

**Board of Directors** 

January 13, 2020

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Tom Stallard Woodland City Council The Honorable Laura Friedman

Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee

State Capitol, Room 2137 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1567 (Aguiar-Curry) – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Friedman:

On behalf of Valley Clean Energy (VCE), a community choice aggregation (CCA) program serving Yolo County, I write to express our support of AB 1567 (Aguiar-Curry), a bill that seeks to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from organic waste as well as the beneficial reuse of organic waste. The bill would require the Strategic Growth Council to prepare and submit to the Legislature a scoping plan for the state to meet its organic waste, climate change, and air quality mandates, goals, and targets.

VCE is the official electricity provider for customers in the cities of Woodland and Davis, and unincorporated Yolo County. We're a not-for-profit public agency focused on reducing the carbon footprint of the energy we provide and improving the communities we serve by reinvesting our revenues into those communities. In addition, the local officials on our board and local residents working for VCE drive us to find solutions to local problems.

Yolo County enjoys a vibrant agricultural economy and heritage that produces a number of commodities for California and beyond. Accordingly, Yolo County has an abundance of organic waste from agriculture that contribute to short-lived climate pollutants and could be repurposed or diverted to better uses. For example, agricultural waste from local fields could be used for energy generation that VCE could then purchase. The scoping plan envisioned by AB 1567 could help our agency pursue these sources of energy by evaluating their cost-effectiveness. In addition, we recognize the need to consider local air quality impacts that may outweigh the benefits of these activities, which the plan would take into consideration.

For these reasons, VCE supports AB 1567 and we look forward to working with Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry and her staff as this bill proceeds.

Sincerely,

Chair of the Board Valley Clean Energy

Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry