



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Packaging EPR – What it Could Mean for Connecticut

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What is Packaging EPR?

- A strategy for increasing recycling by assigning primary financial responsibility for collection and processing to the manufacturer of the product(s).
- For packaging this represents the materials commonly present in single stream recycling



How EPR is financed

- Cost Internalization
 - Cost of recovery and processing is within the purchase price of the product
 - Example – ewaste, thermostats
- Cost Externalization
 - Cost of recovery and processing is added on to the purchase price and remitted to manufacturer(s)
 - Example – paint, mattresses



How Connecticut Currently Pays for Package Recycling

- Municipal crews – tax dollars
- Municipal contract – tax dollars
 - Total of 2 above is about \$20 million annually
- Private subscription
- Municipal transfer station - user fees and tax dollars



What EPR Costs in BC

RECYCLE BC FEE SCHEDULE (CENTS/KG)

Category	Material	2018 Fee Rates (cents/ kg)	2017 Fee Rates (cents/ kg)	Variance %
PRINTED PAPER	Newsprint	11.00	11.00	0.0%
	Magazines and Catalogues	11.00	11.00	0.0%
	Telephone Books	11.00	11.00	0.0%
	Other Printed Paper	11.00	11.00	0.0%
PAPER PACKAGING	Corrugated Cardboard	24.00	24.00	0.0%
	Boxboard	24.00	24.00	0.0%
	Gable Top Cartons	52.00	52.00	0.0%
	Paper Laminates	52.00	52.00	0.0%
	Aseptic Containers	52.00	52.00	0.0%
PLASTICS	PET Containers	53.00	53.00	0.0%
	HDPE Containers	53.00	53.00	0.0%
	Plastic Film	91.00	91.00	0.0%
	Plastic Laminates	102.00	102.00	0.0%
	Polystyrene	91.00	91.00	0.0%
	Other Plastics	91.00	91.00	0.0%
STEEL	Other Steel Packaging	20.00	20.00	0.0%
	Steel Aerosols	20.00	20.00	0.0%
	Steel Paint Cans	20.00	20.00	0.0%
ALUMINUM	Aluminum Food & Milk Containers	26.00	26.00	0.0%
	Other Aluminum Packaging	26.00	26.00	0.0%
GLASS	Clear Glass	15.00	15.00	0.0%
	Coloured Glass	15.00	15.00	0.0%



English Equivalents

- News print – 4 cents per pound
- Boxboard/OCC - 8.6 cents per pound (less than 2 cents for a box of cereal depending on size)
- Aluminum – 9.5 cents per pound
- Clear Glass – 6.8 cents per pound
- PET/HDPE – 24 cents per pound

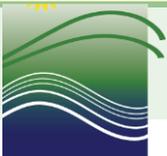


Comparison of EPR recycling programs to Connecticut

Program	Type	Packaging Recycling Rate	Annual Cost	Includes Multifamily?
<u>British Columbia - Recycle BC</u>	Full EPR	<u>72%</u>	\$276 per ton or \$33 per household	Yes
<u>Belgium – Fost Plus</u>	Full EPR	<u>87%</u>	\$206 per ton	Yes
Germany	Full EPR	<u>71%</u>	unknown	Yes
Connecticut	No EPR - Municipal taxes or subscription	45%	\$120-\$250 per ton or <\$40 per household	limited

¹ [Fost Plus website](#). Converted to USD from Euros and to English tons from metric tonnes

² Per ton cost based on a sample of Connecticut towns



EPR Case Study – Hartford

- Do nothing and carry on with program as is and pay the cost
- Use existing collection system and transfer recyclables to location selected by stewardship organization – receive a percentage of costs in reimbursement
- Allow stewardship to assume the curbside recycling program – no longer pay for curbside recycling program – potential savings >\$1million per year with an increase in recycling rate



EPR Case Study – West Hartford

Continue paying for recycling through municipal contract.

Join stewardship program using current system with no changes and be reimbursed a percent of costs

Turn program over to stewardship organization and no longer pay for recycling – potential savings of \$700,000 per year



EPR Comments from Packaging Task Force

Bad for Business

- “Extended producer responsibility for consumer packaging will harm Connecticut's economy, Connecticut's waste collection and recycling businesses, and Connecticut's materials recovery processing facilities.”
- “Extended producer responsibility for consumer packaging will make it more costly and burdensome for Connecticut packaging companies, brand owners and retailers to do business in the state of Connecticut”



It won't work

- “Extended producer responsibility for consumer packaging will not significantly improve Connecticut’s collection or processing.”
- “A combination of voluntary initiatives and market forces encouraging more efficient packaging is already driving significant packaging design and reduction efforts without the costly burden of an EPR system.”



It's the Cities' Fault

- “Our largest cities are by far underperforming.”
“Mandate that the 5 largest cities get above 35%.”
- “We should start with the 4 cities that are woefully inadequate.”
- “Frankly those cities and towns have to be committed. They gotta change their culture.”



What Task Force Recommended as a better Option to EPR (draft)

- Use escheats for public education, enforcement and MRF improvements
- Study mixed waste processing
- State should encourage public private partnerships to drive innovation
- Tax incentives for recycling machinery
- Local authorities should increase registration fees to pay for recycling



How do we want to finance package recycling in the future?

- Through Municipal tax dollars – est. \$30 - \$40 million per year?
- Through the internalized cost of the products that go into our recycling bin? – est. 50 cent - \$1 per \$100 worth of groceries



Questions?

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