



Henry McMaster
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Harry M. Lightsey III
Secretary

Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) Meeting
Thursday, January 16, 2024
Virtual Meeting
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

RMDAC

Tina Green, Mumford Industries
Adam Padget, Green Energy Biofuels
Jay Spears, Continental
Kevin Richardson, City of Rock Hill
Jean Cecil Frick, NP Strategy
Carol James-Gilchrist, Sonoco Recycling
Angel Lara, Mid-Carolina Steel
Chris Fisher, Fisher Recycling
Brad Dutton, Dutton Polymers
Morgan Crapps, Redwood Materials

ABSENT

Ed Marr, Horry County
Andy Spicer, University of South Carolina
Norman Chandler, Republic Services
Chad Prescott, Mid-Carolina Steel

GUESTS

Glenn Odom, Retired; Emeritus Member
Dr. Andrew Hurley, Clemson FRESH
Carla Edwards, SC Department of Commerce
Kristen Gunter, SustainSC

STAFF

Anna DeLage, SC Department of Commerce
Ashley June, SC Department of Commerce

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Tina Green (Chair) motions to call the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.



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MINUTES

September meeting minutes are approved.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Anna DeLage provides updates on new appointments.

- Outgoing Council Members:
 - Wes Westbrook, Commerce Representative
 - Chad Prescott, Aluminum Industry
- Incoming Council Members:
 - Morgan Crapps, Redwood Materials (Commerce Representative)
 - Becky Berube, United Catalyst Corporation (Aluminum Industry)
- RMDAC Chair:
 - Tina Green, Mumford Industries

CLEMSON FRESH DISTRIBUTING \$5M IN FUNDING

Dr. Andrew Hurley from Clemson FRESH gives presentation on funding opportunities related to increasing PCR content in primary food packaging, increasing reusability, and developing compostable labels.

- Clemson FRESH have the following opportunities:
 - Novel composting Research Center
 - Full testing lab with results and provides full report
 - In-field vessel composter takes waste stream from Clemson University community and dining halls.
 - Soil testing and provide report
 - Vermiculture
 - <https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/fresh/compostability.html>
- USDA grant (\$5M in funding):
 - To provide funding to industry to empower and provide sustainable packaging for producers of specialty crops.
 - In countries in Europe and Canada, emerging legislation puts our producers at a disadvantage because we do not have a portfolio of packaging materials that meet many of these criteria.
 - New regulations in Canada and Europe have heightened the demand for innovative packaging solutions for fresh fruits and vegetables.



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- Together with Clemson University's Packaging Science program, FRESH is distributing RFPs focused on addressing the following:
 - Increasing PCR content in primary food packaging.
 - Increasing reusability in transport and group packaging.
 - Finding new formats for banned materials such as shrink-wrapped individual containers under 1.5KG and PFAS coatings.
 - Developing compostable labels.
 - Other research and LCA's to support new packaging designs for specialty crop exports to Canada and Europe.
- <https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/fresh/innovation/index.html>
- Contact: Dr. Andrew Hurley, Clemson FRESH, ruperth@clemson.edu

RECYCLING AMBASSADORS CAMPAIGN

Anna DeLage gives overview of the upcoming Recycling Ambassadors social media campaign.

- The ambassador's campaign leading up to Earth Day, is a way to connect the Recycling Market Development with the new brand launch to legacy.
- Leading up to Earth Day on April 22nd, the recycling team will embark on a social media campaign, posting headshots and quotes from influential South Carolina recycling industry ambassadors.
 - Support and showcase South Carolina's recycling industry.
 - Boost confidence in SC recycling.
 - Raise awareness about the importance of recycling in business and industry.
 - Establish industry leaders as ambassadors for recycling.

AMPLIFYING RECYCLING MESSAGE (LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION)

Ashley June gives overview of the upcoming RMDAC project.

- As part of RMDAC's efforts to support the economic growth of South Carolina's recycling industry, the council is developing a one-page fact sheet that focuses on how recyclers can deliver their services and the impact of the recycling industry. The fact sheet serves as a resource for businesses and municipalities, educating key decision-makers while also supporting the recycling industry.
- Key points for the fact sheet:
 - Showcase recycling businesses
 - Highlight how recyclers in SC can deliver recycling services
 - Identify what materials businesses need and how feedstock supports them



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- Job creation and the value of recycling-related jobs
- Doodle Poll will be sent via email to determine the February meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ashley June and Anna DeLage review upcoming events.

- Recycling Day at the State House: February 5, 2025, Columbia, SC – Palmetto Club. <https://www.cra-recycle.org/screcyclingday25/>
- CPRC Roadshow Session 4: February 26, 2025, Gaston, SC – Alpek Polyester (Columbia Site). <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/your-plastic-means-products-roadshow-tickets-1114112884629?aff=oddtcreator>
- SC Automotive Summit B2B Matchmaker Event: February 25, 2025, Greenville, SC. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-sc-automotive-b2b-supplier-matchmaker-tickets-1104562077909?aff=oddtcreator>
- Evac Magnetics Supplier Day: January 28, 2025, Sumter SC. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evac-magnetics-supplier-day-event-tickets-1111678162309?aff=oddtcreator>
- Clemson FRESH 2025 - Food, Packaging, & Sustainability Summit: March 3-5, 2025, Clemson University. <https://freshsustainabilitysummit.com/>

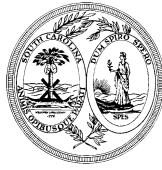
NEW BUSINESS

- The Vice Chair position for the Recycling Market Development Advisory Council (RMDAC) is available.
- Nominations for Vice Chair due to SC Commerce staff by March 6th.
- Submit nominations using Microsoft Form link
- All submissions will be included in a voting poll.
- Voting will take place on March 13th during the next virtual RMDAC meeting.

MARKET UPDATES

Metal: Copper is trading at the 420 range and steel is holding steady

Plastic: Polyester side of business is still bad. Many on the sidelines waiting to see what's going to take place on the transition, political speaking. There's legislation that's going to allow domestic virgin producers. A little bit of an ability to expand their market if legislation pass. There is some hope that's going on in the industry, especially on the recycle side.



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Tires: A Bill that was introduced at the State House. The Bill is looking to hit the root of the problem and expand the fee on new vehicle fees. This Bill could be a way to support the Counties and help move forward. Link to tire recycling legislation:

https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/bills/171.htm

Petroleum (Oil): Global oil demand rose seasonally in 4Q24. Oil prices surged past \$80/bbl in early January. U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are releasing guidance on the Clean Fuels Production Credit (section 45Z). Section 45Z provides a tax credit for the production of transportation fuels with lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below certain levels. It still needs some clarification, but the hope is this will curb renewable diesel plants from being able to use untraceable imported oil and back to domestic feedstocks that have been sustainably processed and documented.

Glass: Glass stayed the same. Clean, sorted, clear glass is \$45 a ton. Green will be \$25 a ton. Very clean, pristine glass brown, \$10 to \$15 a ton. The mixed glass will bring \$10 a ton. Single stream is trash, so you'll pay for trucking and disposal. There is a decline in the glass market all the way around because most of the communities and municipalities are taking the glass out of their programs. Strategic sold to a German firm. They have really tightened up the belt on everything. Steady, but not enough glass coming in.

Paper: OCC held at \$80 a ton through December and January. Started dropping in October, so it held at \$120 a ton. Cardboard mixed paper dropped \$5 and now it is at \$45 a ton. The high grades came up to \$ 5 a ton.

Aluminum: The ferrous scrap market experienced an up market this month strictly because of lack of supply to all the winter conditions that has happened up north and down in the South. It went up \$20 a ton. But overall, we've seen our businesses off about 20% on inbound scrap. Copper market is actually kind of hot right now. It's up to \$4.40 a pound. And the question we have is, what's going on in the automotive industry? They predict it's going to be a flat year for 2025. On the sales side of vehicles and obviously the automotive industry generates a whole lot of scrap metals for our business.

Carpet: Nylon 6 and 66 there is no change in pricing. The pricing is about the same. PRET is always looking for Nylon 6 and 66 post-consumer carpet. SC doesn't have any efforts going into carpet recycling. The economics does not work.

SC Commerce: The big question mark for everyone in our industry right now is what the future will hold in terms of some of the federal policies. Due to changing in leadership in the coming month. No South Carolina specific update.



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Municipality: Recycling is steady. The City of York has stabilized after they decided to drop the recycling program. Many citizens are now using the County recycling drop-off centers. York County put in an EPA SWIFER grant. It's an infrastructure grant that focuses on chipping, mulching and composting site because right now there's not one in the county. This will provide a chance to combine with Clinton College. This will provide a start up environmental engineering program to work the site and help those students through application of physical application at the site.

Recycling: The businesses that are still here are still doing business. The Recycling Industry must show that there is a saving. Not many calls on how much will you pay for the material. ESG is coming off the table. Circularity is the buzz word this year.

Adjourn: 11:08 AM