



LINDA S. ADAMS
SECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD



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American Academy of Environmental Engineering Judging Panel
c/o Jon Blickenstaff
Chairman of the Board
Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority
12645 6th Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739

Dear Members of the Panel:

I am writing in support of the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority's (IERCA) submittal for its Ground to Green project - the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility. I have toured the facility twice, once during its construction and again after it was running at full capacity in June 2009, where it was my honor to be the keynote speaker at the facility's dedication.

While preparing for my speech, I asked the IERCA to provide me with important points for discussion. I was impressed to learn that the project not only met its goals of operating at full capacity processing over 200,000 tons of waste products per year into valuable compost, but that it did so, and was cost competitive with other disposal and recycling options. The IERCA also installed one megawatt of solar power panels onto the roof of the facility which provides a significant portion of the electricity required to run the operation. Perhaps most importantly, all of the compost is used locally, reducing truck traffic, saving water and providing beautiful landscapes and gardens. California needs such sustainable facilities to enable it to reach its recycling and greenhouse gas reduction goals while protecting the environment and conserving precious resources.

The IERCA was created as a Joint Powers Agreement between the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and Los Angeles Sanitation District (LACSD) in 2002. Both the IEUA and LACSD have longstanding reputations for their dedication to environmental protection and this project exemplifies the concept of sustainability.

I commend the partnership between the IEUA and the LACSD who have made this project a reality. With its positive impact on the environment, I ask you to give their submission every consideration.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Mulé
Board Member

cc: Margo Reid Brown, Board Chair

