



April 2, 2019

Dianne Jacob, Chair  
San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
County Administration Center  
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Chairwoman Jacob:

I am writing to express Biocom's support for the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health Hazardous Materials Division's (HMD) proposed cost recovery fee adjustments.

Biocom is the San Diego headquartered life science association of California. We work on behalf of over 1,100 members to drive public policy, build a network of industry leaders, create access to capital, introduce cutting-edge STEM education programs, and create value-driven purchasing programs. San Diego County's life science industry represents an overall impact of over \$34 billion in annual economic activity.

Biocom and our members appreciate HMD efforts to garner input from the life science industry on proposed changes to its policies and regulations. We have enjoyed an excellent working relationship with HMD for many years; one which we are grateful for. We would like to acknowledge HMD Chief Sande Pence and her staff for working closely with our industry to achieve the division's mission of protecting human health and the environment.

Chief Pence met with Biocom members to explain that the 1-3% increase in fees is mostly due to a salary adjustment for Department of Environmental Health employees. Biocom members support competitive salaries for HMD employees as a recruitment and retention tool. Consistency and longevity amongst inspectors increases inspection uniformity and predictability, which in turn leads to increased compliance.

Biocom urges the San Diego County Board of Supervisors to approve HMD's cost recovery proposal.

Sincerely,

Joe Panetta, President and CEO  
Biocom

CC: Members, San Diego County Board of Supervisors  
Sarah Aghassi, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

