



Henry McMaster  
Governor

**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Harry M. Lightsey III  
Secretary

**Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 13, 2025**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**RMDAC**

Tina Green, Mumford Industries  
Ed Marr, Horry County  
Norman Chandler, Republic Services  
Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling  
Jay Spears, Continental  
Andrew Spicer, University of South Carolina  
Chris Fisher, Fisher Recycling – Virtual  
Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers – Virtual

**ABSENT**

Morgan Crapps, Redwood Materials  
Becky Berube, United Catalyst Corporation  
Adam Padgett, Green Energy Biofuels  
Kevin Richardson, City of Rock Hill  
Jean Cecil Frick, NP Strategy  
Angel Lara, Mid-Carolina Steel

**GUESTS**

Glenn Odom, Retired; Emeritus Member

**STAFF**

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce  
Adriana Diotalevi, SC Department of Commerce

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Tina Green (Chair) motions to call the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

**MINUTES**

The September meeting minutes were amended to include the Carpet market update. Once the update is made, the minutes are approved.

**INTRODUCTION**



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Anna DeLage provides an introduction to Adriana Diotalevi, the new Recycling Market Development Coordinator.

## **PROGRAM UPDATES AND RETREAT OUTCOMES**

Anna DeLage discusses plans for 2026.

- 2026 Meeting Dates Approved – Invitations sent
  - January 8, 2026
  - March 12, 2026
  - May 14, 2026
  - July 9, 2026
  - September 10, 2026
  - November 12, 2026
- Appointments
  - Adam Padget
  - Jay Spears
  - Dr. Spicer
  - Brad Dutton
  - Carol James-Gilchrist
- Council Updates
  - Anna DeLage discussed retreat outcomes.
    - Staff focus will be on supporting business and industry.
    - Staff is working to create a template that is aligned to statutory requirements, board votes on recommendation updates
    - Board helps shape content: topics, speakers, case studies, connections (virtual and in person, 1 day retreat 10am-2pm)
  - RMDAC Recommendations for the report are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Discussion Highlights
  - Broad discussion on current industry challenges, including an unpredictable economy and infrastructure gaps, along with potential opportunities.
  - Board suggested developing a comprehensive resource list for businesses (including companies offering free waste audits). Need to understand and communicate what is offered in an audit.
  - Noted new recycling terminology trends: “waste reduction”, “solid waste diversion”, “resources recovery”, and “circular economy”



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- Glenn Odom requested data on exported recyclable materials. Staff can provide 2025 data in March.
- Provide a comprehensive list of Sustainability resources.

## **PLANNING DISCUSSION**

Tina Green discusses plans for 2026.

- 2026 Activities
  - Host industry roundtables to foster collaboration and problem-solving.
  - Emphasized creating action-oriented discussions rather than conversation-only meetings.
  - Determined the Council should define whether its role is primarily as a convener or an advisor.
  - Host Roundtables or Extended Lunch & Learns
    - Consider location, invite list (businesses, government, economic developers), and discussion topics.
    - Define desired outcomes and products of each session.
    - Plan the first Lunch & Learn for the March meeting date, inviting Richland and Lexington County businesses and industries.
- RMDAC Recommendations:
  - RMDAC members decided that recommendations should include multi stakeholder engagement and systems thinking. This is a reset year. Andy will assist in writing them.
  - Andy also stated that RMDAC should engage in multi-stakeholder planning that convenes multiple voices around the state.
- Communication Strategies:
  - Reduced capacity. No one is permitting a new landfill. We are taking trash from NY.
  - Recycling is real.
  - National security.

## **MARKET UPDATES**

- Each board member gave brief updates on the current state of their respective markets.
  - Disposal: Stock prices are dropping due to economic uncertainty.



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- Paper: OCC dropped \$10 to \$60/ton and is expected to drop again in December. Mixed paper and high grades both dropped \$5. China is no longer accepting materials; domestic mills don't have surplus of supply.
- Polyester: Economic uncertainty has halted expansion and growth.
- Plastic: Much of the current supply is imported from South America because we do not have the infrastructure to clean our domestic supply.
- Recycling industry: Brokers and compounders are losing contracts as manufacturers opt for cheaper virgin resin.
- Glass: Recycling and participation are declining.
- County: Ed met with the SC Association of Counties to discuss issues for the coming year, including the Solid Waste and Recycling Workers Week resolution; Slow Down to Get Around safety campaign legislation, potential recycling actions by the Legislature and the waste tire fund. The tire fund is projected to generate additional revenue, will not have a full picture for a full 12 months.
- Tires:
  - Currently, there is limited markets for end-of-life tires in SC. Supply and end markets are a challenge for end-of-life tires.
  - Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is gaining traction, but it needs legislative approval to make it a good program.
- Carpet: CA had EPR on carpet \$1 a yard, consumer pays for it. NY passed a bill effective December 28, 2024, requires carpet producers to fund a statewide collection and recycling program for broadloom carpet, modular carpet tiles, artificial turf, and underlayment, with the program set to launch on July 1, 2026. The law mandates that manufacturers develop and submit an approved plan for collecting and recycling discarded carpet by January 2026. This extended producer responsibility (EPR) law also sets specific recycling goals and includes the phase-out of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Tina and Ed will coordinate roundtable planning.
- RMDAC members will take a look at the recycling companies list and update their contacts.

**Adjourn: 12:03 PM**