





Notes
WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Friday, March 2nd, 2018
 WI Integrated Resource Management Conference
 Osthoff Resort, Palm Garden D
 101 Osthoff Avenue, Elkhart Lake, WI

<p>Council Members Present: Jim Birmingham, Gary Harter, Jarrod Holter, Dave Keeling, Heidi Woelfel DNR: Jennifer Semrau, Kari Beetham (by phone) Public: Daniel Hartsig, WasteCap Resource Solutions; Tim Engel, Better Earth Recycling; Bob Woycke and Justin Woycke, Milwaukee Textile Recycling/CTC Supplies Inc.; Paul Gardner, WasteZero/Simple Recycling; Chris Miller, Outagamie County; Kathy Hutter, Winnebago County; Tonya Randall, More Associates (by phone); and Paul England, Pratt Recycling (by phone).</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 1:01 p.m.
Introductions and Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves.
Approval of Minutes (January 25 th , 2018)	Motion made by Gary Harter and seconded by Dave Keeling to approve the minutes of January 25, 2018. Motion carried (5-0).
Mixed Paper Recycling Update	Paul England, Pratt Recycling informed the council that mixed paper market standards proposed by China are difficult to meet. There is also a supply and demand imbalance. Some programs can meet the new 0.5% contamination standard, but many cannot. D. Keeling asked about Kimberly Clark shutting down and the state offering incentives: is it less expensive for a new mill to utilize a greenfield site and build new or attempt to retrofit an existing (old) mill? P. England stated it is difficult to retrofit a facility with old equipment; it is quicker and more cost-effective to start from the ground up.
Plastic Recycling Update  Plastic Market Update 3.2.18.pdf	Tonya Randall, More Associates addressed the question of the recyclability of black plastic. T. Randall stated most don't consider it a recyclable material and the addition of black plastic to bales generally make the bales worse. Further, due to China's action in the international marketplace, now is not necessarily the time to add questionable materials, but instead programs should focus on collection of materials with strong demand infrastructure such as PET, HDPE and PP. G. Harter stated the optical sorter does not pick up the black plastic. T. Randall said that while the optical could be reprogrammed to remove black plastic, there is not a lot of it in the stream and it likely wouldn't make sense to do so. More plastic film, rigids and containers would be a better focus. H. Woelfel asked if manufacturers are aware of the inability to recycle black plastic. T. Randall said the Association of Plastics Recyclers (APR) provides a guide to recyclability. H. Woelfel further inquired, if brands are aware, why do they continue to use it? T. Randall suggested it could be due to other attributes such as appearance, marketing or black's ability to hide flaws. J. Semrau asked about plans for additional domestic capacity as a result of China's importation restriction action. T. Randall stated "demand champions" encourages recycled content in manufacturing. J. Birmingham suggested G. Harter could query other MRFs to better understand the prevalence of the black plastic issue.
Textile Recycling	Tim Engel, Better Earth Recycling stated that textile recycling is one of the oldest forms of recycling, dating back over 400 years to China. Better Earth Recycling is approximately four years old. Better Earth places permanent

 <p>BETR Presentation Rev March 2018.pdf</p>	<p>collection receptacles at locations and also provides special collection days for bulky items. Better Earth helps thrift stores with seasonal merchandise and with non-profits like the humane society (sheets, blankets) and veterans (clothes for interviews). Better Earth bales and sends textiles to Houston, TX in 100 pound blocks. Each item is viewed and its end market determined. Like plastic, textiles are now banned from importation into China.</p>
<p>Textile Recycling</p>  <p>Milwaukee Textile Rcy Community Rcy Guide</p>	<p>Bob Woycke and Justin Woycke, Milwaukee Textile Recycling/CTC Supplies, Inc. provided a handout <i>Milwaukee Textile Recycling Community Recycling Guide</i>. Milwaukee Textile Recycling used to sort in Milwaukee. They work with communities and communities can earn money. Proximity to markets is important, making northern WI a challenge. Legislation/regulation is also a factor in textile recycling...both positive or negative. There is the banning of collection bins or the banning of landfilling textiles. Africa is the primary textile market, with Central and South America as secondary markets.</p>
<p>Textile Recycling</p>  <p>WasteZero Textiles Mar 2018.pdf</p>	<p>Paul Gardner, Simple Recycling shared that Simple Recycling is based out of Cleveland and Detroit. They provide curbside collection of textiles, so require a densely urban area. In WI, this could be the Milwaukee or Madison areas or maybe the Fox Valley. Graders used are in Chicago and Detroit. Goodwill stores in MN actually experienced an increase in donations since Simple Recycling began operating, as textile recycling awareness overall improves. Chris Miller asked if the plastic bags used in collection are recycled. P. Gardner said the materials are kept in the bags when sent to the graders.</p>
<p>Recycling Markets Sub-Committee Update</p>	<p>Sub-committee members welcome ideas for speakers/topics from council members and the general public. The council strives to move the meetings around the state to accommodate the inclusion of members of the general public and gain knowledge of recycling issues or challenges of different regions.</p>
<p>DNR/Legislative Updates</p>	<p>Jennifer Semrau, DNR informed the council of various DNR staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Strom Hiorns was announced as the new Recycling and Solid Waste Section Chief and begins on 3/5. This position was previously held by Joe Van Rossum, before his promotion to Bureau Director and prior by Brad Wolbert. • The Hazardous Waste/Waste Management Specialist posting resulted in four of five vacancies filled. The last position recruitment is being finalized. • DNR is in the process of hiring several summer interns for the Milwaukee, Eau Claire, Green Bay, Madison and Fitchburg offices. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of non-staffing updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report season is underway: MRF annual report has been released and is due 3/30; RU annual report will be released during the week of 3/5 is due 4/30. • DNR conducted a recycling workshop for the Northwoods Recycling Coalition Responsible Unit on 2/21 in Crivitz. This multi-member RU is considering dissolving. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR will host an E-cycle, storm debris and recycling Responsible Unit workshop on 4/11 in Plover at the WI Rural Water Association.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR will host an E-cycle Stakeholder meeting on 5/30 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pyle Center in Madison. <p>J. Semrau, DNR informed the council of legislative updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB646/AB789 relating to exempting certain facilities from solid waste facility regulations is expected to be signed by the Governor. • E-cycle bill (SB733) no companion assembly bill; will not pass.
Public Comment	None.
Other Business	None.
Next Meeting Date and Location	The next council meeting will take place in Madison in April/May and include the Election of Officers.
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm; motioned by Dave Keeling and seconded by Gary Harter. Motion carried (5-0).