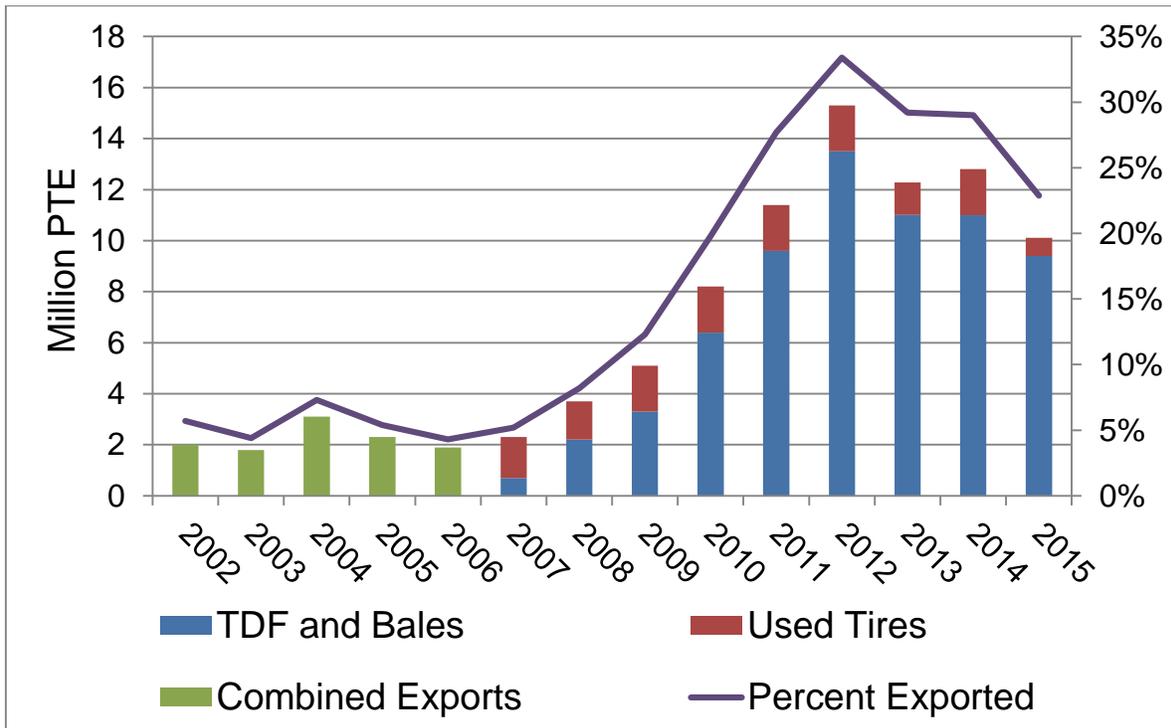


**Figure 4  
Trends in Export of TDF, Baled Waste Tires, and Used Tires**



The drop in exports was driven by a number of factors. As in 2014, port strikes slowed movement of goods for a time. Also, in 2015 prices for fossil fuels declined markedly, which in turn pushed pricing and demand for imported waste tire bales and processed TDF downward. Moreover, according to one large producer of TDF for export, there is growing competition from other countries that export waste tires and TDF, especially Australia and India. Finally, CalRecycle enforcement actions and fines have reportedly had a detrimental impact on certain balers. As a result of these trends, several balers shut down, changed ownership and/or company names, and/or had greatly reduced volumes compared to recent years. However, export of processed TDF is going strong thus far in 2016, and some balers are reportedly picking up their volumes in mid-2016 as pricing for waste tire bales appears to be rebounding.

**Crumb Rubber and TDP Imports and Exports**

In 2015, crumb rubber from other states, Canadian provinces, and Europe was sold in California at competitive prices, despite transportation costs. This is in part possibly due to the incentive payment subsidies and/or favorable operating conditions in some of these jurisdictions. California crumb rubber producers have often complained of imported crumb rubber being offered at very low prices, reducing what they believe to be fair market prices. However, according to two crumb rubber producers, the glut of crumb rubber that had exacerbated this situation subsided somewhat during 2014 and