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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

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May 11, 2016

The Honorable Ricardo Lara
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1043 (Allen) – Biogas and biomethane – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Lara,

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is the world's largest association of solid waste professionals (over 8,000 members). SWANA's California chapters represent more than 900 members. SWANA is committed to advancing the practice of environmentally- and economically-sound management of municipal solid waste. SWANA's California Legislative Task Force (LTF) is responsible for representing the California Chapters on legislative and regulatory issues.

SWANA is pleased to **SUPPORT SB 1043**, which would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to consider and adopt policies to increase the sustainable production and use of in-state less carbon intensive gas. The bill also requires CARB to identify barriers to increased use and production of biogas gas and potential funding sources to incentivize the biogas market in California.

Made from organic waste, biogas can cut greenhouse gas emissions by millions of tons per year, reduce fossil fuel use, air, and water pollution, significantly reduce landfilling, reduce catastrophic wildfire, and produce two to six times as many jobs as fossil fuel (natural) gas. California has set important waste diversion, air and water quality, climate change, and wildfire reduction goals, including the 50% petroleum reduction and 50% RPS goals. **SB 1043** supports and aligns with these statewide goals, as well as with CARB's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Reduction Strategy and CalRecycle's 75% solid waste diversion initiative.

SB 1043 will diversify and decarbonize California's gas supply while protecting ratepayers and helping the state achieve its environmental goals. For these reasons and more, SWANA is pleased to **SUPPORT SB 1043**. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jason Schmelzer
SWANA Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District