

**Table of Contents for TAC Special Agenda for November 12, 2015**

Table of Contents .....	Page 1
Agenda .....	Pages 2 – 3
CPSC Funding Recommendation .....	Pages 4 - 7
DRS Update .....	Pages 8 – 9
CDR Report .....	Pages 10 – 12
Green Business Report .....	Page 13

# County of Santa Clara

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County  
Recycling and Waste Reduction Division

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## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**DATE:** Thursday, November 12, 2015  
**TIME:** 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 1580 Berger Drive  
San Jose, CA 95112

**COMMUTE ALTERNATIVES:** The Board of Supervisors encourages the use of commute alternatives including bicycles, carpooling, and hybrid vehicles.

Public transit access is available to and from the Berger Drive Facility, Berger Drive, San Jose, California by VTA bus lines 66. For trip planning information, contact the VTA Customer Service Department at 408-321-2300 Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Schedule information is also available on the web at [www.vta.org](http://www.vta.org).

Bicycle parking racks are available in the front of Buildings 1 and 2.

**(\*\* Denotes item on which action may be taken)**

### 1. Call to Order and Introductions

### 2. Approval of Draft Minutes Meeting of October 15, 2015 \*\*

### 3. Public Presentations

(This item is reserved for persons desiring to address the committee on any matter not on this agenda.) For members of the public who wish to address the committee on any item not listed on the agenda this would be the appropriate time. The Chair will call individuals in turn. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes. The committee is not permitted action or extended discussion of any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If committee action is requested, the committee may place the matter on a future agenda. All statements that require a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing.

### 4. AB1826 tool – Karla Miller (15 min)

### 5. State of Biomass in California – Michael Gross (5 min)

### 6. Certification of C&D Facilities – Michael Gross (5 min)

### 7. CPSC Funding Recommendation\*\* – Rob D'Arcy

### 8. IC Update\*\* - Anna Szabo (10 min)

**Commissioners:** James R. Griffith, Chair; Michael F. Kotowski, Linda J. LeZotte, Manh Nguyen, Teresa O'Neill, Jan Pepper, Greg Scharff, Rod Sinks, Cat Tucker, Mike Wasserman

**9. RWRC Update\*\* – RWRD Staff (10 min)**

**10. Division Manager's Report/Updates on Countywide Programs – RWRD Staff \*\* (10 min)**

**A. Disposal Reporting System - Update**

**B. Other – (elections, December location, NGO letters, RWRC Dec 16)**

**11. Subcommittee Reports and Updates\*\* (20 min)**

**A. Eco-Gardener – Peggy Horning**

**B. Enforcement – Stan Chau**

**C. Household Hazardous Waste – Alex Wykoff**

**D. Legislation – Mark Bowers**

**E. Operations – Cynthia Palacio**

**F. Public Education – Sandra Jensen**

**G. Source Reduction/Recycling – Karen Gissibl**

**H. Ad Hoc Food Rescue –Karen Gissibl**

**I. Ad Hoc Zero Waste – Heidi Melander**

**12. Program Update\*\* (5 min)**

**A. Green Business – Report**

**A. Composting Education – No Report**

**B. Recycling Hotline –Report**

**13. Items for Future Agenda/Guest Speakers (5 min)**

**14. Informational Updates and Announcements (15 min)**

**15. Adjournment\*\***

Note: Next Meeting Date is December 10, 2015

*(The following is a 'Parking Lot' list of items to be brought back to TAC at a later date)*

List of Future Agenda Items to be discussed:

- Large Venue Diversion [pre-TAC] (Tony Eulo)
- CalRecycle 75% diversion (Matthew Krupp)
- Community based social marketing (Karen Gissibl)
- Smoking ban (Matthew Krupp)
- Litterati on Instagram (Julie Muir)
- TraX (Julie Muir)
- Evaluate long term disposal and processing capacities and opportunities for regional cooperation (TAC Chair)
- Recycling brokers (Julie Muir)
- Multi-Family outreach material for HHW (Alex Wykoff)
- Food pilot reports (Mountain View, San Jose, Sunnyvale)

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Department of Agriculture and Environmental Management**



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**DATE:** November 12, 2015  
**TO:** RWRC Technical Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Rob D'Arcy, Recycling and Waste Reduction Division  
**SUBJECT:** California Product Stewardship Council Associate Dues

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Forward a recommendation to the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission to approve an annual contribution from the Household Hazardous Waste Program, to the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) in the amount of \$10,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 through FY 2019.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There is no impact on the General Fund as a result of this action. Costs for CPSC are covered and budgeted in the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The County of Santa Clara would join other California cities and counties in supporting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) through legislative initiatives and the work of the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). CPSC is the only non-profit public education corporation - 501(c)(3) in California - with the sole mission of EPR. EPR legislation is reducing the County's financial burden for ensuring proper disposal of household hazardous waste, universal waste, and other products at the end of their useful life. EPR is one of the strongest tools local government has to meet the mandated solid waste diversion goal set forth by AB341.

Support is consistent with the Legislative Priorities approved by the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission on October 28, 2015 and the support of the Commission for the Safe Medicine Disposal ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 23, 2015.

AB1343, chaptered into law in 2010, was pioneered by CPSC and requires paint manufacturers to fund and implement a statewide program to collect and recycle leftover and unwanted paint. This legislation is resulting in a \$300,000 annual savings to the County HHW budget.

Through the efforts of CPSC, the success of EPR will continue to have a positive impact on the budget and lower rates and fees charged to our residents. Through an introduction by CPSC, County staff developed a partnership with the Corporation for Battery Recycling to ship and recycle batteries collected through the countywide HHW Program at no cost. This partnership, now in its fourth year is resulting in an annual savings of over \$40,000 to the HHW budget. Through the efforts of the CPSC, legislation has passed to reduce local government's financial burden to manage waste paint, carpet, thermostats, rechargeable batteries and mattresses.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

Extended Producer Responsibility will advance sustainability efforts through environmental protection and the conservation of natural resources.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 1992, Santa Clara County and fourteen cities cooperated to create the HHW Program to meet local needs and to comply with state law. This cooperative effort provides for legal, convenient, but expensive services to enable residents to safely dispose of unwanted hazardous household products such as fluorescent lighting, paints, solvents, pesticides, cleaning chemicals, aerosols, automotive fluids, and batteries.

In February 2006, the State of California banned residential "universal waste" from landfills. Common universal wastes include electronics, mercury thermometers and thermostats, fluorescent lights, and disposable batteries. Most consumer electronics contain lead, cadmium, and other toxic heavy metals, and pose a threat to public health and the environment. Fluorescent lamps and thermostats contain mercury, a potent neurotoxin.

Pharmaceuticals are detected in our drinking water and millions of household alkaline batteries leak hazardous corrosive chemicals into the landfills. Local governments pay for the high cost of meeting hazardous waste disposal ban requirements to separately handle and properly dispose of the wastes. In addition to universal waste, local governments in California pay for proper disposal of other household hazardous waste, as well as the increasing costs for the collection and processing of disposable non-hazardous waste; much of these costs can be mitigated by EPR.

Funding for HHW Program services to city and unincorporated County residents is provided by the HHW portion of the Countywide AB939 Implementation Fee. The Implementation Fee is assessed at \$4.10 per ton on all solid waste disposed at a landfill, and is collected by the County in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 41901. The HHW portion is

\$2.60 per ton and generates approximately \$3.3 million in annual revenues. As more and more products and materials are diverted for recycling and higher diversion levels are met, through compliance to AB341, revenues will decline.

Non-hazardous solid waste also negatively impacts the environment. A century ago, when local governments assumed responsibility for solid waste, the solid waste mostly consisted of coal ash and small amounts of food, paper, and glass. Today, manufactured products and packaging make up 75% of the forty million tons of waste Californians throw away annually. Consequently, residents are paying higher disposal costs for the increased tonnage for items that could be returned to industry for recycling. Increased packaging also uses a considerable amount of natural resources, and the production and transportation of packaging and packaged products adds significantly to greenhouse gas emissions statewide.

There is widespread support in California for EPR. CalRecycle, has adopted EPR framework legislation as a strategic goal and as a policy approach. The League of California Cities and the National Association of Counties have adopted EPR resolutions. Since 2006, over 138 California cities and counties have passed EPR resolutions.

### *Water Quality and Solid Waste Issues*

Implementing EPR is important to protect and improve water quality. Universal wastes contain toxic elements such as mercury, which is known to cause environmental and human health problems. When disposed of improperly in a landfill or through illegal dumping, such toxic elements can leach into the water table and waterways, or turn into a gas and disperse through the air. Safe and convenient disposal and recycling of items such as fluorescent bulbs, thermostats, and thermometers can keep mercury out of the environment. In general, EPR can reduce chemical compounds from entering the environment with the safe collection and recycling of products containing toxic compounds such as pharmaceuticals and left-over paint. If producers are responsible for the end of life disposal of toxic products, they would have an incentive to minimize the toxicity of their products and provide consumers a convenient disposal system.

EPR can also help address a persistent and growing worldwide problem of litter in the waterways. In July 2008, the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), created by the California Ocean Protection Act, cites litter as the primary component of land-based sources of litter accumulating in the ocean. The biggest component of litter is packaging waste. The OPC lists EPR for packaging waste as the first of three priority actions to successfully reduce or prevent packaging waste. Locally, the Municipal Regional Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit requires reducing the impact of trash in waterways by enhancing maintenance practices, such as increased street sweeping, and the installation of permanent storm drain screens to capture trash. The preliminary estimate to meet this requirement over the five year permit term is approximately 11 million dollars.

### *EPR Legislation*

Making EPR a legislative priority has allowed the County to advocate for furthering EPR initiatives at the State and national level. There are currently a number of EPR related bills being considered in the State legislature. One such bill expected to return to the legislature in 2016, requires manufacturers of alkaline batteries (one-time use batteries) to collect and recycle spent batteries from the public. Another requires pharmaceutical manufacturers to implement a system to collect unwanted and expired pharmaceuticals at no cost to the consumer following the Board of Supervisors action to implement a program in Santa Clara County. These bills establish model policy for extended producer responsibility requiring the companies that profit from products to address end-of-life disposition.

### *Supporting EPR Organizations*

To aid in the implementation of EPR locally and nation-wide, organizations have formed in a number of states to effectively represent local governments on these issues. The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is a coalition of local governments formed in 2006 in response to the State ban on universal waste. Organizations like the California State Association of Counties, the California Council of Directors of Environmental Health, the League of Cities, the Solid Waste Association of North America, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and 10 out of 15 cities in Santa Clara County and the County have passed resolutions or policies in support of EPR. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, Bay Area Storm Water Management Agencies, and the California Storm Water Quality Association are in support of CPSC. The overwhelming cost for collection and disposal of hazardous wastes galvanized local environmental managers to unite in order to pursue statewide EPR solutions. In turn, the County will benefit from State and national efforts to shift product management systems from government-funded and ratepayer financed, to ones that rely on manufacturer responsibility. The Recycling and Waste Reduction division will ensure that any CPSC legislative or policy initiatives related to Extended Producer Responsibility are coordinated with the Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Failure to support the California Product Stewardship Council will lessen their ability to affect a shift in the responsibility for waste management, ultimately requiring increased taxation on the public for continued government-run waste management.

	Qtr 1 2015				Qtr 2 2015			
	Jan - Mar				April - June			
	Date	Payment	Tonnage	DRS Data	Date	Payment	Tonnage	DRS Data
Landfill	Due 06-15-15				Due 09-15-15			
Guadalupe	05/18/15	\$184,268.80	37,760	05/15/15	09/08/15	\$193,657.92	39,684	09/03/15
Kirby Canyon	05/15/15	\$231,053.36	47,347	05/14/15	08/31/15	\$230,677.60	47,270	08/31/15
Newby Island	06/09/15	\$791,877.60	162,270	05/15/15	09/15/15	\$792,444	162,386	09/15/15
Pacheco Pass	closed				closed			
Palo Alto	closed				closed			
Zanker Material	06/12/15	\$196,083.28	4,992	06/15/15	09/09/15	\$178,910.56	3,356	09/12/15
Zanker Road	06/12/15	\$24,151.12	1,937	06/15/15	09/09/15	\$29,787.52	184	09/12/15
NDF								
ABC Recycles	6/15/2015	\$4,026.00	825	6/15/2015	closed			
EcoBox	6/22/2015	\$450.42			9/15/2015	\$9,404.78	1,927	9/15/2015
Green Team	closed				closed			
GreenWaste Recovery	06/15/15	\$41,406.80	8,485	06/15/15	09/14/15	\$44,944.80	9,211	09/15/15
Leo Recycle	6/15/2015	\$4,650.64	953	6/15/2015	9/15/2015	\$6,897.25	1,413	9/15/2015
Mission Trails	taken in County				taken in County			
Pacheco Pass	06/10/15	\$24,775.76	5,077	04/27/15	08/06/15	\$18,641.60	3,820	08/11/15
Pacific Coast Recycling	06/24/15	\$9,472.08	1,941	04/02/15	09/15/15	\$8,318.73	1,705	09/15/15
Premier	06/15/15	\$33,538.53	6,873	06/15/15	09/15/15	\$38,723.48	7,935	09/15/15
Rock Tenn	closed				closed			
San Martin	06/10/15	\$96,672.80	19,810	04/15/15	07/20/15	\$98,214.88	20,126	07/13/15
Superior Demolition	06/10/15	\$488.00	100	06/10/15				
Valley			13,612	06/02/15			13,612	09/23/15
Z-Best	06/12/15	\$8,408.24	1,723	06/03/15	09/09/15	\$7,915.36	1,622	09/09/15
Zanker Material	with landfill		35,189	06/15/15	with landfill		3,306	09/12/15
Zanker Road	with landfill		3,008	06/15/15	with landfill		5,920	09/12/15
report and payment mailed	7/29/2015							

	Qtr 3 2015				Qtr 4 2015			
	July - September				October - December			
	Date	Payment	Tonnage	DRS Data	Date	Payment	Tonnage	DRS Data
Landfill	Due 12-15-15				Due 03-15-16			
Guadalupe								
Kirby Canyon								
Newby Island								
Pacheco Pass	closed				closed			
Palo Alto	closed				closed			
Zanker Material								
Zanker Road								
NDF								
ABC Recycles								
EcoBox								
Green Team	closed				closed			
GreenWaste Recovery								
Leo Recycle								
Mission Trails	taken in County				taken in County			
Pacheco Pass								
Pacific Coast Recycling								
Premier								
Rock Tenn	closed				closed			
San Martin								
Superior Demolition								
Valley								
Z-Best								
Zanker Material								
Zanker Road								
report and payment mailed								



**San José State**  
UNIVERSITY

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College of Social Science • Department of Environmental Studies • Center for Development of Recycling • www.RecycleStuff.org  
• 800/533-841, 408/924-5453 • Fax 408/924-5477 • info@recyclestuff.org • One Washington Square • San Jose, California 95192-0204

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**Santa Clara County Recycling Hotline and Website  
1st Quarter Report: July 1, 2015 – September 30, 2015**

- 1) Budget Status
  - a) CDR new contract began with the fiscal year and is within monthly budget averages excepting the line item for website modifications which has been exhausted.
- 2) Projects and Activities Completed
  - a) Website Management
    - i) The Debris Box search function has been modified to limit search results to franchised service-providers.
    - ii) Additional modifications were made to the site.
  - b) Telephones
    - i) The phone system has been upgraded. The new phone system allows for incoming calls to be rotated among the three available workstations with telephones. In the second quarter, this system will allow for callers in a queue to wait for a service representative or to select voice mail. It will also provide a greeting when the center is closed.
  - c) CDR staff translated a home composting program brochure into Vietnamese.
- 3) Projects & Activities In-Progress
  - a) Household Hazardous Waste appointment system
    - i) CDR began operating the HHW call center and appointment system. A new position was added to CDR staff, a HHW Manager who joins the Administrative and Program Managers. The HHW Manager is responsible for specializing in the HHW processes and communicating with the County HHW program and works under the direction of the CDR Director.
    - ii) Training materials were developed to help process information requests from residents and businesses. Training materials include a HHW manual and a PowerPoint presentation. Two training sessions were conducted with staff which was followed up with extensive one-on-one training with management.
    - iii) Staff created about 1,700 packets containing information about the HHW program that were distributed at public outreach events by county staff.
    - iv) Students educated residents about the HHW program at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Day on the Bay multicultural festival in Alviso on October 11, 2015
    - v) Students volunteered to work at HHW drop off events in San Jose at the Environmental Innovation Center
  - b) Database Updates/Verification
    - i) CDR continues to focus on updating and reviewing existing database listings. All sources are verified by telephone interviews and by reviewing websites of listed sources. As websites are often unreliable, student-staff contact sources to verify all general contact information, hours of operation, specific materials

accepted and related processing requirements, service type (residential, commercial, recycle, reuse). This system will be improved when funding sources enable us to develop a system for contacting sources by email.

- c) Home Page, “Recycling Stories”
    - i) This new web site feature provides brief informational data sheets about the recyclability of select materials. Data for each “recycling story” is retrieved from market-affiliated associations, government publications and peer reviewed journals. Staff continues to develop “recycling stories” for materials listed in the database. About 25 are in various stages of development. While many are complete, uploading to the site is delayed until a funding source is identified to create an upload procedure.
  - d) Material Identification
    - i) Much attention is given to what can be recycled and how to recycle specific materials. It may be useful for some RecycleStuff.org users to identify an item as HHW, reusable, compostable, recyclable, or waste. The intent of this project is to populate a database of materials to assist user with discard choices. The format of this website feature is in the development stages. Data from each city has been collected.
  - e) Social Media
    - i) Staff continues to share information with the public via the CDR Facebook page which is available through RecycleStuff.org.
- 4) Inquiry Tracking: This report is attached in a separate document.
- 5) Invoice: The SJSU Research Foundation will process the invoice.

2015 Recycling Hotline/Website/Email Inquiry Tracking

2015	Number of Telephone Inquiries																	Web	E-mail	Question Type												
	Campbell	Cupertino	Gilroy	Los Altos	Los Altos Hills	Los Gatos	Milpitas	Monte Sereno	Morgan Hill	Mtn. View	Palo Alto	San Jose	Santa Clara	Saratoga	Sunnyvale	Unincorporated	Undeclared	Out of County	Call Total	RecycleStuff.org *	e-mail	Inquiry Total	1-Recycle Start-up	2-City Programs	3-Recycle / Reuse	4-Inter-org. Referrals	5-Publications	6-General Info.	7-Undeclared	8-HHW	Total **	
January	2	7	3	7	0	4	7	0	3	3	4	75	10	2	4	0	2	3	136	21239	17	21,392	0	17	109	1	0	9	0	0	136	
February	1	3	4	3	0	6	4	0	3	2	2	76	9	0	2	0	7	2	124	23475	13	23,612	0	13	86	15	0	10	0	0	124	
March	5	5	0	3	0	3	9	0	2	0	5	99	9	3	1	0	0	2	146	23538	21	23,705	0	17	102	14	0	12	1	0	146	
April	1	5	2	9	0	1	5	0	4	3	2	72	4	1	4	0	3	5	121	28583	16	28,720	0	15	93	4	0	8	1	0	121	
May	0	7	2	4	0	6	8	0	2	1	4	76	7	2	3	0	2	2	126	27229	18	27,373	0	23	93	4	0	5	1	0	126	
June	3	3	2	5	0	9	3	0	1	4	1	99	12	1	1	4	4	5	157	24980	21	25,158	1	28	109	2	0	16	1	0	157	
July	23	33	51	48	6	26	25	2	43	51	8	516	56	18	57	16	128	7	1114	22360	26	38,432	0	124	388	16	0	8	29	549	1114	
August	18	11	8	15	4	13	13	1	17	30	8	301	44	11	22	2	4	6	528	47453	33	39,913	1	55	124	9	0	55	0	284	528	
September	6	9	11	22	3	10	17	0	13	17	2	245	70	18	2	2	16	4	467	40555	20	31,880	0	25	95	46	0	31	0	270	467	
October																															0	
November																															0	
December																															0	
<b>Total</b>	59	83	83	116	13	78	91	3	88	111	36	1,559	221	56	96	24	166	36	2,919	259,412	185	260,185	2	317	1,199	111	0	154	33	1,103	2,919	
City Population ***	41,993	59,946	52,413	29,969	8,354	30,532	70,092	3,450	41,197	76,781	66,861	1,000,536	121,229	30,887	147,055	91,832	n/a	n/a				1,873,127										
Population as % of County	2.24%	3.20%	2.80%	1.60%	0.45%	1.63%	3.74%	0.18%	2.20%	4.10%	3.57%	53.42%	6.47%	1.65%	7.85%	4.90%	n/a	n/a														
% of Tele Inquiries-YTD	2.02%	2.84%	2.84%	3.97%	0.45%	2.67%	3.12%	0.10%	3.01%	3.80%	1.23%	53.41%	7.57%	1.92%	3.29%	0.82%	5.69%	1.23%														
% of Inquiry Type -YTD																							0.07%	10.86%	41.08%	3.80%	0.00%	5.28%	1.13%	37.79%	100.00%	
% of Total Referrals-YTD																																
* Represents page views																																
** Some residents may call with more than one question type.																																
*** California Department of Finance, City/County Population Estimates 01/01/14																																

**Green Business Program  
FY16**

City	Enrolled Prior to FY16	Certified Prior to FY16	Re-certified Prior to FY16	Enrolled in FY16	Certified in FY16	Re-certified in FY16	2nd Re-certification in FY16	3rd Re-certification in FY16	Dropped from Program	Total Recertified	Total Enrolled	Total Certified
Campbell	40	12	6	2	1	0	0	0	12	6	42	13
Cupertino	94	35	9	12	2	0	0	0	10	9	106	37
Gilroy	25	10	8	1	0	0	0	0	2	8	26	10
Los Altos	22	18	11	4	0	0	0	0	4	11	26	18
Los Altos Hills	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Los Gatos	71	36	9	4	1	0	1	0	17	9	75	37
Milpitas	24	9	1	2	1	0	0	0	6	1	26	10
Monte Sereno	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morgan Hill	42	20	3	3	0	0	0	0	13	3	45	20
Mountain View	141	81	28	10	2	0	0	0	35	28	151	83
Palo Alto	442	111	24	2	0	0	0	0	75	24	444	111
San Jose	450	233	71	29	2	0	2	1	131	71	479	235
Santa Clara	89	34	9	9	2	0	1	0	13	9	98	36
Saratoga	13	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	13	6
Sunnyvale	26	51	26	11	0	0	0	0	19	26	37	51
Unincorporated <sup>(1)</sup>	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1489</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>1578</b>	<b>673</b>

1 - all inquiries are placed under Unincorporated as many of those inquiring do not state the city their business is in.

2 - this is total enrolled since inception of the program and represents both those businesses that have been certified and those still in process