

Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility Advisory Board

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Start 1 p.m. - End 4 p.m.

[MS Teams](#) | Phone conference ID: 277 882 661# | Call in (audio only) +1 651-395-7448

Meeting Location: Room 100, MPCA St Paul Offices, 520 Lafayette Rd N., St. Paul, MN 55155

If attending in person, RSVP to packaging.mPCA@state.mn.us by noon on Friday, November 14

Attendees:

Time	Topic	Speaker	Type	Page
1 p.m.	Call to order - Meeting logistics - Welcome and roll call / attendance - Meeting outcomes - Approve agenda - Approve October meeting summary	Chair Reinhardt	Action	2
1:10 p.m.	Updates from MPCA Updates from CAA	MPCA CAA	Information	
1:20 p.m.	Covered materials (standing discussion)	MPCA		
1:30 p.m.	Scope of Preliminary Assessment and Needs Assessment	Eunomia & MPCA		
1:45 p.m.	Overview of draft Preliminary Assessment	Eunomia & Foth		
2:30 p.m.	Break [15 minutes]			
2:45 p.m.	2026 Board calendar and topics discussion	MPCA	Information	
3:45 p.m.	Public comment			
4 p.m.	Adjourn			

Packaging EPR Advisory Board

Meeting Summary

Virtual via Microsoft Teams or in-person at the MPCA St. Paul Office | 3 hours

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 | 1 pm- 4 pm CT

Recording available at: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/events-and-meetings/packaging-extended-producer-responsibility-advisory-board-meeting-2025-10-29>

Attendance

Board Member Attendance

Present (8 members required for quorum)			Absent
Mike Griffin	Sydney Harris	Miriam Holsinger (Vice Chair)	
Bill Keegan	Kirk Koudelka	Gregory Melkonian	
Shoshana Micon	Victoria Reinhardt (Chair)	Maggie Schuppert	
Mac Sellars	Jon Steiner	Steve Vrchota	
Sara Bixby	Gabbie Batzko-Conley		
Megan Daum	Kate Davenport		
Mac Sellars joined after introductions; Kirk Koudelka joined at 2:30 pm			

Guest Presenters: Taylor Loeber, General Mills; Kate Bailey, Association of Plastic Recyclers

Agency Staff: Colleen Hetzel, Mallory Anderson, John Gilkeson, Quinn Carr, Molly Flynn

Participants: Andrew Morley; Angie Lemar; Anna Walsh (TMNA); Apurupa Gorthi; Benjamin Bira; Brian Martinson, Association of MN Counties; Bridget Anderson; Cafferty Alicia (BSH GCM-NA); Carol Patterson; Cassie Navara; Catherine Abel; Chris Wandmacher; Dan Donkers, Ramsey County; Drew Hatzenbihler, Morrison County; Dustin Montey (TO); Erinne Christman; Garth Hickie; Geralyn Lasher; Grace Altier; Hannah-Grace G. Henson; Ian Marsh; Jacob Carter; Jacqueline Murphy; Janell Schroeder; Joan Popowics; Joei Tarrazi (ReMA); Joel Kalegi; Josh Allen; Kala Fisher; Kate Bailey; Kennedy; Kimberly Davis; Kris Coperine (CAA); Kyla Fisher; Laura Horner; Leah Batstone-Cunningham; Lloyd Grooms; Lucy Mullany, Eureka Recycling; Maria Erickson; Marissa Heffernan; Matt Chmielewski; McKenzie Pearson; Meagan Maxon; Michelle Horan; Michelle Hunt; Pat Panatera; Peter Bierbaum; Peter Hargreave, CAA; Phillip Shaffer; Rachel Melissa; Rubi- Terrascope Consulting; Sally Hopley; Sarah Hinz; Scott Moening; Shannon Pinc; Steve Barthel; Tim Wilkin, Minnesota Beverage Association; Tony Kwilas; Wendy Jedlicka; Gary Borges, UW Stout Packaging

Meeting notes

Call to order

Chair Victoria Reinhardt opened the meeting.

Approval of agenda

Gregory Melkonian motioned, and Miriam Holsinger seconded. Molly Flynn conducted a roll call vote.

Aye: Batzko-Conley, Bixby, Daum, Davenport, Griffin, Harris, Holsinger, Keegan, Melkonian, Micon, Reinhardt, Schuppert, Sellars, Steiner, Vrchota

Nay: None

Absent: None

Approval of September 2025 Meeting Summary

Miriam Holsinger motioned, and Kate Davenport seconded. Molly Flynn conducted a roll call vote.

Aye: Batzko-Conley, Bixby, Daum, Davenport, Griffin, Harris, Holsinger, Keegan, Melkonian, Micon, Reinhardt, Schuppert, Sellars, Steiner, Vrchota

Nay: None

Absent: None

CAA updates

Presented by Bridget Anderson and Kris Coperine, CAA staff

Kris Coperine is the MN program manager for CAA (based in MN).

Producer registrations continuing, driven by California's registration process. There are overlapping producers across states, but Minnesota still has unique producers to recruit into the program. A MN addendum is still in progress.

Agency updates

Presented by Mallory Anderson, MPCA staff

Open Advisory Board positions: compost facility or association position open until 11/3. Retailer position open until 10/27.

Procedure Updates

Presented by Mallory Anderson, MPCA staff

Reminder for advisory board members to email agency staff directly about board meeting needs in the future and avoid replying to all board members with responses.

Examples of letters and reports from other packaging EPR advisory boards to their respective regulatory parties.

A committee process is being used to review the draft Preliminary Assessment. Members have been selected and meetings are established for this group. They will help guide the development of comments by the board and compile feedback at the December 3rd meeting followed by consolidating that feedback into a document that will be reviewed and approved at a December 17th meeting and then submitted to the agency.

Board concerns about not having an opportunity to review public comments on the draft report before finalizing their comments. The discussion resulted in agreeing to review the process for the Needs Assessment and reserving the right to submit additional comments as needed after reviewing the public comments.

Covered Materials Categories List

Presented by Mallory Anderson, MPCA staff

Establishing a continued place in meetings to discuss the covered materials category list. Shredded paper was brought up as a concern to address. This list will continue to evolve as we receive input, collect data and feedback for the needs assessment, and beyond.

Update on Preliminary Assessment

Presented by Mallory Anderson, MPCA staff

Mallory presented an overview of the status of the draft Preliminary Assessment with Eunomia. Some items are a challenge withing the short report drafting period like collecting data on hauling contracts and costs.

Design for Refill, Reuse, Recycling, and Composting

General Mill's Experience

Presented by Taylor Loeber, General Mills

Shared the timeline and process for developing packaging. Shared that it is 6-10 years to redesign the packaging from development, lab scale, testing, consumer testing, and products being made. She noted that it can be

several years before a product gets to consumer testing – at which point it must go back to the beginning if feedback is too negative.

There are significant complexities to the cost of this work and the cost of EPR for packaging.

Plastic recycling & the APR design guideline

Presented by Kate Bailey, The Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR)

APR is an important communicator between recyclers and producers. APR buys bails from MRFs, processed and reused in end markets. Studies are showing that recycling can still increase by 400% overall/nationally. Recent shifts in the last 10 years have caused almost all recycling to be done domestically (93% of recycled products come from domestic sources). Recycling used to be handled more overseas by other countries that we sent our materials to. APR has developed important design considerations that are key for moving forward with advancements to plastics recycling and EPR for packaging can play an important role in advancing better design and recycling of plastics.

Public comment

Kimberly Davis, Consultant Sleat Head Consulting asked: How are you dealing with compostable content in recycling stream?

Response: Compostables are a challenge when they come to a MRF facility. Ongoing education and outreach is needed for these types of concerns.

Notes compiled by: Molly Flynn

[Minnesota's Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility Advisory Board](#)