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September 22, 2011

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0504

Dear Senator Feinstein:

We respectfully request your support and leadership in introducing the Brownfield Remediation and Economic Development Loan Guarantee Program. As leaders of California's cities and counties, we have consistently supported funding for cleaning up brownfields. However, currently there is not funding or a financing mechanism available at the federal or state level to address the remediation costs of large Brownfield sites. Once remediation has occurred and redevelopment can begin, these large sites have the potential to transform regions and local economies.

Specifically, the Brownfield Remediation and Economic Development Loan Guarantee Program would establish a federally guaranteed loan financing mechanism for the repayment of funds loaned specifically for the redevelopment of large brownfields. Most of us know that the private sector will not fund the front end costs of remediation and the local governments cannot fund the front end costs of remediation without a Federal Loan Guarantee Program.

Once a community is able to secure a favorable loan rate that will allow them to secure funding to clean up these large sites, the value will be restored to the land and local governments will be able to move forward with the development of these vastly underused sites.

These large sites are an untapped resource that would help many communities address tax base shortfalls, build affordable housing, create jobs, bring in new businesses, and unify communities with planned sustainable development that meets the needs of a changing and dynamic population. Additionally, as you are aware, redevelopment in California is being severely curtailed or eliminated. This proposed guaranteed loan program might be one of the only remaining options available to address the remediation of large landfills. This proposed legislation would be timely in providing localities with additional redevelopment options.

This proposal is rapidly gaining support. To date, the US Conference of Mayors, CH2M Hill, Weston Solutions, Inc, the National Brownfield Coalition, American Council of Engineering

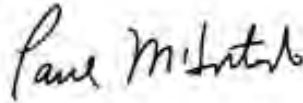
Companies (ACEC) and the National Association of Development Organizations are supporting this proposal.

We know other communities across the country have similar issues and we ask you for your support in introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Christopher McKenzie  
Executive Director  
League of California Cities



Paul McIntosh  
Executive Director  
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