

Status of Processing Ad Hoc Group: July 22, 2020

Ad Hoc Group Members: Pam, Matt, Jeff, Jay, Vinod, Sanne/David, Peter S.

Inbound Contamination

Proposed Recommendation for RSC Consideration

At the point of transfer, the processing or reload facility should be responsible for providing feedback to collectors and/or local governments about contamination. Feedback mechanisms should be required and standard for all transfer points, and should be part of a feedback loop that also includes required actions by local governments or other authorities overseeing generator-facing anti-contamination programming.

(Facilitator's note: see ad hoc work on anti-contamination programming for links and more specific recommendations.)

Outbound Contamination

Proposed Recommendation for RSC Consideration

Conditioned on other parts of system elements/ improvements upstream and at end markets (e.g. effective statewide list, effective generator facing contamination reduction programming, end market transparency and accountability), the ad hoc group supports that:

Conceptually, the processing system should achieve two outcomes: 1) provide markets with quality outbound materials, and 2) sort properly prepared materials so that they are delivered to their intended end markets. Processing facilities should be accountable for delivering both of those outcomes effectively.

The ad hoc group also recommends considering implementation of accountability measures over time with near, mid and longer range targets identified. Any recommended measures should account for investments needed to allow MRFs to effectively meet the targets, as well as consideration of other outbound concerns, like which 'market' it is going to.

“How” - Implement both certification (for all facilities receiving Oregon material) and permits (for in-state facilities); contract with producers for specific 'difficult' materials.

Processing Workforce Equity

Status Update (Recommendation TBD - next ad hoc meeting July 28):

The ad hoc group agrees Oregon should establish statewide equity standards or best practices for processing facilities doing business in Oregon related to standards for workforce fair wages, worker health and safety, and good neighbor or community

benefit agreements. The Ad hoc group will be working on the following, and will have a refined recommendation for the RSC to review at a later time:

- The ad hoc group agrees on principles of equity for the Oregon recycling system's processing work force:
- The ad hoc group recommends priority areas of focus:
- The ad hoc group supports process next steps beyond the RSC:

Post-Consumer Recycled Content Requirement

Ad Hoc Group Members: Justin, Nicole, Dylan, David, Amy and Jay

Proposed Recommendation for RSC Consideration

1. Conduct an assessment of State procurement. Assessment to include:
 - a. Evaluation of existing statutory requirements, including whether requirements are effective and are being followed. Include a quantitative evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of existing price preference (5 percent).
 - b. Feasibility study of additional opportunities to increase the purchase of products containing post-consumer recycled content (PCR), most notably products containing post-consumer recycled PET, HDPE and PP plastic. Give preference to purchases and projects funded by or with state funding.
 - c. Assessment of opportunities for strengthening traceability/verification requirements associated with recycled products and/or recycled materials, especially recycled plastic products and/or recycled plastic materials, purchased for use with state projects.
 - d. Recommended changes to statute.
 - e. *Note: Conducting this assessment is not a trivial undertaking. DAS is willing (in principle) to participate in the proposed assessment, but notes that it could have a fiscal impact on the agency.*
2. Contingent on funding (if needed), require local governments to require a minimum 10% certified post-consumer recycled plastic be used in the manufacture of rollcarts, bins and containers, to be purchased by themselves or their agents, for the external collection of solid waste, recyclable and organic materials. Certified post-consumer recycled plastic must be certified in accordance with a state-approved, independent, third-party verification standard, such as the Postconsumer Resin (PCR) Certification Program established by the Association of Plastics Recyclers.
3. Include statutory mandates for PCR for priority materials sold or placed into Oregon for sale.
 - a. RSC to establish principles, not details.
 - b. Principles to consider in the creation of mandates to include, but not be limited to the following:
 - i. Must be technically achievable and realistic;
 - ii. Must be economically efficient;
 - iii. Must be environmentally beneficial;
 - iv. Must be practical to implement (regulations);
 - v. Must be subject to periodic review and adjustment.
4. If Oregon has an EPR or shared responsibility framework:
 - a. Require eco-modulation to reward the use of recycled content across all commodities.
 - b. Consider that PCR mandates (point 3) may not be necessary or could be held as a “kicker” to be triggered if desired outcomes are not met. (Note that Oregon’s existing rigid plastic container law already works this way:

producers of RPCs are required to recycle RPCs at or above a statewide rate of 25%; if not, PCR requirements kick in.)