



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Tax Exempt and Government Entities  
PO Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

CIRCULAR TEXTILE ALLIANCE  
2108 N ST STE N  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816

Date:  
01/17/2026  
Employer ID number:  
41-2902898  
Person to contact:  
Name: M. Meyer  
ID number: 0194918  
Telephone: 877-829-5500  
Accounting period ending:  
December 31  
Public charity status:  
509(a)(2)  
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:  
Yes  
Effective date of exemption:  
November 25, 2025  
Contribution deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum applies:  
No  
DLN:  
26053413003436

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements



## Circular Textile Alliance

### **Circular Textile Alliance (CTA)**

Carlsbad, CA

[circulartextilealliance.org](http://circulartextilealliance.org)

February 26, 2026

### **Subject: Why the Circular Textile Alliance Exists**

Dear CalRecycle Textile Stewardship Team,

The Circular Textile Alliance was created to support a textile stewardship program grounded in balance, transparency, and long-term stability. From the outset, we believed governance would matter as much as infrastructure, and that effective implementation requires industry participation alongside practical independence from concentrated influence.

We come from the side of the apparel industry where products are made — design rooms, factory floors, and sourcing decisions — where environmental outcomes are determined long before a garment reaches a recycling system. We understand that stewardship ultimately succeeds or fails through execution — contracts, reporting systems, producer onboarding, and daily operational decisions that must function reliably at scale.

*Infrastructure manages waste; design decisions determine whether waste exists at all.*

Circularity doesn't start at disposal. It starts at conception.

Material selection, chemical inputs, and construction methods determine whether a product can be reused or recycled. Stewardship that begins only at end of life reacts to decisions already made.

A recyclability program succeeds only if the market adopts it. Requirements alone do not create participation. Producers engage when systems are understandable, predictable, and grounded in operational reality. Adoption — not intention — makes circularity real.

Circular systems must also be safe and equitable. Recovery volumes mean little if harmful chemicals move unchecked through recycling processes or if economic and environmental burdens fall unevenly on workers and communities. Monitoring chemical usage and understanding socioeconomic impacts are essential to responsible stewardship.

CTA's goal is not to build the fastest system or the most ambitious one on paper, but one that holds together over time:

- governance that remains balanced, transparent, and accountable
- incentives that influence product design, not just disposal
- infrastructure that grows at a pace reality can support
- data that improves decisions instead of complicating them
- and a program people trust, producers adopt, and communities can see working in practice

This work will be iterative. No organization begins with a complete textile circularity system. What matters is building one honestly, adapting while keeping environmental outcomes, economic reality, and public trust aligned.

Stewardship succeeds when waste becomes the result of fewer bad decisions, not better disposal systems — and that is the system CTA intends to build.

Respectfully,

Richard Cepeda

Co-Founder

Circular Textile Alliance (CTA)

[richard@circulartextilealliance.org](mailto:richard@circulartextilealliance.org)

**CTA TRANSITIONAL BOARD**

Established in 2025, the Circular Textile Alliance (CTA), is governed by a small transitional board of directors that will be reviewed within 90-days of being selected as the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). The CTA board of directors will expand to include three membership classifications, including:

**(a) Producer Members (Voting)**

Entities meeting the definition of “producer” under **PRC § 42060(f)**, including brands, manufacturers, importers, and license holders of textile products sold in California.

**(b) Affiliate Members (Non-Voting)**

Collectors, repair organizations, recyclers, thrift organizations, logistics companies, retailers, NGOs, and academic institutions.

**(c) Advisory Members (Non-Voting)**

Technical experts, community representatives, scientists, or policy advisors appointed by the Board.

**Transitional Board Membership (As of February 26, 2026)**

Member type	Member Name	Organization Represented	Covered Product
<b>Producer (voting)</b>			
	Jaleh Factor, CEO	Lezat	Apparel - Lifestyle-Vertical
	Shobna Phillips, CEO	Proclaim	Apparel - Intimates
	Carol Militimore, CEO	Seek Collective	Apparel - Imports
<b>Affiliate (non-voting)</b>			
Collector			
Repairer	Carley Brandau, CEO	Thread Odyssey	
Repair, Reuse, Recycle	Lindsay Medoff, CEO	SUAY	
<b>Advisory (non-voting)</b>			
	Catherine Compitello	CEO, Plentiful / Supply Chain for Food & Fiber Systems	
	Richard Rojas	City Planning, California	
	John Bwarie	Social Impact / Engagement	