DATE: December 8, 2016

TO: Programs & Administration Committee

FROM: Tom Padia, Deputy Executive Director

BY: Debra Kaufman, Senior Program Manager

SUBJECT: Extended Producer Responsibility Update

SUMMARY

One of StopWaste’s ongoing state legislative priorities has been extended producer responsibility (EPR) for products that are difficult and costly to manage at end-of-life. At the December 8 Programs & Administration Committee meeting, California Product Stewardship Council Executive Director Heidi Sanborn and Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Program Manager Bill Pollock will provide updates on EPR programs and priorities at the state and local level as background for planning the Agency’s legislative priorities for 2017.

DISCUSSION

For StopWaste, EPR has the potential to reduce the HHW residential fee associated with the financial costs of managing hazardous products that are processed via the four in-County Household Hazardous Waste facilities. Our effectiveness in influencing state legislation on EPR is greatly increased through our partnership with the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). And while advocating at the state level is important, we have been told by numerous partners that one of the most important things we do to help at the state level is to demonstrate through local ordinances and actions how various approaches can be successful.

Ms. Sanborn will provide an overview of CPSC’s legislative priorities for the coming year and an update on the status of existing statewide EPR programs, such as those for carpet and mattresses. Ms. Sanborn will also present Board member Carson with an award for his leadership on the Alameda County sharps EPR ordinance.

Mr. Pollock will provide an update on the implementation of the County pharmaceutical and sharps ordinance as well as local implementation of the statewide paint EPR program. The County of Alameda’s Pharmaceutical ordinance and sharps ordinance has provided a model for the state and other
local jurisdictions that have adopted the County’s lead through their own EPR ordinances in the absence of a state law.

This informational item will provide good background on EPR in advance of the Board’s upcoming discussion of legislative priorities at the December WMA board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only.