



CalRecycle's "Comparable to Source Separation" Workshop Update

Task Force Staff Summary from Workshops (July 16
& 18, 2013) and Materials Distributed by CalRecycle



Background

- CalRecycle hosted workshops July 16th (Sacramento) and July 18th (Lakewood)
- Third set of workshops in “MRF Standards” workshop series
- 99 slide presentation available at www.CalRecycle.ca.gov



Purpose

- Purpose of workshops is to discuss CalRecycle's approach for determining if Mixed Waste Processing Facilities (MWPFs) are comparable to Source Separation, as required in AB 341



AB 341 – Mandatory Commercial Recycling

- Public Resource Code 42649.2. (a) On and after July 1, 2012, a business that generates four cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week or is a multifamily residential dwelling of five units or more shall arrange for recycling services, consistent with state or local laws or requirements, including a local ordinance or agreement, applicable to the collection, handling, or recycling of solid waste, to the extent that these services are offered and reasonably available from a local service provider. (b) A commercial waste generator shall take at least one of the following actions: (1) Source separate recyclable materials from solid waste and subscribe to a basic level of recycling service that includes collection, self-hauling, or other arrangements for the pickup of the recyclable materials. (2) Subscribe to a recycling service that may include mixed waste processing that yields diversion results comparable to source separation. (c) A property owner of a multifamily residential dwelling may require tenants to source separate their recyclable materials to aid in compliance with this section.



Proposals from Stakeholders at Previous Workshops

1. All MWPFs comparable to source separation
2. No MWPFs comparable to source separation
3. Qualitative review of all diversion efforts
4. Qualitative checklist of MWPF activities or BMPs
5. Use overall MWPF recovery rate
6. Continuous quantitative MWPF monitoring



Evaluation of Approaches

Criteria	A Meets the Law	B Shows Recyclables removed comparably	C Works regardless of feedstock/ operation	D Practical, doable for all	E Voluntary standard	F Minimizes Needless facility impacts
Option 1	FAIL	FAIL				
Option 2	FAIL	FAIL				
Option 3		FAIL				
Option 4		FAIL	FAIL	FAIL		FAIL
Option 5		FAIL	FAIL			
Option 6			FAIL			FAIL



CalRecycle's Proposal

- Two numerical standards
- Facilities meeting BOTH numerical standards will be certified as “High Performing” – HP-MWPFs
- Businesses served by HP-WMPFs would be in compliance with AB 341 requirement
- MWPFs would be certified by independent, accredited evaluators



Standard 1 – Aggregate Selected Materials Recovery Rate

$$\frac{\textit{Selected Materials Recovered}}{\textit{All Selected Materials Accepted}} \times 100$$

50%

(At least for the initial period of 2014-2016)

- A minimum recovery rate for selected recyclable materials. Percentage of selected materials recovered from the total amount of selected materials accepted.

Standard 2 – Aggregate Unrecovered Recyclables Rate

$$\frac{\text{Unrecovered Recyclable Material}}{\text{All Residual Material}} \times 100$$

9%

(At least for the initial
period of 2014-2016)

- A maximum level of unrecovered recyclables in residue. Percentage of aggregate unrecovered recyclables still in recoverable condition left in MWPF residue.

$$(15\% \times 0.5)(1.25) \cong 9\%$$

Selected Materials

Selected Materials List

- Aluminum and Tin/Steel cans
- HDPE and PETE Containers and 3-7 Plastic Containers
- Newspaper, White Ledger Paper, Mixed Paper, and Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard
- Glass Bottles and Containers



In “Recoverable Condition”

- In a form that could be recovered for use as products or feedstock in recycling or composting
- Is not too contaminated
- Is not too small (2” minus)
- Is not part of a mixed-material product that is impractical to disassemble
- Is acceptable for sale if a sufficient market exists



Residuals

“Residual”

Solid waste destined for a landfill or transformation facility, or further transfer/processing which remains after processing has taken place at the WMPF.

Materials that are recovered for use as products or feedstock in recycling or composting are not residuals

“Total residual disposal”

All residuals from any part of the WMPF:

- At the beginning of line
- Rejected and ejected materials
- At the end of the line
- Waste fines
- Any other source



HP-MWPF Evaluator

- According to CalRecycle, MWPFs indicated they did not want to be evaluated by LEA or CalRecycle. Stakeholders indicated they did not want facilities evaluating themselves.
- CalRecycle proposes that an accredited, independent evaluator, hired by a MWPF.
- Not directly affiliated with CalRecycle, the LEA, or the MWPF being evaluated other than the evaluation.



Workshop Stakeholder Discussion



Sacramento Workshop

- Is this a MRF standard or a system standard?
- What does it mean for materials to be in “recoverable condition” and who determines this?
- There is no numerical number associated with source separation, how do we know that this MWPF standard is “comparable”?
- Why wasn’t cost part of CalRecycle’s evaluation criteria in determining which proposal to proceed with?
- If a MWPF receives loads from a mix of residential and business waste, how are materials separated out or does residential waste get included in the same sorting process and accounting as the commercial load?
- Concerns expressed about HP-MWPF certifiers’ impartiality
- **Takeaway – Stakeholders were generally supportive of CalRecycle’s approach and expressed willingness to arrive at a workable standard.**



Lakewood Workshop

- Verbal update



Next steps

- Nothing (materials, rates, etc.) set in stone
- CalRecycle is asking for input from stakeholders
- Comments can be sent to MRFStandards@CalRecycle.ca.gov
- Comments due August 1, 2013