



Mission

To manage Salinas Valley solid waste as a resource, promoting sustainable, environmentally sound and cost effective practices through an integrated system of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, innovative technology, customer services and education.

Vision

To reduce the amount of waste by promoting individual and corporate responsibility.
To recover waste for its highest and best use while balancing rates and services.
To transform our business from burying waste to utilizing waste as a resource.
To eliminate the need for landfills.

Innovation • Integrity • Public Education • Efficiency • Fiscal Prudence • Resourcefulness • Customer Service • Community Partnerships

August 17, 2012

California Energy Commission
Media and Public Communications Office
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED
12-EPIC-1**

TN # 66724

AUG 16 2012

Subject: Electric Program Investment Charge Program (EPIC)
Docket number 12-EPIC-01

Dear Commissioners,

I am pleased to provide this submission on behalf of the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (SVSWA) and our member agencies. SVSWA is a joint powers agency providing resource recovery, recycling and disposal services for 5 cities and eastern unincorporated Monterey County, serving a population of over 280,000. The social and environmental issue of changing waste management practices to move away from non-sustainable landfilling and into advanced resource recovery and alternative clean energy generation has been a priority matter for the SVSWA for more than 7 years. We congratulate the Energy Commission in its work with the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in its policy leadership with EPIC and we appreciate the opportunity to submit our views and support for your consideration.

We recognize and accept that benefit to California ratepayers is a critical variable in your evaluation of Program criteria and objectives. We also note other key principles including broader social benefits, GHG reductions and economic development are very important in this evaluation. We support your key designated funding areas that include technology demonstration and deployment and market facilitation. In fact, we believe these funding sectors are very well suited to support market entry innovative waste conversion to energy projects in the State of California.

SVSWA is actively engaged in partnering with innovative technology providers to assist in generation of clean baseload energy in California while also improving and transforming our municipal solid waste infrastructure to meet these long range objectives and to address California's and the country's energy independence goal. We know that many other communities in California are also active in this area. Your actions can allow our State to begin to catch up with other U.S. cities and other countries around the world that have already successfully embraced and implemented these new waste recovery programs. A range of innovative technologies are now positioned for commercial deployment. EPIC could provide critical funding assistance given the financial challenges of commercialization and market facilitation faced by cities and communities

that are prepared to be pro-active, early adopters of innovation and more sustainable waste management practices. We ask that as you finalize your Program investment framework please include waste conversion energy projects as an eligible category for funding consideration. We believe this is consistent with EPIC objectives and is the public interest of California.

Sincerely,

R. Patrick Mathews
General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer
Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority