



Recycling Modernization Act 2026

Advisory Committee Charter

Rulemaking Contact: Stephanie Caldera

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Non-discrimination statement

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For translation or other formats, visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).

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Objectives and scope

Policy objectives

This Recycling Modernization Act Rulemaking Advisory Committee’s purpose is to provide input to the Department of Environmental Quality on proposed rulemaking. DEQ is undertaking a rulemaking to clarify and implement Senate Bill 582 (2021), also known as the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act. The Act requires producers of packaging, paper products and food serviceware to support and expand recycling services in Oregon for their products.

This is the third rulemaking related to the Act, and the majority of proposed rulemaking topics are amendments to previously adopted rules. Many of these amendments are minor corrections or updates, and are not likely to be subject to much discussion by the committee. Other, more substantive, topics will be scheduled for committee discussion, and are expected to garner significant interest from committee members and external parties. These topics include:

- Convenience standards for system users (OAR 340-090-0640)
- Definitions related to “producers” and some fee-related obligations (OAR 340-0860)
- Methodologies and data inputs related to Life Cycle Evaluations (OAR 340-090-0930)
- Updates to Recycling Acceptance Lists (OAR 340-090-0630)
- Clarifications to requirements and some definitions related to Responsible End Markets (OAR 340-090-0670)
- Clarifications related to Expansion of Service Funding and Needs Assessments for local governments (OAR 340-090-0800)
- Updates to what are considered Covered Products, including exemption request processes currently in rule (OAR 340-090-0840)

A new rule is proposed for the definition of “effectively composted,” as it pertains to other elements of the Act. Other rule topics may be added, or the list otherwise revised, throughout the committee process. DEQ will keep committee members and the public updated when topics are modified, added or removed from the overall rulemaking committee process. The Advisory Committee will provide DEQ input on the fiscal, economic, and racial equity implications for stakeholders impacted by the proposed rules.

Fiscal, economic and racial equity impacts

ORS 183.333 requires that DEQ ask the committee to consider the fiscal and economic impact of the proposed rules including:

- Whether the rules will have a fiscal impact, and if so, what the extent of that impact will be.

- Whether the rules will have a significant adverse impact on small businesses, and if so, how DEQ can reduce the rules' negative fiscal impact on small businesses.

ORS 183.333 (a)(F) requires DEQ ask the committee to consider the proposed rules will impact racial equity impact in Oregon.

Roles

DEQ facilitator

The facilitator:

- Encourages open, candid and robust dialogue
- Starts and ends the meetings and agenda items on time
- Encourages innovation by listening to all ideas
- Recognizes when the discussion is outside the scope of the meeting and steers the discussion back to the focus of the meeting

Committee members

Members are not expected to be experts on all topics that may be discussed during the committee process. Members are expected to have a willingness to fully participate in discussion and review of all information subject to the proposed rulemaking and attend all scheduled committee meetings.

- If a member cannot attend a specific meeting, that member is expected to notify the DEQ project manager as soon as possible.
 - That member may provide their input in advance to DEQ, in writing, or by-proxy delivery by another committee member. DEQ will not be appointing alternates for any members.
- Members may resign from the committee at any time by informing DEQ in writing of their intent to resign. In the event of a member's resignation, DEQ may, but is not required to, choose to appoint a new member representing the same interests as the one who resigned. The action of resignation and potential new appointment will be reflected in the rulemaking record.
- Members will actively represent and communicate their interests in or perspectives on the modernization of Oregon's recycling system.
- Members will carefully consider and analyze to the extent possible technical and policy issues presented by DEQ or invited external entities necessary to develop committee recommendations.
- To be effective, members must commit sufficient time outside of scheduled meetings to read materials, think about questions and develop responses and discussion ideas.

Additionally, DEQ's expectations are that each committee member:

- Prepares for and sets aside time for the meetings

- Provides DEQ staff with copies of relevant research and documentation cited during the meeting
- Stays focused on the specific agenda topics for each meeting
- Comments constructively and in good faith
- Consults regularly with constituencies to inform them on the process and gather their input
- Treats everyone and his or her opinions with respect
- Allows one person to speak at a time
- Is courteous by not engaging in sidebar discussions during meetings
- Avoids representing to the public or media the views of any other committee member or the committee as a whole

Public participation and attendance

Only members of the committee, DEQ staff and invited guests or presenters are expected to participate in the meetings. All committee meetings will be open to the public and held in a manner allowing for remote/virtual attendance and are subject to Oregon's public meeting laws. Information about the meetings and any written materials will be made available on [the Recycling Modernization Act Updates 2026 rulemaking page](#).

DEQ complies with all state laws and guidance related to reasonable accommodation and access of all people to the proceedings of government. DEQ will provide alternative formats of materials, including materials in languages other than English and access to interpreters, for committee members and the communities they represent upon request.

DEQ staff

DEQ is committed to making the most effective use of committee member's time by:

- Establishing clear committee goals, meeting objectives and agendas
- Giving committee members reasonable access to staff
- Encouraging all members to take part in discussions
- Providing a clear description of members' roles, the committee timeline, the level of agreement expected and feedback on how members' input is used

DEQ support and website

DEQ will post agenda and meeting materials on the advisory committee website at least one week in advance. DEQ administrative staff will provide meeting summaries that highlight committee discussions, different perspectives and input of committee members. DEQ will send draft meeting summaries to the advisory committee for review and input. Final meeting summaries will be posted to the advisory committee website and will be part of the public record.

The advisory committee charter, a full roster of the committee, meeting agendas and minutes, and background materials will all be located on the [advisory committee web page](#).

Committee meetings

1. All committee meetings will be:
 - Open to the public
 - Advertised on [DEQ's Event Calendar](#)
 - Noticed by email to the [Recycling Modernization Act GovDelivery list](#)
 - Accessible via online videoconferencing
2. The committee is expected to meet five times between November 2025 and August 2026. The meeting duration times may vary depending on topics and committee progress.
3. Meeting materials and agendas will be posted to the [advisory committee web page](#).

Decision making

The committee does not have any decision-making responsibilities related to the rulemaking topics. The committee's discussions will be used by DEQ in forming its draft rules, which will then be proposed for broader public review and comment as part of DEQ's rulemaking process. The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission is DEQ's rulemaking and policy decision-making board and will make the final decisions based on the content of DEQ's recommendations and supporting information.

If DEQ, or the meeting facilitator, requests a member vote on any administrative or organizational matter, such as an extension of time for a specific topic or general consensus with this charter and other organizing materials, the vote will be conducted by roll call of all members present, with a simple majority needed for approval.

When DEQ shares information with the group, DEQ will allow a reasonable timeframe for comments during and after meetings. Committee members are encouraged to provide during in the meetings for the benefit of information-sharing and transparency. If committee members share information directly to DEQ outside of the meeting structures, DEQ will provide a copy of that information to the other committee members in a timely manner and to the best of its ability to allow for fully informed discussions among committee members.

Membership

DEQ selected an 11-person committee comprised of eight sector-representative appointments and three at-large positions. The members reflect the range of organizations, communities and individuals the proposed rules affect, both directly and indirectly. All members are expected to

consider the policy, fiscal, economic, and racial equity impacts of the proposed rules on the entities they represent.

DEQ specifically sought at-large applicants with one or more of the following competencies, lived experiences or professional backgrounds:

- Environmental advocacy/stewardship
- Community-based organizations (including social service or culturally specific service populations)
- Small business/entrepreneur
- People from or representing communities with environmental justice concerns
- Multifamily housing resident or tenant association representative
- Refill/reuse-focused businesses or organizations

The three proposed at-large members are recommended without specific representative roles; however, they each bring knowledge across these and other topics and some summary categorization is offered in the chart below.

In addition to representing the communities and individuals likely to be affected by the outcomes of the rulemaking, as listed above, DEQ appointed two members to representative seats based on rulemaking topics of expected significant interest. In this rulemaking, DEQ expects significant policy discussion related to rulemaking elements that concern the definition and standards associated with Responsible End Markets; specifically, those concerning paper and plastic materials.

Name	Organization	Interest or Group Represented
Kim Holmes	Circular Action Alliance	RMA Producer Responsibility Organization
Amanda Nelson	New Seasons	Producers of RMA-covered products
Tom Egleston	Metro	Local governments (1 of 2)
Paul Seitz	Lincoln County	Local governments (2 of 2)
Kristin Leichner	Pride Disposal	Recycling Service Providers
Scott Jenkins	EFI Recycling	Recycling Facilities/Processors
Dan Felton	Flexible Packaging Association	Topic-specific expert (1 of 2) Responsible End Markets (plastic)
Jay Simmons	North Pacific Paper Company	Topic-specific expert (2 of 2) Responsible End Markets (paper)
Dr. Anja Brandon	Ocean Conservancy	At-large member (1 of 3) Environmental advocacy
Jamie Pang	Oregon Just Transition Alliance	At-large member (2 of 3) Environmental justice, equity
Adam Rack	Revino	At-large member (3 of 3) Small business focused on reuse

Technical and other workgroups

DEQ may convene additional workgroups for specific matters on rulemaking topics. These workgroups are outside of the RAC scope and will be comprised of individuals not appointed to the RAC. All recommendations and other work products of the workgroup(s) will be provided to the RAC in a manner that allows for meaningful consideration of the input when discussing the relevant rulemaking topics.

At this time, DEQ anticipates potential workgroups on the following rulemaking topics:

- Potential adjustments to Materials Acceptance Lists (OAR 340-090-0600)
- Thresholds for costs associated with collection depots under the Convenience Standards (OAR 340-090-0640)
- Definitions for “effectively composted” within the overall Definitions (OAR 340-090, new rule number not yet assigned)

Compensation and travel expenses

Committee members may be eligible for compensation from DEQ if they are not otherwise compensated for their time to participate in the committee. DEQ will discuss this potential compensation opportunity with each committee member to best support those who are attending on a voluntary/unpaid basis.

DEQ is also able to reimburse some types of travel expenses for committee members. DEQ will provide more information on potential reimbursement as needed by the individual committee members.

Public records and confidentiality

Committee communications and records, such as discussion drafts, meeting agendas and summaries and exhibits are public records and are available for public inspection and copying. DEQ does not assume responsibility for protecting proprietary or confidential business information shared during committee or subcommittee meetings. However, the private documents of individual committee members generally are not considered public records if DEQ does not have copies.

Information exchange

Committee members will provide information as much in advance as possible of the meeting at which such information is used. The members will also share all relevant information with each other to the maximum extent possible. If a member believes the relevant information is

proprietary in nature, the member will provide a general description of the information and the reason for not providing it.

Public involvement

All meetings will be open to the public. DEQ intends to provide meeting agendas with time-certain opportunities for public input at each meeting. Those expected input opportunities are not formal public comment on any draft or proposed rulemaking topic, and are intended to be opportunities for information that may be helpful for the committee members to consider throughout this process.

Once the committee process is complete, DEQ will develop draft rules and conduct a public rulemaking process. That process will include a specified period during which the public can submit comments on the proposed rules. DEQ will also hold a public hearing during which any member of the public can submit written or verbal comments. Individual committee members may provide comments to DEQ on the full draft rule at this time. DEQ may modify the final proposed rules based on public comment. DEQ intends to take a final proposed rule to the EQC for consideration at its meeting in early 2027.

DEQ contacts

Project manager: Stephanie Caldera, Stephanie.Caldera@deq.oregon.gov

Rulemaking email inbox: RMARulemaking3@deq.oregon.gov

Alternate contact: Cheryl Grabham, Cheryl.Grabham@deq.oregon.gov