California Environmental Protection Agency

Cal Recycle 🕻 **Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery**

July 3, 2023

Allen Garfinkle **Executive Director Board of Pilot Commissioners** 660 Davis Street San Francisco, CA 94111

Yana Garcia Secretary for Environmental Protection **Rachel Machi Wagoner** CalRecycle Director

BOPC Received 7-10-2023

Re: 2021/2022 State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC) Annual Report

Dear Allen Garfinkle:

The State Agency Buy Recycled Campaign (SABRC) is central to California's effort to increase recycling, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and build a circular economy. Diverting waste from landfills by growing markets for recycled materials is critical for achieving the state's climate goals. Your agency's procurement of recycled-content products demonstrates California's leadership by reducing the environmental impact of state operations. The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) thanks you for submitting the 2020/2021 SABRC Annual Report.

CalRecycle staff has reviewed your annual report and found that your agency did not comply with the purchasing requirements for printing and writing paper. State law requires that Board of Pilot Commissioners purchases have a minimum level of postconsumer recycled content. Your agency's SABRC Coordinator provided a reasonable explanation for non-compliance, so no corrective action is necessary but a change in your agency's procurement process may be needed to be in compliance for the next fiscal year. (Public Contract Code, Chapter 4, Division 2).

CalRecycle compiles an annual summary of all state agencies' SABRC reports that can be viewed online at https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BuyRecycled/StateAgency/Status. Several governing agencies, including the Legislature, may review this summary to monitor agency compliance the SABRC law. The annual summary on CalRecycle's website will indicate your agency was not compliant but provided a reasonable explanation for fiscal year 2021/2022. CalRecycle can assist your agency in identifying opportunities to increase recycled-content purchases. Understanding the challenges your department faces regarding recycled content procurement helps us direct our market development efforts. Your department's SABRC coordinator, Alethea Wong, can engage with a CalRecycle LAMD liaison to take advantage of technical assistance and advice on increasing procurement of recycled-content products.

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Please note that on January 1, 2023, there were changes made to the SABRC program per the Public Contract Code Sections 10333, 12102.2, 12200, 12201, 12203, 12207, 12211, 12215, and 12217, adding 12202, and repealing 12209 (AB 661, Bennett. State agency: public contracts). Updates include:

- Six (6) additional product categories with their respective subcategories:
 - 1. Erosion Control Products (100% post-consumer recycled content (PCRC))
 - Compost filter Socks (100% PCRC)
 - Compost blanket (100% PCRC)
 - Other Compost Related erosion control products (100% PCRC)
 - Hydraulic mulch (100% PCRC)
 - 2. Soil Amendment Products (at least 80% PCRC)
 - Mulch (at least 80% PCRC)
 - Compost (at least 80% PCRC)
 - 3. Textile Wipes (no minimum PCRC required)
 - General Purpose Textile Wipes (100% PCRC)
 - 4. Building Finishes (open office panel systems shall meet the middle range requirements of department state contracts)
 - 5. Carpet (determined by the Department of General Services and State Contract Manual)
 - 6. Pavement Surfacing
 - Rubberized pavement surfaces (at least 15% recycle waste tire by weight)
 - Recycled asphalt pavement (at least 25% reclaimed asphalt pavement)
- Elimination of the Compost, Co-compost, & Mulch category for the erosion control and soil amendment products categories.
- Increasing the post-consumer recycled content minimum for glass (25%) and plastic (20%) products.
- Paper products category specifies subcategories with varying minimum postconsumer recycled content:
 - Toilet paper (45% PCRC)
 - Paper towels (40% PCRC)
 - Facial tissues (10% PCRC)
 - Toilet seat covers (20% PCRC)
 - General purpose paper wipes (40% PCRC)
 - Food serviceware (40% PCRC)
- Requirement for mandatory annual training for SABRC coordinators and procurement staff.

Webinars and training will be sent out through the SABRC listserv. CalRecycle looks forward to reviewing your agency's 2022/20223 report, which is due by October 31, 2023. Please do not hesitate to contact CalRecycle Local Assistance and Market Development at (916) 341-6199 and SABRC@CalRecycle.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Rachel Machi Wagoner Director

cc: Toks Omishakin, Agency Secretary Alethea Wong, Staff Services Manager I/SABRC Coordinator SABRC@CalRecycle.ca.gov, CalRecycle LAMD SABRC In-Box