

Monterey County Board of Supervisors

Board Order

168 West Alisal Street, 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901 831,755.5066

Resolution No.: 19-088

Upon motion of Supervisor Alejo, seconded by Supervisor Parker and carried by those members present, the Board of Supervisors hereby:

Adopted a Resolution No. 19-088 supporting the establishment of a statewide Commission on Recycling Markets to address China's trade import policies restricting recyclable materials and its impact on California's compliance with waste diversion mandates.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 19th day of March 2019, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Phillips, Lopez, Parker and Adams

NOES: None ABSENT: None

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 81 for the meeting March 19, 2019.

Dated: March 20, 2019 File ID: RES 19-021 Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors County of Monterey, State of California

Joel G. Pablo, Deputy

Before The Board Of Supervisors in And for the County Of Monterey, State Of California

Resolution No. 19-088	
Resolution requesting support of a)
Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets)

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Health Department Environmental Health Bureau is the designated Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) pursuant to 14 CCR 18051 for the permitting, inspection and enforcement of statues and regulations applicable to solid waste handling and disposal sites in the County and twelve incorporated Cities within the County; and

WHEREAS, China recently enacted strict mixed paper and plastic contamination limits and import bans which are collectively referred to as "National Sword"; and

WHEREAS, China has declared their intent to ban all recyclable material imports by 2020; and

WHEREAS, exporting recyclable materials to foreign markets is a key component of California's recycling infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, National Sword policy changes in China has led to the decline of other international markets for recyclables, and subsequent stockpiles of unsold materials at California solid waste and recycling facilities; and

WHEREAS, California recycling policy relies on robust international markets to purchase and process the millions of tons of recyclable waste it produces each year; and

WHEREAS, stockpiled paper and plastic materials in California's solid waste and recycling facilities is causing slowdowns in processing of other waste materials and is creating significant public health risks; and

WHEREAS, local governments across California will soon have to comply with additional state regulations for organic waste diversion and processing; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1383 (Chapters 395, 2016) establishes targets to achieve a fifty percent (50%) reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a seventy five percent (75%) reduction by 2025; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure required to implement these regulations is expected to cost billions; and

WHEREAS, these increased diversion requirements added to recent changes to international policies and a declining global market value for recyclables has resulted in an issue of statewide concern for the resource recovery industry, local governments and Californians;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Monterey County Board of Supervisors calls for the Governor of California to establish a statewide Commission to address these significant challenges to our recycling markets. The Commission should be comprised of state, local and industry representatives with the task of making recommendations for solutions to our declining markets for recyclable materials, while continuing to emphasize the need to divert materials from our landfills. The Commission should examine potential solutions including, but not limited to, the development of international and domestic markets, updated compliance standards in this new economic environment, ways to improve source reduction and reduce waste production, and any other means that will alleviate the growing public health and environmental crisis while still allowing California to meet its goals for a sustainable future.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 19th day of March 2019, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Alejo, Salinas, Lopez, Phillips and Adams

NOES: None ABSENT: None

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 81 for the meeting March 19, 2019.

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