



September 3, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Office of the Governor
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 489 (Monning) – Hazardous Waste: Photovoltaic Modules
SWANA – Request for Signature**

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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Dear Governor Brown,

The California Chapters of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) represent much of the publicly-owned and -operated solid waste management infrastructure in the state and the local governments responsible for implementing waste diversion and recycling programs. The SWANA Legislative Task Force (LTF) represents the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues.

The SWANA LTF respectfully requests that you **SIGN SB 489**, which would allow local jurisdictions to manage photovoltaic modules used to produce solar energy as universal waste. This will result in a more efficient and effective paradigm for managing solar panels. The LTF supports the amendments taken to remove the disposal ban from SB 489, as our support was contingent on that action.

The SWANA LTF agrees that it is time for the Legislature and the Administration to address the increasing presence of photovoltaic modules in the waste stream. SWANA is supportive of granting authority to DTSC to designate photovoltaic modules as universal waste. This would allow local governments to utilize existing e-waste infrastructure to process photovoltaic modules, while at the same time encouraging the industry to design photovoltaic modules for extended life, repair and reuse, prior to end-of-life management.

The SWANA LTF believes that granting DTSC the authority to designate photovoltaic modules as universal or hazardous waste is a positive step forward. Accordingly, we are pleased to support this legislation and again, respectfully request that you **SIGN SB 489** as amended to remove the disposal ban when this bill comes before your desk.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate

Cc: The Honorable William Monning, 17th Senate District