



President's Circle Sponsors



US EPA – Region 9
Sunset Waste Systems
City of Los Angeles

The views expressed in this letter do
not necessarily represent those of
the Sponsors listed above

California Resource Recovery Association

June 12, 2009

Senator Joe Simitian, Chair
Senate Environmental Quality Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FAX: (916) 322-3519

Re: AB 222 (Adams) Conversion Technologies and Biorefineries – Strong Opposition

Dear Senator Simitian:

We urge you to vote NO on Assembly Bill 222 (Adams) when it is heard in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. This measure by developers of so-called ‘conversion technologies’ would redefine state law to provide an undeserved competitive advantage for certain waste-to-energy technologies by counting them as recycling under the state’s 50% waste reduction and recycling mandate.

AB 222 would eliminate the currently clear statutory line between disposal and recycling by removing conversion technologies from the definition of “transformation”. This would grant full recycling credit to any technology that meets the proposed definition of biorefinery, and represents a significant departure from current policy.

CRRA maintains that the one-way disposal of resources to produce energy does not constitute recycling, regardless of whether it is via mass-burn incinerators, landfill gas recovery systems, or high-temperature conversion technologies.

We view the recent amendment to this bill that would grant waste diversion credit for conversion technologies only in communities that have achieved the 50% diversion mandate and inconsequential, as the small number of communities currently non-compliant with the 50% mandate represent an inconsequential share of the would-be market for conversion technology industry. The amendment changes nothing.

Granting diversion credit to the technologies cited in AB 222 would likely result in the displacement of the proven, low-cost recycling and composting infrastructure that have been and continue to be the backbone of local governments’ successful efforts to achieve and surpass the 50% mandate.

We urge you to vote NO on AB 222.

J. Muir

Julie Muir
President, CRRA

Cc: Members, Senate Environmental Quality Committee

P.O. Box 607
Clovis, CA
93613-0607
916.441.CRRA [2772]
Fax 916.676-4882

AFFILIATE OF



NATIONAL
RECYCLING
COALITION
INC.
<http://www.nrc-recycle.org>