

# Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council

## Meeting #6

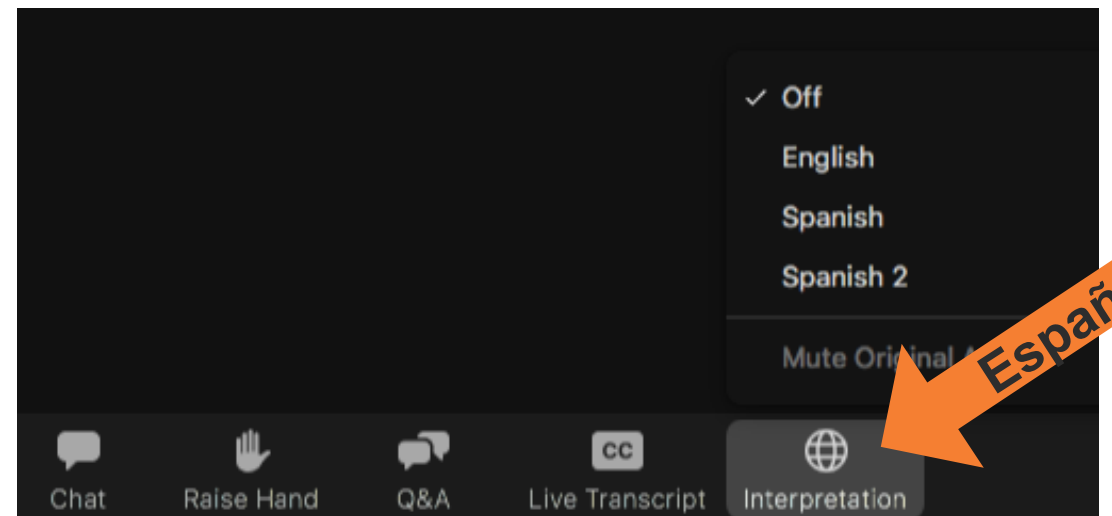
April 17, 2023

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Cheryl Grabham**  
Materials Management Program Manager  
[Cheryl.Grabham@deq.oregon.gov](mailto:Cheryl.Grabham@deq.oregon.gov)

# Language access

- Look for the interpretation (globe) icon at the bottom of your screen
- Select the language you want to hear
- Then, mute original audio
- Busque el ícono de interpretación (globe) en la parte inferior de su pantalla
- Seleccione idioma que desea escuchar
- Después, silencia el audio original

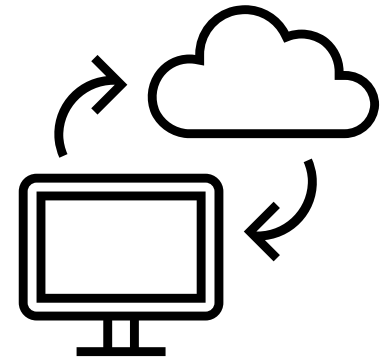
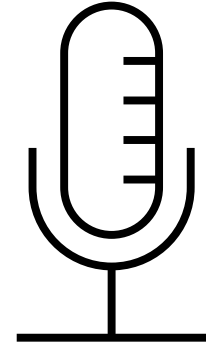


# Zoom logistics

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- Today's session is being recorded
- All attendees are in listen-only mode
- Sign-ups for public input will occur after today's break

If you have technical difficulties, please contact Stephanie Caldera via email [Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov) or text her at 971-279-9517

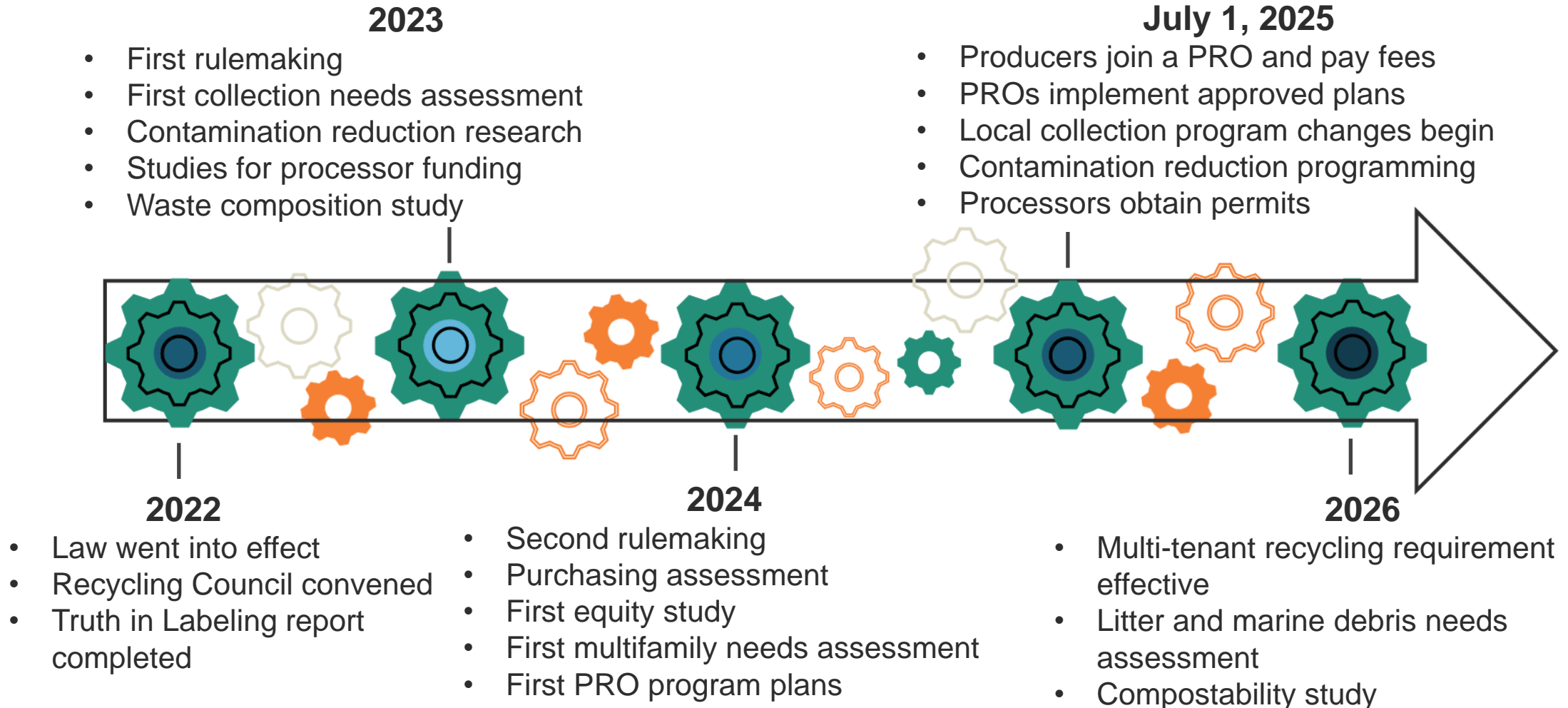


# Agenda // Orden del día

*All times approximate and subject to change //  
Todas las horas son aproximadas y están  
sujetas a cambios*

10:30 a.m.	Welcome and updates	10.30 h	Bienvenida y actualizaciones
10:40 a.m.	Updates: RMA Implementation	10.40 h	Actualizaciones: Aplicación del RMA
10:55 a.m.	Discussion: Equity elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary document and questions</li> </ul>	10.55 h	Debate: Elementos de equidad <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documento de síntesis y preguntas</li> </ul>
11:20 a.m.	Inform: Customer-facing contamination reduction	11.20 h	Informar: Reducción de la contaminación de cara al cliente
11:35 a.m.	<i>Break</i>	11.35 h	<i>Receso</i>
11:40 a.m.	Public input	11.40 h	Comentarios del público
11:55 a.m.	Consult: Covered product exemption request process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary document</li> </ul>	11.55 h	Consultar: Proceso de solicitud de exención de productos cubiertos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documento de síntesis</li> </ul>
12:15 p.m.	Video premiere: Binny	12.15 h	Video estreno: Binny
12:20 p.m.	Next steps	12.20 h	Próximas etapas
12:30 p.m.	Adjourn	12.30 h	Levantar la sesión

# RMA Major Milestones, 2022-2026



# Transition period update

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By July 1, 2025:

- Producers must join a PRO
- PROs must begin implementing their program plan
  - Coordinated activities will start sooner
- Commingled recyclables must be directed to processing facilities that are permitted/certified
  - Permit/certification requirements begin (some ramp up)

# Transition period update (continued)

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- Uniform Statewide Collection List effective on July 1, 2025
- Extension possible for local governments waiting on PRO-funded capital (trucks, carts, reload facility) funded under the initial needs assessment

# Equity study



## Equity study: Overview and initial design ideas

*Draft prepared for the April 17, 2023, Oregon Recycling Council meeting*

### Equity study overview

The Recycling Modernization Act requires DEQ, in consultation with the Recycling Council and local governments, to conduct a study of equity in Oregon's recycling system to determine conditions and make recommendations, including goals to achieve continuous improvement. ORS 459A.932 requires DEQ to include the following elements in the study, though the law does not limit the study to these elements:

- a. An evaluation of commingled recycling processing facility worker conditions, wages and benefits;
- b. The availability of opportunities in the recycling system for women and minority individuals as defined in ORS 200.005;
- c. The sufficiency of local government requirements related to multifamily recycling services and their implementation;
- d. The sufficiency of recycling education programs relative to desired equity outcomes;
- e. The availability of opportunities in the recycling system for Oregon and other Pacific Northwest businesses; and
- f. Recommendations for improving equity and equitable outcomes for underserved populations in Oregon's recycling system, including recommendations for new responsibilities of producer responsibility organizations and recommendations for funding such responsibilities.

### Study timeline

- Spring 2023: Initial scoping of the draft study design
- Summer 2023: DEQ will consult with the Recycling Council and local governments on the draft scope of work
- Summer/fall 2023: DEQ will solicit a contractor to perform all or some portions of the study, based on a finalized scope of work
  - Public involvement opportunities must be provided as part of the study, including opportunities for underserved communities
- Summer 2023 through spring 2024: The selected contractor(s) will perform the study, and provide interim reports as appropriate to the Recycling Council and DEQ
- Sept. 15, 2024: Report due to the Oregon Legislature with the study's findings
- At least every four years thereafter: DEQ will revisit and update the study's findings, reporting to the Oregon Legislature, for the continued improvement of Oregon's recycling systems

- Required elements
- Timelines
- DEQ's approach to equity
- Discussion questions



# Equity study: Council discussion

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- What information might your organization need to assess the sufficiency and availability of services and opportunities, as outlined in the statute?
- Has your organization, or a partner entity, conducted research in the last 10 years regarding any of the study's required elements?
- What does a modernized recycling system, centering equity, in Oregon look like to you, your organization and the communities you serve?

Written feedback to: [Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov) (April 28)

# Customer-facing contamination reduction

- PRO will fund local government measures
- DEQ seeking contractor to evaluate approved list
- June 15 afternoon forum



# Break

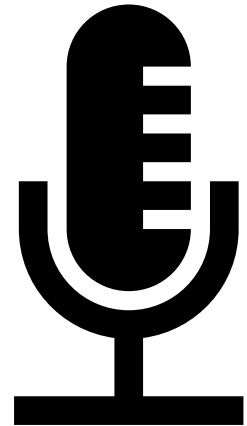
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**Please return at 11:30**

# Public input

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- To sign up: Use the “raise hand” function (usually in your Reactions panel)
  - If you cannot use the “raise hand” function, please send a chat to “Host and Panelists” to sign up
- When called on to start, please state your name and organization, if applicable
- Please limit input to three minutes or less
- Written material can be emailed to Stephanie Caldera: [Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Caldera@deq.Oregon.gov)
- This is not formal public comment on any proposed rulemaking – that is scheduled to begin in May 2023



# Consult: Covered product exemptions

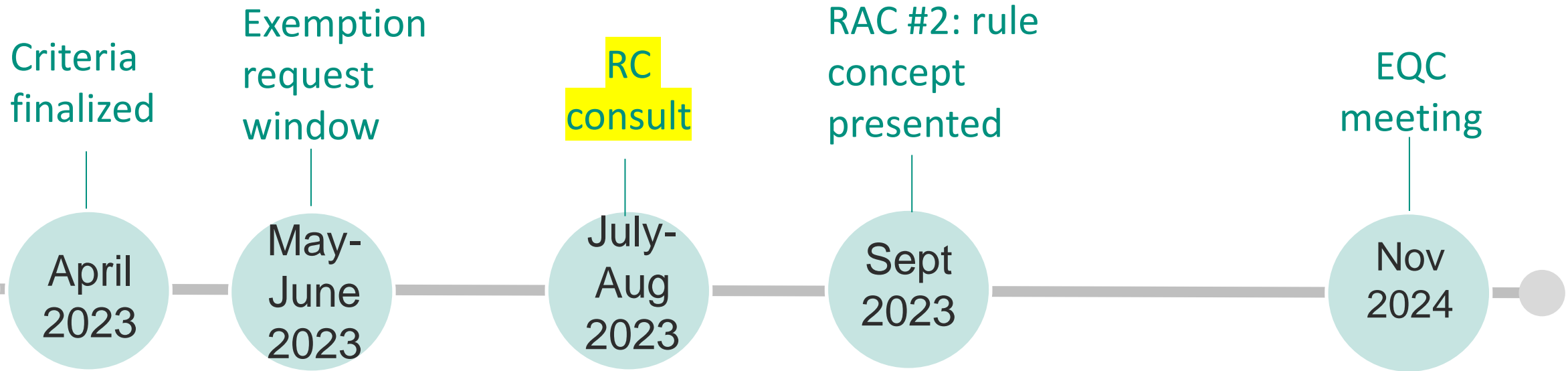
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*ORS 459A.863(6)(b) “Covered product does not include....*

*(R) Any other material, as determined by the commission by rule, after consultation with the Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council.”*

# Consult: Covered product exemptions

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# Product exemptions: Scope

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- Categories of products, not brand-specific
- Not material lists
- Not exempting producers



# Product exemptions: Criteria

## A. Rationale for request

1. Consistency with statutory exemptions
2. Other

## B. Impacts

3. Free riders
4. Other (including environmental)



### DRAFT: Covered Products Exemption Request Process

*Draft prepared for the April 17, 2023, Oregon Recycling Council meeting*

The Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act includes a definition for “covered products”—those products for which producers are obligated to pay fees to a Producer Responsibility Organization. The relevant definition is located in ORS 459A.863, with specific exemptions from the definition noted in ORS 459A.863(6)(b). The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission may exempt additional products from the definition of “covered product” by rule as part of the upcoming rulemaking. A producer of a covered product not exempt under ORS 459A.863(6)(b) can apply for an exemption by submitting a request formatted according to the draft criteria listed below. DEQ, in consultation with the Recycling Council, will review and make recommendations to the Commission regarding whether or not additional exemptions in rule are warranted.

#### Draft criteria for covered product exemption requests

##### Part 1

1. Does the proposed exemption align with an existing exemption category in ORS 459A.863(6)(b)? (“yes” responses should be accompanied by detailed justifications that address the italicized text in parentheses)
  - Does the product bypass the commingled recycling system? (*describe how the product is disposed of or recycled without appearing in the commingled system, neither as a material to be recycled nor as a contaminant*)
  - Is the product covered in another Oregon EPR program? (*indicate which EPR program covers the product*), or
  - Is the product disposed of outside of Oregon? (*describe how the product leaves the state before disposal*)

*--if no, then--*

2. Is there another strong rationale for exempting the product?  
(*if so, describe the rationale*)

*If the answer to either question #1 or #2 is “yes,” move on to questions #3 and #4 and provide detailed justifications for the response to each.*

##### Part 2

3. Would exemption of the product result in considerable “free ridership?”



# Product exemptions: Discussion

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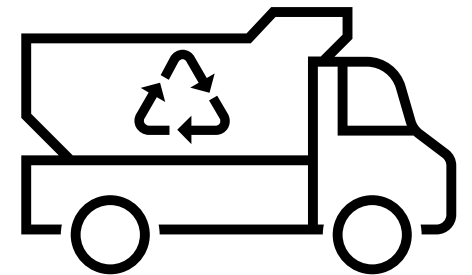
- What feedback do you have generally regarding additional product exemptions in rule?
- Are any of the criteria not fit for purpose?
- Anything missing that you think should be part of the criteria?

# Next steps

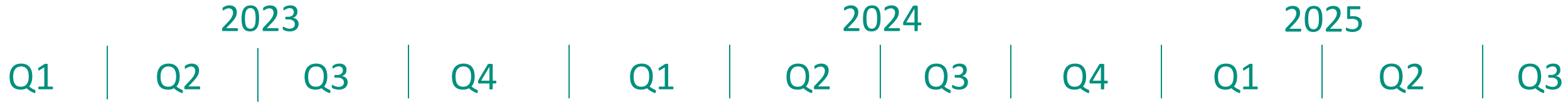
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Written feedback to [Stephanie Caldera](#) by **Friday, April 28**

- Recycling Council meeting: **Monday, June 12**
  - Draft topics may include: Rulemaking #2 information, new Council members, onboarding and 2023-24 planning
- *Additional meeting dates to be determined via email (including potential hybrid meeting in August)*



# Consult: Covered product exemptions



## *Rulemaking 2*



## *Program Plan Review*

