

From:
To:
Subject: EXAMPLE Form Submission
Date:

Organization: Alaska Chamber

Form Name: EXAMPLE Position Submission Form

Submission Date:

Field	User's Response
Submission Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Position Sponsor Name	
Position Sponsor Title:	
Position Sponsor Organization (Must be an Alaska Chamber member):	
Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
City	
State	
Zip/Postal Code	
Position Sponsor Phone:	
Position Sponsor Email:	
Is someone other than the position sponsor going to advocate for the position at the Policy Forum?	
Position Advocate Name:	
Position Advocate Title:	
Position Advocate Organization:	
Position Advocate Phone:	
Position Advocate Email:	
Is this a new position? A change to a current position? Indicate if you wish to revise or delete the position.	New
Current Position Number and	

Short Title:	
Describe what needs to be revised or support the reason for deletion:	
New or Revised Position Short Title:	Support - Modernizing Regulatory Frameworks for Advanced Recycling Technologies
New or Revised Position Statement (Brief 200 word narrative indicating whether the Alaska Chamber should support or oppose the position and what the desired action/initiative is):	<p>We propose that the Alaska Chamber support regulating advanced recycling operations as manufacturing facilities rather than solid waste disposal sites. This policy would encourage new Alaska manufacturing by ensuring that post-use, recoverable plastics that are converted to plastic and chemical feedstocks or other valuable products via advanced recycling are classified as raw materials, not misclassified as solid waste. This action would provide much needed regulatory certainty for companies that may be interested in investing in and siting these types of facilities in Alaska. Advanced recycling refers to several different processes that use existing and emerging technologies that return post-use plastics to their basic chemical building blocks for creating a versatile mix of new plastics, chemicals, and other products of chemistry. Companies are using advanced recycling technologies to complement ongoing traditional recycling efforts. Growing interest and investments in advanced recycling can reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills and help enable a transition to a more circular economy for post-use plastics.</p>
	<p>In 2017 China announced it would no longer permit its domestic buyers to import plastic or paper scrap above a stringent 0.5% contamination threshold. This “National Sword” policy greatly reduced available markets to process recovered materials. In response, investments in traditional (mechanical) and advanced recycling infrastructure are occurring with over \$6.0 billion in projects announced in the United States. Coupled with traditional recycling, advanced recycling efforts can help move us toward a more circular</p>

Support for the Position (Reasons position will benefit business):

economy. However, being that these technologies are fairly new, many states have waste and recycling laws and regulations that are either outdated or that have not kept current with the latest technology. Since 2017 14 states have passed legislation creating a regulatory framework for advanced recycling: Florida, Wisconsin, Georgia, Iowa, Tennessee, Texas, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Oklahoma, Arizona, Arkansas and Louisiana. Adopting the proposed policy position will support the potential of advanced recycling, making it easier to site these types of facilities. Evidence of this can be most clearly demonstrated in Georgia, where Brightmark recently announced it will build the nation's largest advanced recycling facility. Further, many manufacturers have committed to increase the amount of recycled plastics they use, both to meet customer demand as well as fulfill various sustainability pledges. Advanced recycling is an essential component to help meet these demands and commitments.

Supporters (Constituencies that support the position and why):

The Advanced Recycling Alliance for Plastics (ARAP), whose members develop and implement technologies that convert post-use plastics into chemicals, feedstocks and other products, support this proposed policy. Advanced recycling is crucial to help achieve ambitious recycling targets, including the US National Recycling Goal to increase US recycling rates to 50% by 2030. Advanced recycling can help meet the expected demand for recycled plastics and is a key component in achieving a more circular economy for plastics.

Some have opposed bills that have been introduced in other states by maintaining that advanced recycling perpetuates the use of fossil fuels through the continued production of plastics, rather than curbing their use. However, the production of new materials, such as chemical and

<p>Opposition (Constituencies, groups, organizations opposed to the position and why):</p>	<p>plastic feedstocks, waxes, lubricants and fuels, from post-use plastics diverts these materials from landfill or incineration and reduces the extraction of virgin natural resources (Good Company, 2021). Diverting recoverable plastics in Alaska from landfills for conversion into feedstocks for new plastics could displace up to an estimated 55,348 tons of plastics created from virgin natural resources each year. Some have also argued that reclassifying these facilities as manufacturing will negate any environmental review or assessment of air emissions, which is not an accurate characterization. Advanced recycling facilities have been found to have lower air emissions than other well-regulated facilities, including food processing, auto manufacturing, hospitals and universities. These facilities are regulated by the Clean Air Act and all applicable state and local regulatory authorities. Permitting and operational data indicate that advanced recycling facilities are expected to create very few Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) emissions and do not produce dioxins (Good Company, 2021).</p>
<p>Action Required for the Position:</p>	<p>Support legislation similar to what has been adopted in 14 other states and currently being debated in several more (Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, South Carolina, Rhode Island) to help create new domestic processing infrastructure to manage post-use plastic materials, reduce the amount of plastic waste in the environment and create new economic development opportunities and jobs within the state. By providing more regulatory certainty it will pave the way for more investment in facilities that can transform difficult-to-recycle plastics into new high-value materials and products.</p>
<p>Fiscal Impact of the Position (Quantify the cost or savings to business, state and local governments):</p>	<p>Alaska recycles approximately 915 tons of plastics each year through traditional mechanical recycling. Converting just 25% of the recoverable plastics in Alaska to plastic and chemical feedstocks and other products could support approximately one</p>

	advanced recycling and recovery facility generating \$30 million in economic output each year.
Attachement 1	Alaska-one-pager-Jan-2021.pdf
Attachement 2	Advanced Recycling Overview.pdf
Attachement 3	State Chamber Support.pdf