



**SWANA**<sup>®</sup>

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION  
of North America

**CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS**

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**LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**

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May 6, 2008

The Honorable Tom Torlakson  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol Building, Room 2206  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 1165 (Kuehl) – Environmental Impact Reports- OPPOSE**

Dear Chair Torlakson,

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 regretfully OPPOSE SB 1165, regarding environmental impact reports.

SB 1165 bill provides that any EIR over five years old must be re-circulated before it may be used again. This is an arbitrary expiration date and will largely stop the use of program EIRs and subsequent/supplemental EIRs, thereby eliminating a major streamlining tool from CEQA.

Program EIRs are typically done for projects that will take several years to build out. By limiting the life of the program EIR to five years, the agency is required to reconsider environmental analyses that it has already studied.

While designed to increase public participation, SB 1165 will make it unnecessarily difficult for local jurisdictions to implement, and will impose arbitrary requirements that will eliminate many existing tools designed to speed up the CEQA process.

For these reasons, the California Chapters of SWANA oppose SB 1165 and urge your "No" vote.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Yoder  
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Sheila Kuehl  
Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations  
Committee