



CCSMM

CT Coalition for Sustainable
Materials Management

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Working Group Meeting #5

December 4, 2020

10:00am – 12:00pm

EPR Working Group Meeting

Welcome & Introductions, Co-chairs:

- Matt Knickerbocker, First Selectman, Bethel
- Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Sustainability & Compliance Office, Branford, CT

Note that EPR Working Group (WG) meeting materials (e.g., agendas, presentations, meeting dates & registration links) are be posted on the [EPR WG webpage](#).

EPR Working Group Meeting



- Today's Presenters:
 - **Kelsey Wentling**, Connecticut River Conservancy – EPR for Tires
 - **Jennifer Heaton-Jones**, HRRA – Gas Cylinder EPR Bill



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- Q & A for Panelists
- Comments/Discussion for municipal participants

NOTE: For non-municipal attendees to submit comments, please use the CHAT box, or submit them through [the public engagement request for comments and solutions](#)

ERP Working Group – DRAFT Findings



- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a mandatory type of product stewardship that includes, at a minimum, the requirement that the manufacturer's responsibility for its product extends to post-consumer management of that product and its packaging. There are two related features of EPR policy:
 - shifting financial and management responsibility, with government oversight, upstream to the manufacturer and away from the public sector; and
 - providing incentives to manufacturers to incorporate environmental considerations into the design of their products and packaging.
- EPR programs can save municipalities money on collection and recycling costs.
- Existing EPR laws in Connecticut for mattresses, paint, electronics and thermostats have shown to increase recycling, save municipalities money, create jobs and reduce greenhouse gases ([PSI study](#)).

ERP Working Group – DRAFT Findings



- EPR can establish recycling programs for difficult to recycle materials such as propane cylinders, tires, household hazardous waste (HHW) and smoke detectors.
- EPR can lead to preferred environmental outcomes including:
 - Increased recycling;
 - Improved recycling (higher end-uses);
 - Design for the environment (of the products covered);
 - Decreased illegal dumping of covered products (e.g., tires).
- EPR legislation, which is needed to implement EPR programs, is based on elements including:
 - Responsible producers
 - Covered products
 - Covered entities (e.g., who can use the program)
 - Financial mechanism
 - Program Plan
 - Performance goals and metrics

ERP Working Group – DRAFT Findings



- **Packaging EPR** is essentially EPR for materials included in mixed recycling (i.e., single stream) collection programs
- EPR programs for packaging in Canada and around the world have demonstrated success in terms of high recycling rates, municipal savings and improved education.
- Manufacturers of packaging are beginning to support EPR in the USA due to the pressure from states and local governments pursuing legislation.
- Packaging EPR addresses municipal concerns about rising tipping fees for recyclables, and is a complementary policy piece to Unit-Based Pricing programs (which incentivize the diversion of more recyclables from the trash to the proper recycling paths).

ERP Working Group – DRAFT Recommendations



- Affirm EPR as the preferred materials management strategy for increasing recycling of difficult to recycle materials.
- Support EPR legislation which is consistent with the elements of EPR for gas cylinders and tires if introduced in the 2021 legislative session.
- Continue working with Connecticut municipalities, other states, local governments, manufacturers and other interested stakeholders, in developing EPR legislation for packaging.
- Support the Connecticut Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) in the promotion of EPR initiatives.
- Establish an updated priority list of EPR materials.
- Perform a biannual evaluation of the EPR programs and recommendations for new materials.

EPR Working Group Meeting



Upcoming Schedule

- **Dec 16 (1-3pm)** - Full CCSMM Coalition meeting – [REGISTER](#)
- **January 5th (1-3pm)** - Full CCSMM Coalition meeting - [REGISTER](#)

EPR Working Group Meeting



Submit CCSMM comments to - DEEP.RecyclingProgram@ct.gov

EPR Working Group members can direct WG-related questions & suggestions to the WG co-chairs:

knickerbockerm@bethel-ct.gov

dbercury@branford-ct.gov