



Henry McMaster
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Harry Lightsey
Secretary

Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting
Thursday, July 21st, 2022
10:00 AM – 11:30PM

Meeting ID: 895 7896 3090
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89578963090>
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

RMDAC

Wes Westbrooks, BMW
Tina Green, Mumford Industries
Norman Chandler, Republic Services
Dr. Andy Spicer, USC Darla Moore School of Business
Chris Fisher, GlassWRX SC
Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling
Elizabeth Morgan, City of Rock Hill
Michelle LaRocco, Georgetown County

ABSENT

Joseph McMillin, Atlas Organics
Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers
Angel Lara, Mid-Carolina Steel
Chad Prescott, Mid Carolina Steel
Vic Carpenter, Kershaw County
Kristen Brown, WasteZero

GUESTS

Glenn Odom, Retired
Thornell Cheeks, EPA Region 4

STAFF

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce
April Chaffins, SC Department of Commerce
Ashley Jenkins, SC Department of Commerce



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CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Wes Westbrooks motioned to call the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

MINUTES

The May 24th RMDAC meeting minutes were approved.

Wes Westbrooks: welcomed the guests and introduced Thornell Cheeks.

Thornell Cheeks presented information on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Thornell: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the National Recycling Strategy, and the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act are particularly important to today's conversation. They provide funding, a framework, and establish new programs. I will be talking about what has been happening this year as a result of these impacts and what the changes will look like to the program in the future, starting with the new grants under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and then the strategies under the Circular Economy Strategy Series. All which feed a 10-year vision that embraces circularity, sustainable materials management and addresses climate change and environmental justice.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Investment for 5 Years:

Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant Program

- \$275M for State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)
- This represents an entirely new program for SMM

Recycling Outreach and Education Grants

- \$75M for education and outreach grants focused on improving education and outreach about waste reduction and recycling
- Again, an entirely new program for SMM

Pollution Prevention Program Grants

- Additional \$100M for P2 Grants
- Expands existing STAG grants
- Quadruples the size of the Pollution Prevention grant program

Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant Program:

These SWIFR grants are to fund a range of projects from capacity building to innovative technology. Sec. 301. in the Saves our Seas 2.0 Act is the Strategy for improving post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs. Our purpose is to ASSIST local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

Who is eligible for SWIFR grant funding?

- States, including District of Columbia
- Political subdivisions of states
- Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands



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- Tribes
- Former tribal reservations in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior)
- Alaskan Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203
- Intertribal Consortia consistent with the requirements in 40 CFR 35.504(a)

Who is eligible for Education/Outreach grant funding?

- States, including District of Columbia
- Local governments
- Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
- Tribes
- Native Hawaiian organizations, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Non-Profit organizations
- Public-private partnerships

National Strategy to Prevent the Wasting of Food & Expand Organics Recycling

- Prevent Household Food Waste
- Prevent Food Service Food Waste
- Prevent Retail Food Waste
- Recycle any Remaining Food Waste and Enhance Organics Recycling Opportunities
- Conduct Research and Improve Measurement

Links to new webpages to highlight our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law work:

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-transforming-us-recycling-and-waste-management>

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/solid-waste-infrastructure-recycling-grant-program>

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/recycling-education-and-outreach-program>

<https://www.epa.gov/rcra/battery-collection-best-practices-and-voluntary-battery-labeling-guidelines>

These pages will continue to be updated as our programs develop. EPA is developing a Circular Economy website to be available within the next few weeks.

Sign up to “stay connected” to learn about:

- New grant programs!
- Solid waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grants
- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - Education and Outreach Grants
- EPA reports (Recycling Measurement Guide)
- Circular Economy strategies – Development and Implementation

epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected



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RMDAC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Infrastructure Bill Funding: Discussion on infrastructure funding. Funding opportunities focused on residential collection. Dialogue continues to happen to find potential pathways to find solution to recycle lithium ion batteries in South Carolina.

Sustainable Development Goals - Sustain SC: Sustain SC is creating a network to look at projects and help large companies meet sustainability goals. Large companies that want to be sustainable have goals to really advance sustainability. The conversation for sustainable development goals has elevated to the economic development level and to our Secretary of Commerce. Sustain SC is in a pilot project with Ernst and Young they're going to be doing a 12-week study.

RMDAC UPDATES

Economic Impact Study: The survey for the Economic Impact Study closed on Friday. We are working with companies to potentially acquire better data for the survey. Study should be completed by October 2022.

Cardboard Ban Update (Next Steps): It supports sustainability goals for all of the big companies. We have a recycler that carries plenty of weight, but we need champions within industry in South Carolina. Next steps, involve the counties and municipalities and their associations and pulling in stakeholders to see where pushback might be from the general business and public community.

Scrap Tire Sustainability Coalition: We are reinvigorating the Scrap Tire Sustainability Coalition and helping to support making connections. The date for the meeting is Tuesday, September 27th.

SERDC/CPRC: Oct. 26-27 (Charlotte, NC): North Carolina to host a conference we're looking at the 26th and the 27th. More information soon to come.

Nov 17-18: RMDAC Retreat: Save the Date for the RMDAC Retreat. More information soon to come.

MARKET UPDATES

Paper: Brown grades went up \$10 per ton. OCC is at \$155. High grades, white paper went up \$10 per ton. Mixed paper held at \$75 a ton.

Glass: Clear flint separated, with no contamination, is \$30 per ton. Single stream glass is negative \$25 to negative \$50 depending on your trucking or which landfill is closer.



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Tires: Talked to our national people at the Tire Association. Recycling numbers are continuing to drop so six seven years ago 95% of tires were recycled right now it's in the mid to low 70s.

Carpet: Nylon 66 is in high demand, but short supply. Nylon 6 is in strong demand right now and price is stable. Polypropylene carpet, polypropylene general, is much higher. It is stabilized some, but it is still high and they are actually using recycled polypropylene carpet now. PET carpet is still a challenge.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

The RMDAC board meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

The next RMDAC meeting will be on October 4, 2022.