

Illinois Statewide Recycling Needs Assessment Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 9, 2024, 12:00 pm CT

WebEx Webinar

1. Welcome: Roll Call

- a. Attendees: John Pausma, Aaron Harmon, Daphne Hulse, Lisa Disbrow, Nicole Willett, Joshua Connell, Sadzi Oliva, Becky Tracy, Marta Keane, Anthony Tindall, Rod Kleckler, Brad Cole, Christina Seibert, Cole Stollard, Alec Laird, Bill Dolak, Liz Kunkle, Seema Keshav, Donovan Griffith, Elizabeth Sheaffer, Madeline Norris, Neil Menezes, Carol Patterson
- b. Not in attendance: Tomas Vujovic, Denise Macias, Kristina LoRusso, Darnell Tingle, Brian Holtz, John Rost
- c. A quorum was present.
- d. Illinois EPA staff attending: Sunil Suthar, Cassandra Clark, Jacki Cooperider, Jeff Guy
- e. One seat is open on the Advisory Council for a representative of an environmental justice advocacy organization or environmental justice community.

2. Meeting Minutes

- a. April 3, April 11, and June 10 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion by Brad Cole, second by Lisa Disbrow; all in favor, all prior minutes were approved.

3. Illinois EPA Updates

- a. The draft RFP is being reviewed by the State Procurement Office and will be posted when final. The expectation is for it to be posted within approximately one week. Sunil will provide notice to all Advisory Council members when the RFP is posted.
- b. The Agency has appointed their selection committee to review proposals when received. This will not involve work by the Advisory Council, it is a closed selection process in accordance with State procurement code.
- c. Ethics and harassment training information will be sent to all members for completion.

4. Stakeholder Policy Presentations at Future Meetings

- a. Stakeholder groups were proposed who may be invited to present at future meetings of the Advisory Council to provide their perspective on EPR policy and existing laws passed and in implementation. Members expressed the need to ensure there is balanced representation from stakeholder groups that are invited, aligning with the diversity of membership of the Advisory Council.
- b. Groups suggested included:

- Product Stewardship Institute (PSI)
 - Ameripen
 - The Recycling Partnership (TRP)
 - National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA)
 - Recycled Materials Association (ReMA)
 - Circular Action Alliance (CAA)
 - State regulatory agencies – schedule later in 2025 after program plans are approved
- c. Questions for stakeholders may include:
- Lessons learned through time as implementation experience is gained
 - Commonalities between laws
 - Barriers in some legislation that are better addressed in other states
 - Gaps in existing legislation identified
 - Definitions of key terms including the producers, product categories, and sectors covered under different laws
 - Local government and service provider data that will be needed to meet performance requirements

5. Committee Structure

- a. Smaller working committees may help to break down the work the Advisory Council needs to do. Committees discussed include:
- Stakeholder perspectives – including developing guiding questions for stakeholders
 - State policy – map and track status in each implementing state
 - Measurement and data availability – understanding what and how to measure performance for reporting to align with available data from producers and service providers and achieve the objectives of EPR policy
 - Additional committees are likely to be better defined as work on the Needs Assessment begins and more experience is gained in other states.
- b. Committee participants should be balanced to represent the diverse membership of the Advisory Council.
- c. Consider providing reports on various topics or from committees in one meeting to introduce the topic, then revisit the topic in more depth in a later meeting after members have the chance to review and further research the information provided.
- d. Christina will work on setting up a Google Drive for file sharing to facilitate work of committees and the Advisory Council. A Google Form will be included for members to indicate interest in serving on committees.

6. State Packaging EPR Laws Comparison Approach

- a. The State Policy Committee would propose an approach to compare the EPR laws in states that have legislation passed, which include:
- Colorado

- Oregon
- California
- Maine
- Minnesota

- b. CAA has information on their website regarding state implementation that we can start reviewing and tracking now. Neil will discuss with CAA whether their reference documents from internal meetings can also be shared.

7. Questions and Comments from Council Members

- a. There were no questions from Council members.

8. Public Comment Period

- a. No comments were made by the public.

9. Next Meeting

- a. December 9, 12-1:30 pm CT via WebEx

10. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm CT; motion by Donovan Griffith, second by Bill Dolak.