

WA Commingled Improvements Project: Southwest Region Workgroup

Focus on Plastics in the Commingled System

August 27, 2009 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Ecology HQ, Lacey: Room 1S -17

Meeting Objectives

1. Share information from each sector of the system – curb, MRF, mill – on how plastics are prepared, collected, processed, and used as a final product.
2. Receive responses to the questions that appear on the reverse of this agenda.
3. Determine if more information is needed to fully understand how plastics act in the commingled system, and at what quality and quantity they are being recovered for reuse.

Please be prepared to provide answers to the questions from your sector on the reverse.

Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome & Introductions – *Shannon McClelland*
- 9:05 – 9:10 Review of Agenda and Meeting Objectives – *Shannon*
- 9:10 – 9:30 Discuss messaging to public on material preparation & collection for plastics
– *Local governments & Haulers*
- 9:30 – 10:15 Discuss plastics from the MRF perspective - *MRFs*
- 10:15 – 10:45 Discuss plastics from the end-use perspective – *Moore Recycling*
- 10:45 – 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 11:30 Discuss plastics from the end-use perspective – *Fibres International*
- 11:30 – 12:00 Discuss plastics market research commissioned by the American Chemistry Council
-- *Cascadia Consulting*
- 12:00 – 12:20 Review information – Do we have what we need? - *All*
- 12:20 – 12:30 Next Steps & Adjourn – *Shannon*

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Questions to be answered for Plastics:

For Local Governments and Collectors

- What is the messaging for preparation?
- Special/extra messaging?
- Collected the same as other materials?
- Does it provide revenue for your program or is it only a cost?
- Percent of total materials collected in program?

For Processors

- Percent of total incoming?
- Quality of incoming?
- Problems in processing?
- Areas that could be improved from MRF perspective?
- Percent of residual?
- Rate the market: Strong, medium, weak for local and export?
- High value commodity?
- Easy to move?

For Manufacturers/End users

- Prohibitives?
- Outhrows?
- Yield loss?
- Capacity/ Need to use more?
- Problems with your equipment?
- Value in using vs. other virgin feedstock?
- Final product?