

To Whom It May Concern:

Eco-Blok, LLC was founded in 2002 in California as a developer and manufacturer of innovative products created with recycled materials. We have been fortunate to work with CalRecycle over the years and have been the recipient of two grants for recycled rubber product development. Our efforts have resulted in the successful diversion of millions of pounds of crumb rubber which have been used in our Eco-Blok® Barrier and Filter Blok products, as well as other products we have helped to develop. Our customer base spans government at all levels, construction, erosion control, engineering and manufacturing locations throughout the United States.

We are currently working on several large volume products which would require 3,000+ lbs. of material for each unit. We are looking to add recycled materials from carpets to all our products to add weight, durability and functionality. We have done initial testing and are confident that we can consume large amounts of fiber, CaCO₃ and PET from the carpet process. Each of these elements would provide a true value add to our process. This has been a core element in our manufacturing philosophy: we use recycled feedstock in a manner that optimizes their inherent qualities and their use must be economically justified in a market-based pricing model. The product must be economically viable long after the grant is completed.

CalRecycle has been an invaluable partner and we could not have achieved what we have without their help. In addition to the grant program, we have participated in educational programs which have helped showcase the many uses of recycled rubber for us and other manufacturers.

We are now looking to open a manufacturing plant in California in 2016 and are interested in applying for a grant under the proposed program. We attended the CARE Workshop in Southern California and met with CARE leadership and members. We are excited to see that there are resources being applied to accelerate reaching the 16% goal. At the same time, after reviewing the proposed program guidelines, we respectfully think some revisions may be in order.

Suggested Changes to the California Carpet Stewardship Plan – Addendum #2

- 1. Require that all equipment, facility improvements, etc. funded as part of the grant program be located in the state of California.** A critical element of the previous programs has been the requirement that all grant funds would be awarded to California based companies and that the equipment purchased would be based in California. At times, this has been a disadvantage to our company, but those were the guidelines and we have and continue to support the program. We would expect that the same guidelines would apply to this program.
- 2. Allow and encourage public entities to purchase products made by grantees under the program.** It is vital that California government entities demonstrate leadership in the use of these products. Not only does it drive volume in California, many other state use California as a standard for acceptance.
- 3. Recognize and incent for purchase those products made with more than one recycled feedstock** e.g. recycled tires and recycled carpet.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to comment on the proposed guidelines. We look forward to receiving the final application package and participating in this important effort.

Regards,



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