



CAA's Role as the PRO in Washington

Washington's Recycling Reform Act Advisory Council Meeting
April 29, 2026

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- Salaries, costs, and other factors that affect pricing; the hiring or recruitment of other members' employees;
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- Topics that may lead participants to not deal with or to boycott a particular supplier, customer, or third party;
- Reductions of output; bid-rigging;
- Or any other anti-competitive topics or actions.

Failure to comply with these antitrust laws will not be accepted.

Agenda

1. Overview of the PRO
2. EPR Across the States
3. PRO Responsibilities in WA
4. CAA Timelines in WA
5. Ways to Engage
6. Questions

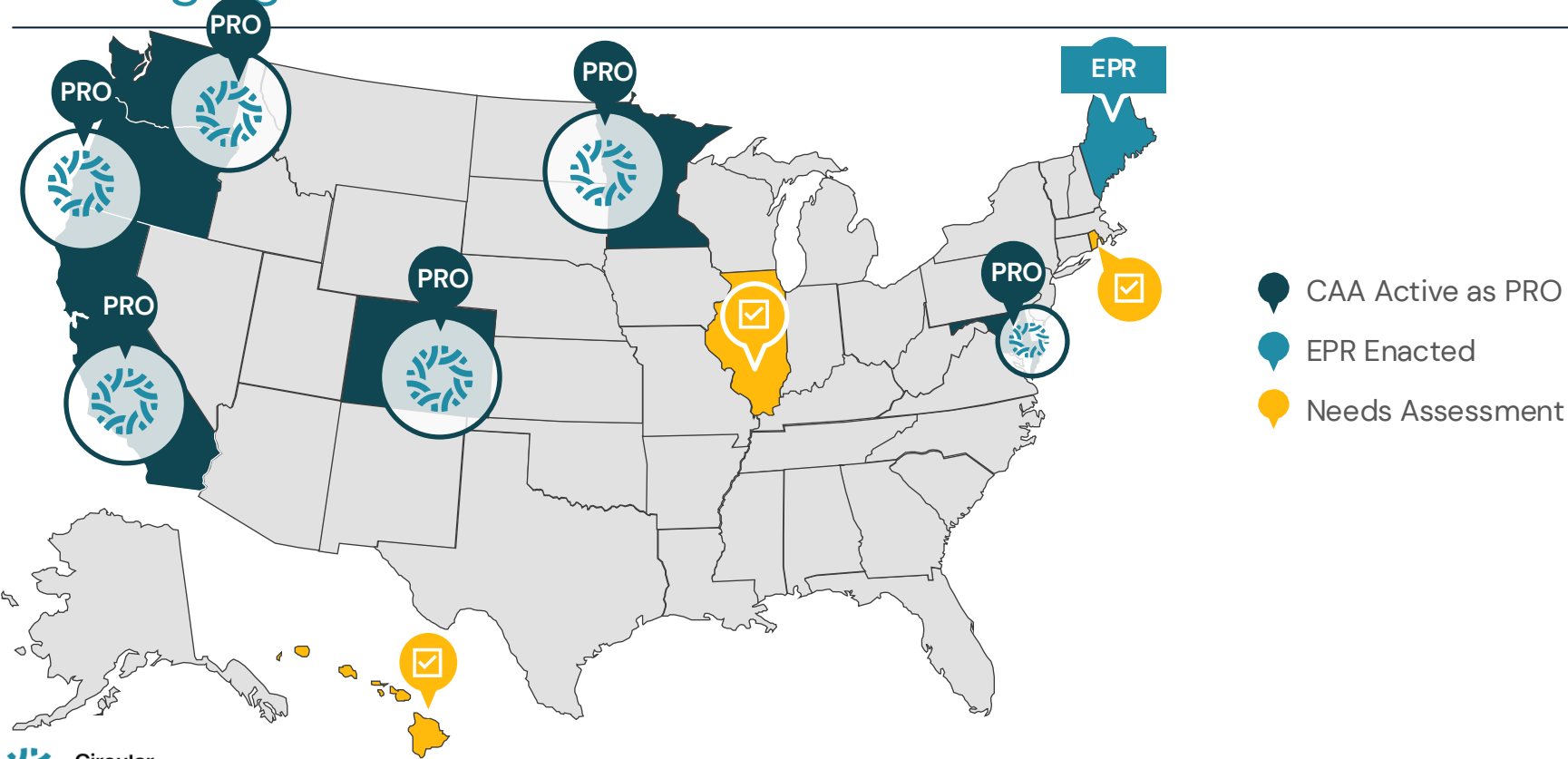


The Role of the **PRO**

A **Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)** is a producer-led nonprofit organization that manages and improves the system for collecting and recovering materials after use. We facilitate compliance with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws, leading to positive environmental outcomes for communities.



Packaging EPR in the US



CAA's Mission

- CAA's mission is to help producers comply with EPR laws, deliver harmonized, best-in-class services and work with governments, businesses and communities to reduce waste and recycle more.

CAA will:

- Meet state-specific regulatory requirements;
- Leverage existing recycling systems and infrastructure; and
- Advance the circularity of covered materials through collaboration with local governments, service providers and recycling system interest holders.



CAA's Role as the PRO in Washington

By Jan. 1, 2026,
producers must
appoint a PRO.

By March 1, 2026, a
PRO must register with
the department.

- Ecology accepted CAA's PRO application on **March 4** to develop WA's initial program plan
- **Leverage learnings** from serving as PRO in states further along in EPR (CA, CO, OR)
- Find synergies with other states (Maryland, Minnesota) sharing similar EPR structures and timelines

PRO Responsibilities in WA

PRO obligations are outlined in Chapter 70A.208 RCW

Early Stage ~ Pre-Program Plan (Now - mid 2027)

- Recruit and register producers of covered materials
- Register as the PRO with Ecology, (March 1, annually)
- Cover Ecology's EPR program costs (one time and annual)
- Support producer compliance and early reporting
- Set and collect early producer fees, RCW 70A.208.040(3)(b) and 70A.208.160(1)
- Engage through cross-state listening tours
- Consult on Ecology-led preliminary needs assessment (December 2026) and final needs assessment (December 2027)
- Participate on and engage with advisory council and subcommittees and on rulemaking

PRO Responsibilities in WA (cont.)

Develop a Program Plan for Washington (mid 2027 – 2028)

- Develop performance targets and reimbursement methodology
- Develop draft program plan informed by needs assessment, input from WA interest holders, additional analysis and advisory council
- Deliver program plan to advisory council (mid-2028) and Ecology (Oct. 1, 2028)

Pre-Implementation & Plan Implementation (2029; 2030–onward)

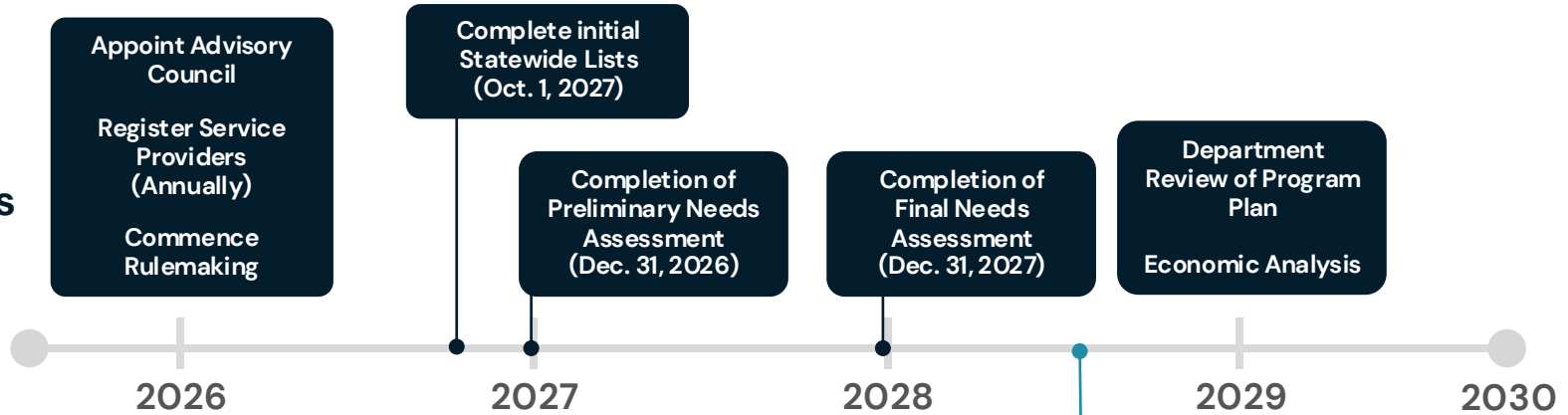
- Fund and operate a reuse grant program (2029)
- Implement the 5-year program plan (Jan. 1, 2030)
- Reimburse service providers for eligible costs (recycling, composting, reuse/refill, waste reduction)
- Invest in infrastructure to build on the existing waste and recycling infrastructure and expand access to Washington residents
- Submit annual reports & meet performance targets in the plan

Key Milestones and Timelines in WA

Washington – Key Milestones and PRO Priorities

Statutory/Regulator
 CAA

Ecology Major Milestones



CAA Priorities



Rulemaking

Needs Assessment
(Ecology-led)



Program Planning
(PRO responsibility)



Implementation of Plan
(PRO)

Informs program planning

- Led and approved by Ecology
- In consultations with Advisory Council, PRO and other Interest holders

Sets operational parameters and targets, additional analysis

- Led by PRO
- In consultation with Advisory Council, Ecology and interest holders
- Approved by the Ecology

5-year operations and evaluation

- Led by PRO
- Reviewed by Advisory Council, Equity Subcommittee Ecology and interest holders
- Overseen by Ecology

Stay Engaged

Producers

- Register with CAA and Early Reporting
- Producer questions? Email producer.support@circularaction.org

Support Ecology's Needs Assessment

- Respond to surveys and the RFI in May

Provide CAA Your Input

- Early engagements through listening tours – site visits, facility tours, conversations
- Sign up for CAA news, webinars and events on [our website](#).
- Comment on national REM Standard

Washington State Listening Tour

Let's keep in touch. Invite CAA
out to your community or facility.



Questions?

Thank You



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