**Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting**

**Thursday, May 15, 2025**

**Virtual Meeting**

**10:00 AM – 11:00 AM**

**RMDAC**

Tina Green, Mumford Industries

Adam Padget, Green Energy Biofuels

Jay Spears, Continental

Kevin Richardson, City of Rock Hill

Morgan Crapps, Redwood Materials

Andy Spicer, University of South Carolina

Norman Chandler, Republic Services

Becky Berube, United Catalyst Converter

Jean Cecil Frick, NP Strategy

Angel Lara, Mid-Carolina Steel

Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling

**ABSENT**

Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers

Chris Fisher, Fisher Recycling

Ed Marr, Horry County

**GUESTS**

Glenn Odom, Retired; Emeritus Member

Kristen Gunter, SustainSC

JR Charles, SizeUp SC

Terrell Prested, SC Department of Commerce

Andrena King, SC Department of Commerce

Stephen Fastenau, SC Department of Commerce

**STAFF**

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce

Ashley June, SC Department of Commerce

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Tina Green (Chair) motions to call the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

**MINUTES**

The March meeting minutes were approved, with the amendment to include Becky Berube in the March attendance.

**WELCOME SMALL BUSINESS**

Anna DeLage provided an introduction to Small Business Development

**SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT RMDAC ANNUAL REPORT**

* Andrena King gives an overview of Small Business Development.
  + The Small Business Team helps small and medium-sized businesses connect with resources, tools, local and statewide organizations and agencies that makeup South Carolina’s small business ecosystem.
  + Small businesses make up more than 99% of all enterprises in South Carolina and are vital to the state's economy.
  + South Carolina is among the most competitive places in the nation for business growth because of its small business resources and assistance, which drive the expansion of small enterprises from launch to legacy.
  + Small Business Services
    - One-on-One Conversations
    - SC BizDev, SizeUpSC, FAQs
    - Training and Networking
    - Small Business Resource Events
    - SBRRA Admin. Support
  + Rural & Small Business Community Revitalization Initiative
    - Enhancing Infrastructure:
    - Supporting Small Businesses
    - Building Community Resilience
  + StimulateSC Small Business Grant
    - Statewide Competitive Grant Pilot for Non-profit organizations, higher education institutions, state, county or municipal entities or units of local government
  + For more information: [SmallBizSupport@SCCommerce.com](mailto:SmallBizSupport@SCCommerce.com)

**SIZEUPSC**

J.R. Charles gives overview of the SizeUp SC program.

* The SC Department of Commerce offers small businesses and entrepreneurs data to benchmark themselves against their competition, gain valuable insights to craft their business plans, deeply understand the competitive landscape of their industry.
* Communities in South Carolina can incorporate SizeUp into their small business and entrepreneurial ecosystem, at a reduced rate due to the existing state partnership. This data will be customized to your local geography and will include the existing statewide data sets, plus additional information to aid your local businesses: hourly wage, open hours, digital footprint, and in-depth demographics of your immediate area.
* **SizeUp SC Link:** <https://scbizdev.sccommerce.com/find-resources/markets-and-competition>

**EVENTS/PROJECTS**

Anna DeLage reviewed events/projects.

* 2025-2026 Bill 171: Regrooved and Regroovable Tires
  + S171 – Waste tire disposal fees – favorable report. The full House of Representatives gave this bill second reading with unanimous consent for third reading. Bill passed May 6th, signed Governors Office 5/12/25.
  + Summary of the bill as introduced: Allows a county to charge up to $400 per ton as a tipping fee for waste tire disposal. $2 fee was added to used tires and new vehicle sales for vehicles that upgrade their tires (tires are not mounted on the vehicle- May 1st Amendment)
  + <https://www.masc.sc/legislative-bill/s171-waste-tire-disposal-fees>
* SC Battery Symposium: April 29- May 1
  + Sold out event!
  + Speakers included:
    - Brian Morin, Soteria
    - Cheryl Coleman, Recycled Materials Association
    - Dawn New-Echlin, CellBlock
    - Jeff Batalucco, Vesco Clean Energy
    - Morgan Crapps, Redwood Materials
    - Kristia Pinchot, Volvo Energy
* Recycling Ambassadors

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| **Channel** | **Impressions** | **Engagements** | **Reactions** | **Comments** | **Shares** | **Clicks** |
| **LinkedIn** | 49,213 | 4,497 | 931 | 31 | 106 | 3,429 |
| **Facebook** | 7,171 | 406 | 165 | 10 | 34 | 39 |
| **Instagram** | 2,800 | 124 | 88 | 3 | 27 | N/A |
| **Total** | **59,184** | **5,027** | **1,272** | **44** | **167** | **3,468** |

* + [*https://www.recyclinginsc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Recycling-Ambassadors-1.pdf*](https://www.recyclinginsc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Recycling-Ambassadors-1.pdf)
* RMDAC Retreat: Columbia, SC
  + September 24-25, 2025
  + Hotel: Aloft Columbia Downtown (823 Lady St, Columbia, SC 29201)
  + Wednesday, September 24: Networking & Dinner
  + Thursday, September 25: Columbia, SC – USC Darla Moore School of Business (TBD)
* Sustainability Leadership Institute: Sonoco - Columbia, SC
  + May 1-2, 2025
  + Speakers: Tina Green, Becky Berube
  + *"I learned so much in Session 5. I am re-thinking the impacts myself and my family make as well as ways we can do better at work." Jessica Siron, Scout Motors*
* Next Cycle Michigan Summer Showcase: Dearborn, Michigan
  + June 23-25, 2025
  + Keynote: Anna DeLage
  + Conference Info: <https://nextcyclemichigan.com/2025-summer-showcase>
* Resource Recycling Conference: Denver, Colorado
  + August 4-6, 2025
  + Denver, Colorado
  + Conference Info: <https://www.rrconference.com/why-attend>
* RMDAC Announcement
  + RMDAC Representative Jean Cecil Frick Hudak

**RMDAC APPOINTMENT UPDATES**

Ashley June provides update on the RMDAC (re)appointments.

* The Recycling team continues to work with the Governor's office to determine the status of each council member.

**MARKET UPDATES**

**Metal:** Scrap market took the dive; it went down $30 a gross ton. We attribute it to the fact that the largest consumer of scrap other than the United States itself would be Turkey. Turkey chose not to buy scrap from the United States at the level they normally have and instead are now sourcing scrap from Russia. As a result, we've seen inbound flow of scrap metals, ferrous scrap metals slow down this month. Copper scrap has been a great yo-yo base on what's going on with tariffs, whether it's on or off or back on again or off again. In general, it's trading in a $465 a pound range, so it's still holding well at where it's at.

**Tires:** We have to move over to how to use these tires and not have to ship them all out because that's shipping cost is wasted money. There's a company called Pretred that uses a ton of tires in in the Jersey barriers on the side of the road. They are out of Colorado. They have reached out to Commerce. They are looking to build a facility in the southeast. They have also reached out to the Tire Manufacturers Association for South Carolina (SCMA). So hopefully that's something we can put together because that's the next step is to use these tires. Also, DOT looking good. Dr. Kimmy is making progress.

**Petroleum (Oil):** Retail gas and diesel price has gone down since this time in April and then on the recycling front, biodiesel and renewable diesel feedstock pricing has risen to the highest levels I've seen since 2023.

**Paper:** OCC at $75 per ton. The OCC drop 5 for the month of May. Mix Paper dropped 5 and now at $40 per ton and SOP held for the Southeast.

**Aluminum:** Average U.S. scrap aluminum price: Around \$0.47/lb as of May 13, 2025. 45-day change: Down 2.04%, indicating a modest decline in value over the past month and a half.

* Breakage 50% Recovery: ↓ 2.78%
* Mixed Aluminum Turnings: ↓ 2.22%
* E.C. Aluminum Wire: ↓ 0.92%
* March → April 2025: Price increased by approximately +4.17%, likely due to seasonal demand or supply tightening.
* April → May 2025: Price dropped by about -6.00%,

**Carpet:** Nylon 6 and 66 there is no change in pricing. The price has been stable here for a couple months.

**SC Commerce:** Tracking various battery policies that are popping up around the country. Nothing in South Carolina. As legislative sessions start to close, that’s on the radar.

**Municipality:** Getting a few more calls from different municipalities across the state asking how we are doing recycling and what are some recommendations about how they can better their recycling practices because they're still finding that residents want recycling but wanted to be able to have the volume to go with it.

**Recycling:** All the all the major resins have dropped in value. HDPE, polypropylene pet. Those have all dropped along with, as Carol said earlier, we've a slight drop in paper values as well. Additionally, customers are shopping because they think somebody else has got a better deal than what they're getting. Coupled with very low virgin resin costs is narrowing margins.

**Solid Waste:**  Storm debris, both ground and in the raw state it is still coming just out of the woodwork from everywhere and the forecast is for that to really continue through with the FEMA sites and all of that through probably August.

**Adjourn: 11:10 AM**