



Henry McMaster
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Robert M. Hitt III
Secretary

Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting
South Carolina Department of Commerce
1201 Main Street, Capitol Center Tower, Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201
Tuesday, May 19th, 2020
10:00 AM – 11:30AM
1-800-753-1965,7374460#

RMDAC

Kristen Brown, WasteZero
Tina Huskey, Mumford Industries
Norman Chandler, Republic Services
Bill Laursen, Universal Environmental Services
Andy Spicer, Ph.D., USC Darla Moore School of Business
Wes Westbrooks, BMW
Angel Lara, Southeast Recycling Resources
Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling
Allison Brockman, City of Greenville
Chris Fisher, GlassWRX SC
Joseph McMillin, Atlas Organics
Dr. Andy Spicer, Darla Moore School of Business
Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers

ABSENT

Vic Carpenter, Kershaw County
Tyler Smith, Michelin
Chad Prescott, Mid Carolina Steel

GUESTS

Glen Odom, Retired
Ronnie Grant, Retired
Richard Chesley, DHEC
Tammie Green, SC Department of Commerce
Cynthia Davis, SC Department of Commerce
Chuck Bundy, SC Department of Commerce
Ashely Teasdel, SC Department of Commerce

STAFF

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce
April Chaffins, SC Department of Commerce
Chantal Fryer, SC Department of Commerce



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CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Wes Westbrooks motioned to call the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

MINUTES

The March 2020 RMDAC meeting minutes were approved.

Chantal Fryer introduced speakers.

Ashely Teasdel presented information on accelerateSC.

AccelerateSC is the coordinated COVID-19 advisory team to consider and recommend economic revitalization plans. The economic revitalization plan consists of five components of analysis and effort: Response, Protection, Governance, Resources, and Information. There is a call center set to launch March 26th, 2020. This will be for citizens and businesses as a way to get questions answered.

<https://governor.sc.gov/executive-branch/acceleratesc>. Meetings are available live and recorded at www.scetv.org.

Cynthia Davis presented on the Existing Industry Team Resources and Guidance

SC Commerce's team of Existing Industry managers have been closely connected to economic developers and manufacturers within their territory tracking trends in layoffs, revenue and supply chain challenges, production pivoting.

The pandemic has cast a spotlight on the future of work. As companies flex and reassess workplace strategies, they will also examine how to adopt and use technology, agility programs and virtual meetings.

At this time, employers are focusing on 4 key issues:

1. How to maintain a safe workplace
2. How to maintain operations in the face of a global pandemic that has seriously affected production and profitability
3. How to minimize exposure to potential liabilities that may result
4. How does a company focus on minimizing supply chain disruptions while adjusting to a rapidly changing landscape?

Commerce anticipates that all of these issues will most likely accelerate digital transformations in the workplace. People and machines working in concert.

Existing Industry team mission is to assist companies as they Restart, Recover, and Reimagine.



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How does the Existing Industry team do this? There is a two- prong approach:

1. Needs assessment – on site visit or virtually to discuss hot button issues, immediate and long term needs. Existing Industry team highly recommends a Competitiveness Review conducted by SCMEP, the technical skills partner, which is an onsite evaluation of a company’s operations and efficiency. If a company wants to enter into an Industry 4.0 footprint, they may want to do a cost benefit analysis first. If a company is already using smart machines, are those machines connected and collecting data points to help drive decision making?
2. Connections to resources to address the problems. SC has many free and funded resources that many folks don’t know about such as Rapid Response Layoff aversion funds, International exporting guidance at Commerce, SCMEP trainings and certifications, industry cluster partners like SC Bio, Logistics, and Aero.

In conclusion, SC is chosen for business opportunity, and the Existing Industry team wants to help companies get the most out of that decision.

Andy Spicer mentioned that if there are project ideas or intern ideas to link these resources with students this is an opportunity to do so.

Angel Lara asked about how to protect companies from liability during pandemic. Plan, Execute, Monitor (PEM) is a great strategy to protect a company from frivolous lawsuits and ensuring that employees, supervisors and executive teams are all on the same page. In addition, there is some legislation being promulgated to protect companies.

SC Chamber’s recently released [COVID-19 Business Survey](#) and the [Relief and Recovery Legislative Agenda](#) before recommending three steps that the General Assembly should take to move the needle for small businesses in the state. Go to <https://scchamber.net> for more information.

Tammie Greene presented on SourceSC and SC Covid 19.

The [SourceSC](#) locator tool is a convenient way to source locally-developed materials and service providers, connecting South Carolina companies with in-state suppliers and vendors. Business contact information is protected on this site. Companies will not be contacted by sales people.

[SC COVID 19](#) Many companies have stepped up during this crisis to support PPE and essential sourcing. The site is for anyone needing to order PPE and also applies to sales and donation. [SC COVID 19](#) is a portal for companies that have pivoted to producing PPE. 340 companies have provided PPE, 250 businesses have used the site for purchasing.



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Chuck Bundy presented on ESF 24.

The South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan is an all-hazard plan developed for use by state government departments and agencies to ensure a coordinated and effective response to natural, technological, or man-made disasters that may occur in South Carolina. The plan has three major parts: the Governor's Executive Order which adopts and approves the plan and assigns responsibilities; the Basic Plan which outlines general policies and procedures that provide a common, coordinated basis for joint state and local operations; and the functional Annexes which outline the responsibilities of state agencies within the framework of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).

ESF 24 focuses on Business and Industry. "If it is important to you, it's important to us." The team is tracking business financing. SC businesses have received \$6B from financing assistance through PPP and EIDL. Unemployment: SC DEW is an active area. They are beefing up staff, they have 600 employees working on decreasing call waiting time. Tourism is coming back. Hotels were at 50% occupancy last week.

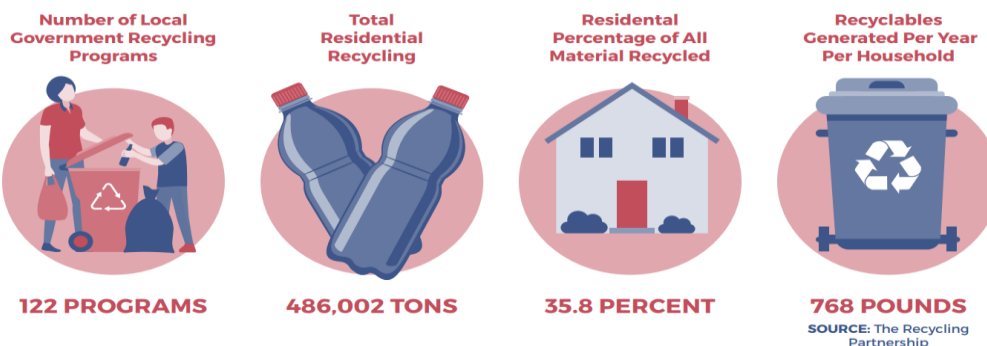
Contact info for ESF 24: esf24@emd.sc.gov and 803-737-8525

Richard Chesley presented on the DHEC Annual Report and local government recycling programs.

[DHEC Recycling Annual Report](#) This report provides a comprehensive overview of solid waste management including the amount and type of solid waste that is disposed of and recycled in South Carolina as well as the progress towards meeting the state's waste reduction and recycling goals.

The recycling rate increased this year. There are 122 local government programs. Residential recycling makes up around 35%. City or Sumter, York County, Greater Greenville Sanitation, Orangeburg County suspended or reduced services during COVID 19.

FIGURE 2.1: Snapshot of S.C. Residential Recycling in FY19





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MARKET UPDATES

Solid Waste: Norm Chandler reported the solid waste industry is opening back up again. Still seeing reduction in service levels from non-essential and tourism sectors. Some businesses filing bankruptcy and reorganizing their assets. Recycling services are not being abandoned at this time.

Metal: Angel Lara reported that scrap prices were up \$30T, due to short supply. Steel mills are operating at 55% capacity compared to 83% last year. Aluminum, \$0.66lb for aluminum this is a 10% drop from March 20th, mills are starting to buy some scrap.

Plastic: Brad Dutton reported that May is better than April on raw materials. Orders have picked up regarding PET and PP. Still a difficult market because of the many unknowns. 58% of automotive just restarted so optimistic for the future and seeing some positive trends.

Glass: Chris Fisher reported that brown and clear glass are \$25T, green glass is \$20T, and mixed MRF glass is negative \$15T. As restaurants and bars are opening back up, some supply is being generated but nowhere near prior to pandemic. Industry is still hurting.

Paper: Carol James Gilchrist reported that OCC is up \$40 to \$125T. Memorial Day is one reason for the increase. It is expected that this demand will continue to stay strong for through June for July 4th holiday.

Recycling Industry: Tina Huskey reported that industry is in a feast or famine mode – either companies are screaming for materials or they are silent. Export markets are starting to open up in Taiwan and India. Typhoon may delay.

Oil: Bill Laursen reported that oil has rebounded. Up to \$33/barrel from a low of \$13 a couple of weeks ago. Gas prices will be the lowest for Memorial Day than seen in 20 years. Greenville has the lowest gas prices in the state and SC is one of 5 states with the lowest fuel prices. Driving and flying will disrupt the glut.

Carpet: Glenn Odom reported that Wellman opened its manufacturing facility. Nylon 6,6 demand is stable, and Nylon 6 there is no demand currently as is the case for PET. Collectors will be impacted by VPS program ending June 1st. Scheduled PET trials at NC State are on hold as classes and research projects are closed.

Compost: Joseph McMillin reported that there are steady, high markets for compost since it is growing season. However, they are expecting this to dip in the next few months as it gets hotter. Commercial services have dipped, but restaurants are coming back online.



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Wes Westbrook reported that automotive is slowly ramping up. The issue is getting quality suppliers. BMW is manufacturing 250 cars currently on one shift a day compared to 1,500 prior to pandemic.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

The RMDAC board meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.

The next RMDAC meeting will be held via conference call July 21, 2020 at 10 am.