CalRecycle's 2018 Waste Characterization Study Preview

CalRecycle Public Meeting
January 23, 2018

CalRecycle

Two Topics Today

1. Preview of 2018 study
2. Opportunity for input from stakeholders on material types

CalRecycle

1. 2018 Statewide Waste Characterization Study

- Intend to award contract to Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc.

- Study will take place during calendar year 2018

- Two types of studies
  - Disposal-Facility Based Study for all waste
  - Focused Commercial Generator-Based Study for Disposed Food Waste

- See Request For Proposals, which includes Work to Be Performed: http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/contracts/Data/Detail.aspx?AdvertisementID=1772 (also see Addendum 1)

CalRecycle

2018 Disposal-Facility Based Study – What's New

- New method for selecting study sites, focusing on sites with large tonnage inflows
- Inclusion of process residuals
- Revision and expansion of material type list

CalRecycle

2018 Disposal Facility-Based Study – Differences From 2014 Study

2014 Study	2018 Study Proposed Plan
Gathered data on 3 sectors – commercial, residential (single-family and multi-family separately), and self-haul (commercial SH and residential SH separately)	Gather data on 4 sectors – commercial, residential (single-family and multi-family separately), self-haul, and processing facility residuals
Used equal number of sampling and survey sites per region	Increase sampling and survey sites in high-tonnage regions, have fewer sites in low tonnage regions
Used equal number of samples in each sector in each region	Distribute samples to regions based on tonnage disposed in each region
No MRF residuals were sampled	Sample residuals from clean MRFs, Mixed Waste Processing Facilities, and C&D Processors
Contractor performed all tasks (with some CalRecycle staff assistance)	CalRecycle staff will recruit sampling facilities, perform data analysis, produce final report
82 material types sorted, types based on historical lists	100 material types, list will be updated to remove some types, add others

CalRecycle

2018 Disposal-Facility-Based Study Anticipated Results

Statewide tons disposed by each sector

Statewide composition of each sector

Overall statewide composition

Example data from 2014 Study

Material	Estimated Percent	+ / -	Estimated Tons
Paper	**17.4%**		**5,367,734**
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard	3.1%	0.6%	964,942
Paper Bags	0.2%	0.0%	70,627
Newspaper	1.2%	0.4%	372,966
White Ledger Paper	0.4%	0.1%	121,637
Other Office Paper	0.3%	0.1%	103,845
Magazines and Catalogs	0.6%	0.1%	178,166
Phone Books and Directories	0.0%	0.0%	14,583
Other Miscellaneous Paper	3.9%	0.4%	1,215,919
Remainder/Composite Paper	7.5%	0.6%	2,325,048

CalRecycle

2018 Focused Commercial Generator-Based Study for Disposed Food Waste– Differences From 2014 Study

2014 Study	2018 Study Proposed Plan
Included all business types in the commercial sector (except construction); and multi-family	Limited number of business types; focus on food generators
Gathered data on disposal and diversion	Collect data on disposed waste only
Sorted all material types	Sort food waste only; all other waste not sorted
Food waste type included all food materials	Divide food waste into up to 7 detailed types – keeping requirements for SB 1383 and edible food in mind
Sampled in all regions	Focus on high-tonnage areas of the state

CalRecycle

2018 Generator-Based Food Waste Study Anticipated Results

- Composition of disposed food waste for several business types that generate high amounts of food waste

- Average disposal rates for all waste and each food waste type for each selected business group

- Average density of waste for each selected business group

- Estimated statewide tons disposed for food waste types from each selected business group

CalRecycle

Links to the 2014 Studies

Disposal-Facility-Based Study

http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Detail.aspx?PublicationID=1546

Generator-Based Study

http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Detail.aspx?PublicationID=1543

CalRecycle

2. Revising the Material Types List for 2018

- 100 types for 2018 – 2014 study was 82. We will use the 2014 list as a base, add to it, combine some low-tonnage types (like phone books) with other types, and make other revisions.

- Up to 7 types of food waste – same types will be used in both studies

- Packaging reform and SB 1383 will be important as we revise the materials list

CalRecycle

Some preliminary ideas from CalRecycle staff and stakeholders – examples of types of changes

1. Possible consolidations:

2014 Material Type	Possible 2018 Material Type
Phone Books and Directories	Other Miscellaneous Paper
Other Miscellaneous Paper	
Flat Glass	Remainder/Composite Glass
Remainder/Composite Glass	

CalRecycle

Examples of types of changes (continued)

2. More details on packaging

Remainder/Composite Paper in 2014 study

– 7% of overall disposal

– "catch-all" material type for what doesn't fit into other types

– Could split into:

- Remainder/Composite Paper – packaging

- Remainder/Composite Paper – non-packaging

CalRecycle

Examples of types of changes (continued)

3. Food Waste Types – definitions are key, they must be sortable in the field.

Here are some preliminary ideas, final definitions will need to be developed:

- Separate out inedible/unrecoverable for human consumption
  - peelings, coffee grounds, spoiled food, such as pre-consumer kitchen waste at a restaurant
  - Uneaten discarded food such as plate scrapings
- Separate out edible/recoverable for human consumption
  - Address whether vegetative or animal product
  - Packaged or not
  - Prepared foods
  - Packaged non-perishable

What if it's edible, packaged, and vegetative?

CalRecycle

Revising the Material Types List for 2018

- We invite you to submit comments for us to consider as we develop the material types.

- Take the 2014 list as a starting point.

- The 2014 detailed list and definitions are in Appendix B of each study report (see previous links)

  - IMPORTANT NOTE: The data tables in the main body of each report contain a shorter list – see Appendix B in each study for detailed list definitions. See Appendix C for data tables using the detailed (expanded) list for the Disposal Facility Study, and Appendix E for the Generator-Based Study

- If you submitted comments already, no need to re-submit unless you have more to say

CalRecycle

Ground Rules for Material Types

- Your input can help us to get more meaningful and useful data

- Selected material types provide data to support CalRecycle's current and upcoming initiatives (packaging reform, SB 1383, etc.), so CalRecycle has the final say on the list

- There should be a good reason to spend resources to collect the data

CalRecycle

Ground Rules for Material Types (cont.)

- Submit a specific material type(s) with a clear definition and lots of examples of items/products that would be included

- Describe why the data would be important and how it would be used

- The material type needs to be easily identified and practical to sort in the field – if it takes a lot of time to determine an object's type, it gets expensive

- Balance the value of the data with the effort to get it

CalRecycle

How to Submit Comments on Material Types

- Think deeply about the Ground Rules, then submit all the information on the previous slide

- We will consider comments submitted by February 6, 2018 (2 weeks from today)

- To the Waste Characterization Mailbox

  wastechar@calrecycle.ca.gov

- Contact information:

  Nancy Carr

  Policy Development and Analysis Office

  916.341.6216

  Nancy.Carr@CalRecycle.ca.gov

CalRecycle

Other Background Information Available

Request through the Waste Characterization Mailbox

wastechar@calrecycle.ca.gov

- Comments submitted on the original project's Scope of Work – June 2017, including comments on material types
  - Summary matrix of comments
  - Original comment letters
- List and links to existing studies from other entities with detailed food waste sort data

CalRecycle