

Topic Paper: Transportation Cost Reimbursement

RMA Rulemaking 3: Prepared for Rulemaking Advisory Committee discussion – July 20, 2026

OAR 340-090-0770: Local Government Costs Reimbursement

Summary of proposed amendments

DEQ is proposing to make updates to the rule language under OAR 340-090-0770(3)(b), as it relates to the producer responsibility organization paying the costs of transporting covered products from a recycling depot or recycling reload facility to a commingled recycling processing facility or a responsible end market, as provided by ORS 459A.890(2).

Presently, OAR 340-090-0770(1), (2) and (3)(b) reads as such:

(1) A producer responsibility organization must pay the costs of transporting covered products from a recycling depot or recycling reload facility to a commingled recycling processing facility or a responsible end market as provided by ORS 459A.890(2) and this rule.

(2) Transportation costs must be based on the actual costs of managing and transporting covered products that must be shipped more than 50 miles.

(3) The 50-mile distance in section 2 of this rule and ORS 459A.890(2)(b)(E) is the shortest driving distance to the nearest commingled recycling processing facility or a responsible end market with capacity to accept the material and applies to covered products as stated in subsections (a) through (d) of this section...

(b) If the material is collected separately (for example glass) or is not fully commingled and requires further sorting or processing before being received by a responsible end market, then the distance is measured to the nearest processing or sorting facility that will prepare the material and send it to a responsible end market.

In this third rulemaking period, DEQ and interested parties, including Oregon's Recycling System Advisory Council and a technical workgroup convened by DEQ, spent time addressing the collection and handling of glass products and packaging, in an attempt to propose a solution to help reduce fees on glass producers putting products into Oregon's recycling system.

DEQ intends to bring temporary rules for consideration and proposed adoption by the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission. Those temporary rules are based on proposed collection scenario #1, available in the [May 27, 2026 RAC meeting materials](#). In addition to the proposed temporary rules, DEQ will include the scenario #1 amendments as part of the permanent rulemaking proposal, in January 2027.

As noted in the above topic paper, the Glass Packaging Institute shared its interest in working with Circular Action Alliance to build out a system of hub-and-spoke consolidation points for more cost-effective transport of collected glass material. Proposed in an updated OAR 340-090-0770(3)(b), a consolidation point would serve as a place where both on-route and drop-off collection programs can deliver smaller loads of glass for consolidation into larger containers for more cost-effective transport to a responsible end market. An expansion of the state's reload infrastructure to include such facilities would have the potential to reduce CAA's

transportation reimbursements to service providers and local governments, in part by reducing the overall costs of transporting glass.

Additionally, DEQ proposes to update OAR 340-090-0770(3) with a new (c) to address in rule a subject that was discussed during rulemaking period #1, though never detailed under OAR 340-090-0770, and which was a topic of discussion early on in present conversations concerning glass collection and transport: The measurement of the 50-mile threshold in relation to the transport of covered material from a depot or reload facility across multiple reload facilities or consolidation points before being delivered to a commingled recycling processing facility or responsible end market. It was noted to DEQ during rulemaking period #1 that it is common that material from a smaller reload facility, especially Oregon's more rural reload facilities, will typically be transported to a bigger reload facility, for further consolidation and transport to a processor or responsible end market. That proposed language can be found below.

Proposed draft redline rule language

The changes below show deletions in ~~strike through~~ and new language in **red bolded** text

DEQ proposes to update OAR 340-090-0770(3) to read as follows:

(b) If the material is collected separately (for example glass) or is not fully commingled and requires further sorting or processing before being received by a responsible end market, then the distance is measured to the nearest processing or sorting facility that will prepare the material and send it to a responsible end market **or, for a material collected separately, a consolidation point that accepts glass at a price of \$0 per ton and ensures that all covered product handled is transported to a responsible end market that accepts and desires the material.**

(A) A consolidation point is a facility that operates in a manner similar to a recycling reload facility, as defined under ORS 459A.863(27), where curbside/on-route and drop-off collection programs deliver smaller loads of collected glass for the purposes of consolidation and transport to a responsible end market.

(c) For covered material that is transported to multiple recycling reload facilities or consolidation points before being delivered to a commingled recycling processing facility, a processing or sorting facility or responsible end market, the distance is measured from the initial reload or depot point to the nearest commingled recycling processing facility, processing or sorting facility or a responsible end market, with all points in between being covered.

~~(ed)~~ If the material is collected separately and in a condition that would allow it to be received directly by a responsible end market without additional processing, then the distance is measured to the nearest responsible end market.

~~(de)~~ If a separated material or a group of materials is initially taken to a commingled recycling processing facility or other processing facility and the material requires additional processing or sorting before it can be accepted by a responsible end market, then the distance is measured to the nearest initial commingled recycling processing facility or other processing facility. The producer responsibility organization is not responsible under this rule for paying the transportation costs associated with the transport of material from the initial commingled recycling processing facility or other processing facility to additional processing facilities or a responsible end market.

Outcomes of proposed amendments

- Addresses new form of reload facility in Oregon's recycling system
- Calls out in rule the movement of material between multiple consolidation/reload points

Committee discussion questions

1. Does the language in the proposed updated (3)(b) properly address these proposed, new consolidation facilities for the handling of glass only? Should additional language be considered?
2. Does the proposed definition under updated (3)(b)(A) properly define such a facility?
3. Does the language in proposed updated (3)(c) properly address the movement of covered material between multiple points, from a reload or depot facility to a CRPF or REM? Should additional language be considered?

Contact

Oregon DEQ: Materials Management Program

Stephanie Caldera, Rulemaking Project Manager

RMARulemaking3@deq.oregon.gov

Non-discrimination statement

DEQ does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status in the administration of its programs and activities. Visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).