

# **Illinois Statewide Recycling Needs Assessment Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

*Monday, June 9, 2025, 12:00 pm CT*

WebEx Webinar

## **1. Welcome: Roll Call**

- a.** Attendees: John Pausma, Tomas Vujovic, Daphne Hulse, Nicole Willett, Joshua Connell, Sadzi Oliva, Mike DiMucci, Marta Keane, Anthony Tindall, Rod Kleckler, Brad Cole, Christina Seibert, Cole Stollard, Andrea Densham, Seema Keshav, Frank Pettis, Donovan Griffith, Elizabeth Sheaffer, Madeline Norris, Carol Patterson, Machele Henderson
- b.** Not in attendance: Aaron Harmon, Lisa Disbrow, Becky Tracy, Kristina LoRusso, Alec Laird, Darnell Tingle, John Rost
- c.** A quorum was present.
- d.** Illinois EPA staff attending: Jacki Cooperider, Vishnu Srinivasaraghavan
- e.** Open seats on the Advisory Council include one representative of each: a retailer; a producer of consumer products.

## **2. Meeting Minutes**

- a.** March 10 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion by Brad Cole, second by Elizabeth Sheaffer; all in favor, minutes were approved.

## **3. Illinois EPA Updates**

- a.** Needs assessment contract and schedule: The contract with Eunomia has been executed. There will be a kick-off meeting with IEPA and Eunomia the week of June 9.
- b.** Independent entity / CPA firm for data collection: Jacki Cooperider confirmed via email after the meeting concluded that IEPA is working to finalize a scope of work with Crowe, LLP as its CPA contractor for this portion of the scope of work.
- c.** New representatives for SRNAAC: Mike DiMucci (Garden Prairie Organics) has been appointed to the vacant compost collection and processing facilities position. Open seats remain for a retailer and a producer of consumer products.
- d.** Ethics and harassment / discrimination trainings: Notifications of required trainings were previously provided to all Advisory Council members via email. Members can contact Cassandra Clark ([cassandra.clark@illinois.gov](mailto:cassandra.clark@illinois.gov)) to confirm they have completed all training requirements.

#### 4. Old Business

- a. Illinois needs assessment updates / discussion: Information was updated during the IEPA update portion of the agenda. Additional updates are expected at the July meeting from Eunomia.
- b. Needs assessment and packaging EPR bill updates from other states:
  - Packaging EPR bills have been signed in Maryland and Washington, bringing the total bills passed in the US to 7.
  - A needs assessment bill has been signed in Hawaii.
- c. Google Drive and file organization:
  - A Google Drive folder has been set up for resource organization and sharing. The link was emailed to all Advisory Council members by Christina Seibert and should be accessible without logging in to a Google account.
  - Documents to be added to the Drive should be sent to Christina Seibert ([christina@swancc.org](mailto:christina@swancc.org)); the Drive has view-only access for those with the link.
- d. Advisory Council future work items:
  - The Advisory Council's report to the General Assembly is due December 1, 2026.
  - There will be a lot of new information and learning coming as EPR programs in other states are implemented.
  - Key policy decision areas that the Advisory Council will likely want to address were discussed, including:
    - What are covered materials and how do we define those?
    - Who are covered entities?
    - What are the collection convenience requirements (e.g., mandated curbside recycling in communities of a certain size, as convenient to recycle as it is to dispose garbage)?
    - How is collection funded (e.g., reimbursement, full cost or not)?
    - Are performance goals set in statute, in the program plan, etc., and what goals should be considered (e.g., recycling, PCR, reuse / refill / source reduction)?
    - What is the definition of producer and who is the responsibility party and what is the hierarchy?
    - What considerations do we need to include for rulemaking for a future EPR policy? Discussion included a suggestion that the Advisory Council could be beneficial to provide input to the rulemaking process, which may require extending appointment or reengagement of the Advisory Council members after a packaging EPR bill would pass.
    - What reporting requirements and standards should be included in order to harmonize with other states?
  - The Advisory Council will need preparation time to compile information for discussion on each of the policy decision areas, provide background information and understanding, and then in a later meeting discuss Advisory Council recommendations.

**5. Questions and Comments from Council Members**

- a. There were no additional questions from Council members.

**6. Public Comment Period**

- a. There were no public comments.

**7. Next Meeting**

- a. July 14, 12-1:30 pm CT via WebEx.
- b. Meetings will continue to be planned monthly.

**8. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm CT; motion by Joshua Connell, second by Nicole Willett.