

## **Public Comment Period for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Protocol for Government Activities Open Soon**

After nearly two-years in production, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability U.S.A. (ICLEI) will release its draft *Community Protocol* (Protocol) for the calculation of greenhouse gas emissions from government activities like wastewater treatment and solid waste disposal. These emissions estimates can be used to support voluntary climate action plans that may affect many SCAP member agencies.

Once this document is released (scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup>), the public will have three weeks to review and comment on its nearly 93,000 words packed in 300+ pages.

The Protocol is only designed to report emissions and ignores any benefits from the use of renewable fuels like digester gas or the energy savings from using reclaimed water. Moreover, concerns remain that the Protocol's complexity will impose additional burdens on cash-strapped local governments, and its excessive focus on water/wastewater treatment emissions distorts this sector's impact. We encourage SCAP members to voice their concerns, if any, about this document when the comment period opens.