

Notes  
**WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON RECYCLING**  
 Friday, February 19, 2016  
 State Natural Resources Building, Madison, WI

<p><b>Council Members Present:</b> Joe Liebau, Jeff Zillich, Gary Harter, Jim Birmingham (by phone), Heidi Woelfel (by phone)  <b>DNR:</b> Brad Wolbert, Barb Bickford, Angela Carey, Sarah Murray  <b>Public:</b> Jennifer Semrau, AROW; Mark Walter, Brown County; Senator Mark Miller;</p>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.
Approval of Minutes (January 13, 2016)	Motion to approve minutes made by Jeff Zillich and seconded by Gary Harter. Agenda was amended to switch the order of #5 and #6 to accommodate guest speakers' schedules.
Introductions & Announcements	Council members and guests introduced themselves. <b>Joe Liebau</b> informed the council that Covanta's proposed mixed waste MRF or "dirty" MRF project in Indianapolis will be suspended while the city's new administration gathers information and reassesses plans. Liebau also informed the council that Focus on Energy lost 7 million in funding for the next budget cycle.
DNR Updates	<p><b>Brad Wolbert, DNR</b> informed the council that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">NuLife Glass</a>, a processor of CRT glass has started operating in New York State. This comes as Videocon closes in India and makes NuLife the only resource in the U.S. for CRT glass.</li> <li>2. The DNR is hiring a waste reduction and diversion coordinator whose responsibilities will include a broader focus on waste diversion topics in addition to the more established RU programs.</li> <li>3. <b>Legislation: SB 621</b> (E-Cycle modifications) has been recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and is available for scheduling as of 02/15. <b>AB 515/SB 340</b> to restore 3 million to the recycling fund was passed by the assembly. <b>AB 730/SB 601</b>, a bill to limit the authority of a political subdivision to regulate auxiliary containers passed the assembly on 02/16 and was referred to the Committee on Elections and Local Government.</li> <li>4. <a href="#">Waste Materials Management Study Group</a> is a stakeholder working group that will focus on solid waste issues and may provide some opportunities for collaboration with the council on recycling. Members represent private businesses, local governments and non-profit organizations and are appointed by the secretary. Their first meeting was held on 02/15.</li> <li>5. <a href="#">Walgreens</a> recently issued a press release on the introduction of their safe medication disposal kiosks. They are the first retail chain in the U.S. to provide this service.</li> </ol> <p><b>Action: Angie will send council members links to websites with information on current waste related legislation, the waste materials management study group and Walgreen's press release.</b></p>

Restoring Recycling Funding to RUs	<p><b>Council members</b> discussed funding changes to the environmental management account (EMA) since 2010 and expressed their concern over the decrease in support to RU recycling programs. The council also expressed their concern that funds collected for recycling are not being allocated to recycling activities. Additionally, funds diverted from the EMA account to the WEDC in previous years are not being used to support recycling or waste diversion.</p> <p><b>The council</b> also discussed how to be more effective in supporting legislation to increase recycling funding. They noted the lack of representation by RUs on the council and would like to encourage people to apply. The council also discussed options for meeting on short notice to address the need for external communications in response to legislative activities. Senator Miller advised the council that the best way to show support for a bill is a face to face meeting with legislators, or a phone call with a follow up letter and/or email that can be saved in the bill file.</p> <p><b>Joe Liebau</b> made a motion to draft a letter in support of AB515. Gary Harter seconded. All in favor.</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Council members will work on a draft letter in support of AB515</b></li> <li>• <b>Angie will provide information on the council’s vacancies and submitting an application through the governor’s website in the next Recycling Updates.</b></li> <li>• <b>Jim Birmingham and Joe Liebau will draft a request to the governor for the next meeting.</b></li> </ul>
2015 E-Cycle Annual Report Summary	<p><b>Sarah Murray, DNR</b> provided an overview of the 2015 <a href="#">E-Cycle annual report</a>. Her presentation described the successes and challenges of E-Cycle Wisconsin in its first six years and can be found on the <a href="#">council’s website</a>. Murray also informed the council that Best Buy is now charging to recycle televisions and monitors.</p> <p><b>Senator Mark Miller</b> joined the council and shared a summary of SB 621’s proposed changes to facilitate administration of E-Cycle policy. Some of these changes include transitioning the program year from the fiscal year to the calendar year, changing the manufacturer target formula, covering all K-12 schools and updating the definitions of covered devices. Interested parties and stakeholders will continue to work together to find solutions to current E-Cycle program challenges.</p> <p><b>Joe Liebau</b> made a motion to draft a letter in support of current E-Cycle legislation when appropriate. Jim Birmingham seconded. All in favor.</p> <p><b>Action: Council members will work on a draft letter in support of E-Cycle legislation when appropriate.</b></p>
Public Comment	<p><b>Jennifer Semrau, AROW</b> informed the council that they will be working with legislators to help them understand the restrictions AB730 may impose on local governments. AROW’s annual meeting will be held next week.</p>

Other Business/ Next meeting	Chair, Jim Birmingham suggested the council hold meetings in different locations in the NW, NE, SE and SW throughout the year and will send Angie a plan for various locations. Angie will send out a doodle poll to determine the next meeting dates in March and/or April.
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm; motioned by Jeff Zillich and seconded by Heidi Woelfel.