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California Resource Recovery Association

February 4, 2009

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: RECYCLING AND THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE

Dear Senator Feinstein,

We are writing to urge your support for the economic recovery package, and specifically to support appropriations for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants that were authorized by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

The California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA), California's statewide recycling association, is the oldest and one of the largest non-profit recycling organizations in the United States dedicated to reducing waste, pollution, and green house gas production through reuse, recycling, composting and product stewardship.

As an organization committed to enhancing recycling, we note that, under Section 544, Item 10 of EISA, the funds may be used for "activities to increase participation and efficiency rates for material conservation programs, including *source reduction, recycling, and recycled content procurement programs that lead to increases in energy efficiency.*"

The recycling industry is estimated to provide over 2 million jobs and contribute over \$250 billion to the GDP. This appropriation will provide communities across the country with a much-needed incentive to maintain and grow their recycling programs, which are so critical to our sustainable energy and environmental future. As we work toward the goals of AB32 (CA-2006), the recycling industry in California has already significantly reduced GHG emissions and energy consumption associated with manufacturing products that utilize virgin materials. In addition, recycling allows us to preserve our precious natural resources by optimizing the recovery of materials so sorely needed for national and global economic development.

As the economy has soured for the nation, our local municipalities are also strapped for funding which stymies the progress toward our recycling goals. Of immediate interest, placing procurement power in the hands of recycling service providers will quickly stimulate green jobs in the manufacturing sector (collection vehicles, processing equipment, recycling carts/bins) and in the services sector.

We thank you for your support of recycling in this appropriation and look forward to working with our local officials in a quick and effective implementation of the stimulus elements.

Sincerely,
Julie Muir
CRRA President