



# County of Santa Cruz

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 410, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
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THOMAS L. BOLICH  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

### AGENDA: JUNE 6, 2006

May 24, 2006

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY AND HOUSEHOLD  
HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATION GRANT

Members of the Board:

A recent ruling by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control prompted a February 2006 statewide landfill ban that made it illegal for households and small businesses to put certain commonly-used products in the trash, including small batteries, fluorescent lights, and many electronic products. These products, collectively known as Universal Waste or "U-waste," contain hazardous materials that pollute the environment if disposed in landfills that are not designed or permitted to accept hazardous waste.

No funding to facilitate compliance with the new regulations accompanied the state mandate. By default, local governments in California are now burdened with the costs of special handling required for hazardous wastes and for enforcing the landfill ban. Increasingly, as a result of these and other state rules, local government officials are realizing that municipalities simply do not have the capacity or funding to manage hazardous product wastes from households and small businesses. Moreover, by providing "free" disposal service to the producers of toxic and disposable products, local governments subsidize the production of hazardous goods, since the costs of disposal are borne by the public rather than the producers and users of the product.

Extending the responsibility of a product's producer to include the waste management consequences at the end of their product's life cycle is a trend that has been implemented in Europe and parts of Asia and is now being adopted by a growing number of jurisdictions in North America. Known as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), the policy requires brand owners (or first importers) who sell hazardous products to implement a specific program for recovering and responsibly recycling their products at no cost to taxpayers or local government. Because the cost is borne by producers and consumers directly, EPR policies act as market-based incentives to address the problem at the source, rewarding improved product design and reduced product toxicity.

A pertinent example is a Washington State electronics recycling bill signed into law in March 2006. This is the strongest EPR program so far in the U.S., applying to old TVs and computers. When implemented in 2009, brand owners will be required to recover and recycle their products at no cost to local governments.

The EPR strategy is in line with Resolution 250-2005 adopted by your Board on August 2, 2005, which established zero waste as a long-term goal for the County of Santa Cruz in order to eliminate waste and pollution in the manufacture, use, storage, and recycling of materials. The resolution called for action plans and measures that significantly reduce waste and pollution, including encouraging manufacturers to produce and market less toxic and more durable, repairable, reusable, recycled, and recyclable products. EPR policies provide appropriate economic incentives for manufacturers to aid us in reaching our goal.

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) annually offers a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Grant. In response to the recent changes in U-waste regulations, this year's HHW Grant offering includes a new non-competitive component titled County Wide Coordination Grant. Under the grant guidelines, the CIWMB is encouraging jurisdictions to link with each other broadly and involve other stakeholders including retailers and recyclers in order to plan coordinated solutions to meet the new rules for handling common hazardous product discards.

Attached for your consideration is a grant application for this HHW Coordination Grant prepared by Public Works on behalf of the participating local government jurisdictions in our county. The proposed work plan would pool our county's share of grant funds, a fixed amount of \$7,000, with funds from other counties throughout our region and as broadly as possible throughout the state with the goal of creating a California Product Stewardship Council. This council would be established for the specific purpose of utilizing EPR strategies to solve the U-waste problem.

Procedures for CIWMB grants require that the submission of an application be supported by the applicant agency's governing body. A resolution is attached for your consideration to accomplish this purpose.

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached resolution in support of an application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board for the Household Hazardous Waste Grant for fiscal year 2006/07.

Yours truly,

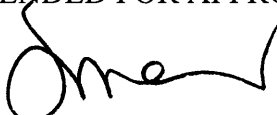


THOMAS L. BOLICH  
Director of Public Works

TLB:JS:mh  
Attachments

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
County Administrative Officer

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

On the motion of Supervisor  
duly seconded by Supervisor  
the following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
IN SUPPORT OF SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE  
CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD  
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE GRANT – FY 2006/07

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have enacted Assembly Bill 1220 (Eastin, Statutes of 1993, Chapter 656) which provides grants to local governments to establish and implement waste diversion and separation programs to prevent disposal of hazardous waste, including household hazardous waste, in solid waste landfills; and

WHEREAS, the California Integrated Waste Management Board has been delegated the responsibility for administering the Local Government Household Hazardous Waste Grant which includes procedures governing the application by and payment to eligible cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the applicant will enter into a grant agreement with the California Integrated Waste Management Board for implementation of said grant;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors authorizes the submittal of a regional application on behalf of itself and the participating cities to the California Integrated Waste Management Board for a Local Government Household Hazardous Waste Grant, for fiscal year 2006/07.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Public Works of the County of Santa Cruz, or his/her designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to execute all grant documents necessary to secure grant funds and implement the approved grant project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS

NOES: SUPERVISORS

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Assistant County Counsel  
Distribution: County Counsel  
Public Works

**Household Hazardous Waste Grant (15<sup>th</sup> Cycle) 2006-2007**

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**COUNTYWIDE COORDINATION GRANT  
APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

Department or Agency: <b>Department of Public Works</b>	
Mailing Address (if different from street address):	
City & Zip Code: <b>Santa Cruz, CA 95060</b>	County: <b>Santa Cruz</b>
State Senate District: <b>11 &amp; 15</b>	State Assembly District: <b>27 &amp; 28</b>

<b>Countywide Jurisdiction Participants:</b> (list)  <b>City of Capitola</b> <b>City of Santa Cruz</b> <b>City of Scotts Valley</b>
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<b>Primary Contact</b> (name & title): <b>Jeffrey Smedberg</b>
Phone: <b>831-454-2373</b> Fax: <b>831-454-2385</b>
Email Address: <b>recycle@co.santa-cruz.ca.us</b>

<b>Signature Authority</b> (name & title): <b>Thomas L. Bolich</b>
Phone: <b>831-454-2160</b> Fax: <b>831-454-2385</b>
Email Address:

<b>Consultant</b> if applicable (Name & Company): <b>N/A</b>
Phone: Email Address:

<p><b>Work Plan and Budget</b> (brief description of activities and estimated expenditures – see Final Report Form and Application instructions for eligible activities)</p> <p>Proposal for California Product Stewardship Council Start-up Funding</p> <p>The challenge for local governments of dealing responsibly with hazardous products banned from the trash is immense, while coordination among counties in sharing new ideas and innovative solutions is currently inadequate. The Northwest Product Stewardship Council (NWPSC) provides an effective model for providing such coordination. Funding is requested to assist with launching and coordinating a similar organization, the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). CPSC is a new forum of government bodies in California -- primarily local governments -- seeking to bring about producer financed and managed systems for hazardous product discards. The core strategy will be to build capacity among local governments to plan for and implement local and statewide policies and programs that achieve this objective. The initial focus will include products covered by the Universal Waste disposal ban.</p> <p>Funds are requested for the following activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinate and facilitate CPSC Steering Committee and Subcommittee meetings, activities, budget and work plans. Coordinate monthly CPSC Steering Committee meetings for purposes of launching this working group and fostering working relationships among the participating municipalities. Early meeting agendas will focus on mission statement, objectives and basic operating procedures. Later meetings will include discussions on specific ways to</li> </ol>
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promote Product Stewardship systems in California. Strategies to ensure long term funding mechanisms for this working group will also be incorporated into CPSC meeting agendas.

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Estimated Cost \$45,000

2. Convene two "Listening to Local Government" workshops (one each in Northern and Southern California). The workshops are for local government staff and elected officials for the purpose of soliciting their insights and concerns about the Universal Waste ban and innovative strategies to address it.

Estimated Cost \$10,000

3. Develop a strategy for working with and identifying other stakeholders -- including environmental nonprofits, local businesses and industry groups and associations -- to work for product stewardship systems for U-waste product categories.

Estimated Cost \$15,000

4. Develop a suite of practical local government policy and public education tools to use in outreach to local governments and other stakeholders. Tools will include model policies and by-laws, downloadable PowerPoint presentations, newsletters to local government staff and officials, articles to targeted audiences, and fact sheets. Tools will be posted and freely downloadable on a CPSC website.

Estimated Cost \$25,000

5. Educate local government elected officials and staff (including solid waste and hazardous waste; environmental; health; and water pollution agencies) on the benefits to local government and communities of shifting the financial burden and responsibility of product waste management from municipalities to product makers. Share the most advanced product stewardship policies, best practices and planning frameworks with local government staff and officials.

Estimated Cost \$25,000

6. Coordinate local governments and stakeholders to move forward in implementing local, regional and statewide product stewardship policies and programs around Universal Waste products.

Estimated Cost \$41,500

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET \$161,500

Total Grant Request: \$7.000

**Certification:** I declare, under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that all information submitted for CIWMB's consideration for allocation of grant funds is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Proposed Project is consistent with the adopted Household Hazardous Waste Element.

Signature of person as authorized in the resolution: Thomas L. Bolich Date: 5/24/06

Type or print name and title: **Thomas L. Bolich, Director of Public Works**

TB - (Check the box and initial.) Applicant certifies that if awarded a grant, it shall act in good faith as lead coordinator to provide opportunities for all u-waste issue stakeholders in the county-wide area to participate in the performance of the Grant Agreement.

TB - (Check the box and initial.) Applicant certifies that if awarded a grant, it shall in the performance of the Grant Agreement conduct its programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that ensures the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels, including minority populations and low-income populations of the State.