

Comment Code (ID)	Comment Period	Received From Name	Received From Affiliation	Received Date	Comment Type	Comment	Section	Comment Category	Response
15-E-1	First 15 Day	Veronica Pardo	Resource Recovery Coalition of California (RRCC)	7/26/2023	Email	<p>The Resource Recovery Coalition of California (RRCC) is a trade association comprised of haulers, recyclers, and composters operating throughout California. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the developing Recycling and Disposal Reporting System (RDRS) regulations. Many RRCC members are reporting entities that will need to implement new data gathering protocols to meet the new RDRS obligations.</p> <p>We are writing to thank CalRecycle for two regulation amendments we requested in our March 2023 letter to the agency. We note that new RDRS reporting obligations will begin in Q1 of 2025, facilitating an easier transition for reporting entities. We continue to encourage CalRecycle to provide reporting training in 2024 to prepare reporting entities for the new RDRS obligations.</p> <p>We also greatly appreciate the changes in Section 18815.9(c) on source sector reporting obligations for transfer/processor and disposal facilities. The originally proposed self-hauling distinction of commercial versus residential was unnecessarily burdensome and the newly proposed language is more feasible for reporting entities.</p> <p>Likewise, we commend CalRecycle for making practical reporting methods in Section 18815.9(b)(2.4) that provide facilities the opportunity to more accurately allocate waste disposal amounts to the jurisdictions they serve, as opposed to allocating the full waste amount to the location of the facility.</p>	18815.9	Comment in Support	CalRecycle rejects this comment. No response is required because the comment does not suggest any specific changes to the proposed regulations or raise issues related to the rulemaking process.
15-E-1A	First 15 Day	Veronica Pardo	Resource Recovery Coalition of California (RRCC)	7/26/2023	Email	<p>Finally, we strongly encourage continued technical support and training for reporting entities once the regulations are finalized. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.</p>		Reporting and/or Registration	CalRecycle rejects this comment. No response is required because the comment does not suggest any specific changes to the proposed regulations or raise issues related to the rulemaking process.
15-E-2	First 15 Day	Sam Shammass	Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force	7/27/2023	Email	<p>The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on proposed regulations to establish and clarify requirements related to the Recycling and Disposal Reporting System.</p> <p>The proposed regulations define "mixed plastic waste" under Section 18815.2. as "a mixture of plastics and any other materials, other than solid waste and green material for potential beneficial reuse, where such mixture does not comprise only high-density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, or a combination of those three resin types." It also establishes requirements for haulers, facilities, brokers, transporters, and other relevant entities to collect and report information on the tons of mixed plastic waste export, the tons of each material type sent to each destination region, and the tons sent from each jurisdiction of origin across all material types and destination regions.</p> <p>Pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 939 (1989), local jurisdictions are required to divert at least 50 percent of their solid waste, as defined, from landfill disposal. According to AB 939, source separated materials are not considered as solid waste and thus eligible for recycling/diversion credit. However, under the proposed regulations, exported mixed plastic waste will now be classified as disposal and not eligible for recycling/diversion credit. As such, the proposed regulations are expected to have a significant negative impact on local jurisdictions, who will need to find new ways to manage their mixed plastic waste to ensure they can comply with the AB 939 requirements and avoid penalties of up to \$10,000 per day.</p> <p>Below are some specific impacts that these requirements will have on local jurisdictions:</p> <p>Increased costs: Local jurisdictions and waste haulers will have to pay a higher cost, as a result of an unfunded state mandate, to manage mixed plastic waste that was previously exported and may need to invest in new infrastructure or equipment to manage their mixed plastic waste. This will lead to increased waste collection rates for residents and businesses who already are being confronted with the cost of Senate Bill 1383 (2016) implementation.</p> <p>Reduced diversion rates: The classification of exported mixed plastic waste as disposal will reduce recycling/diversion rates. Local jurisdictions that lack resources or infrastructure to recycle mixed plastic waste export it for recycling. If this option is eliminated, local jurisdictions may be forced to dispose mixed plastic waste in landfills.</p> <p>Increased emissions: If local jurisdictions are forced to landfill or incinerate their mixed plastic waste instead of exporting it for recycling, this could lead to increased emissions from landfills and incineration facilities.</p> <p>Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and the 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of ten million. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies. The Task Force strongly encourages the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to consider the impacts to local jurisdictions during this rulemaking. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.</p>	18794.2	Mixed Plastics Export	<p>CalRecycle rejects this comment. No response is required because the comment does not suggest any specific changes to the proposed regulations or raise issues related to the rulemaking process.</p> <p>However, to the extent that the comment implies that exported mixed plastic waste should not be classified as disposal by the regulations, that disposal classification comes directly from AB 881 (PRC 41781.4). CalRecycle is simply codifying in regulation what is already required by statute. CalRecycle has no authority to modify the statutory requirement that exported mixed plastic be considered disposal for the purposes of recycling/diversion credit.</p>