OPPOSE AB 64** (Krekorian) regarding renewable energy resources.

AB 64, if enacted, would recast the renewables portfolio standard program, to be operative on January 1, 2011, to require that a retail seller and a local publicly owned electric utility: (1) procure at least 20% of the electricity delivered to its retail customers from eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2010, (2) procure at least 25% of the electricity delivered to its retail customers from eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2015, and (3) procure at least 33% of the electricity delivered to its retail customers from eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2020.

While we support increasing the use of renewable energy, AB 64 would also establish inconsistent and inequitable criteria for municipal solid waste to energy facilities from consideration as eligible renewable resources. Currently, there are three facilities in California that have been operating for twenty plus years complying with strict air quality standards while providing much needed energy to the grid. As such, all of the facilities should be considered eligible facilities in order to maximize availability of energy for the proposed program.

In addition, the bill does not facilitate the development of other technologies for converting solid waste into products such as clean fuels by imposing impractical and unnecessary requirements for consideration as an eligible renewable resource.

For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA **OPPOSES** AB 64 and urges your “no” vote when it is heard in your committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Yoder
Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Paul Krekorian