Public Meeting to Update the Board on Mandatory Commercial Waste Recycling

October 21, 2011
Overview

• Background
  ➢ Need for Commercial Recycling Regulation
  ➢ Benefits from Commercial Recycling

• Originally Proposed Approach - Regulation Development

• AB 341

• Next Steps

• Future Efforts
Background – Need for Commercial Recycling Regulation

- California generates 36 M tons of waste per year
- 75% - 28 M tons per year from commercial sector
- 50% - 14 M tons per year are “readily recyclable”
Background – Need (continued)

- Annual cost for commercial waste collection, transportation, and landfill management is $2.6 billion
Background – Need (continued)

• Scoping Plan – Mandatory Commercial Recycling Measure

• Goal: 5 MMTCO2e GHG reduction by 2020
  - Achievable by removing ~2 M tons of “traditional” recyclables from commercial waste
  - GHG reductions from energy saved by using recycled material instead of raw material

• Underlying authority for measure: AB 32

• Longer-term (>2020) potential for even more GHG reductions
Benefits from Commercial Recycling

- Achieves multiple objectives:
  - Achieves GHG emission reductions & energy savings
  - Conserves natural resources
Benefits (continued)

• Achieves multiple objectives (cont.):
  - Provides greater and more efficient utilization of the existing infrastructure
  - Provides opportunities to:
    - Reduce business waste management costs
    - Expand recycling manufacturing in CA
    - Create new jobs in CA
Regulation Development

• ARB/CalRecycle complementary roles
• 8 public workshops in 2009, 2010, 2011
• Many meetings with stakeholders
Regulation Development (continued)

• Integrate mandatory commercial recycling into existing AB 939 review and evaluation process

• Require local jurisdictions (~500) implement commercial recycling program consisting of education, outreach, and monitoring

• Require businesses and multifamily complexes (with 5 or more units) to recycle if they generate ≥ 4 cubic yards of waste per week
AB 341 Establishes a Mandatory Commercial Recycling Program

- Signed by Governor on Oct 6, 2011
- Objectives consistent with proposed regulation developed by ARB and CalRecycle
- Main difference – more multifamily complexes
• AB 341 gives CalRecycle authority to implement Commercial Recycling

• Require local jurisdictions (~500) implement commercial recycling program consisting of education, outreach, and monitoring

• Requires businesses that generate ≥ 4 CY of waste per week and multifamily complexes ≥ 5 units to recycle
Next Steps

• CalRecycle will initiate new rulemaking
  ➢ Draw from collaborative work with ARB
  ➢ Maintain parallel AB 939 program implementation, annual reporting
  ➢ Continue focus on flexibility for businesses and jurisdictions

• CalRecycle and ARB will collaborate to ensure successful implementation of commercial recycling
  ➢ CalRecycle monitor reductions and report to ARB
  ➢ ARB responsible for recycling emission factors
Future Efforts

• Outreach to businesses and jurisdictions to implement new regulation

• Identify and support opportunities to expand recycling services and recycling manufacturing in California

• Continue collaboration with ARB on Waste Management/Recycling sector for GHG emission reduction opportunities