

GOALS AND WORK OUTLINE: January 20, 2010

## OREGON PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP STAKEHOLDER GROUP



State of Oregon  
**Department of  
Environmental  
Quality**

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**Land Quality  
Division Solid  
Waste Program  
Planning and  
Development**

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### Group Goals:

1. Become informed about the current “state of the practice” in product stewardship.
2. Use the experience and expertise of the stakeholders to develop a report that addresses:
  - Fulfilling the promise of product stewardship to address the impacts of products across their lifecycle.
  - How stewardship programs are best setup and run – e.g. financing, producer responsibility organizations, and general structure.
  - The elements of a successful program – e.g. performance goals, convenience standards, environmental management.
  - The identification and selection of products.
3. Provide DEQ with guidance about how solid waste policy and programs can incorporate the product stewardship approach.
4. Consider potential legislative recommendations for the 2011 legislature.

Working from the generally accepted definition of product stewardship or producer responsibility, the group will be provided with educational materials and background information on key issues and questions and asked to share their knowledge, perspective and expertise on those issues. The group is not being asked to define product stewardship. The group is not discussing “whether or not” product stewardship, but rather “how” product stewardship. The group is striving for greater knowledge, not necessarily consensus.

**DEQ Role:** DEQ’s 2009 legislatively approved budget provides for the development of a product stewardship program, including the identification of other segments of the solid waste stream whose management would be well served by a product stewardship approach. DEQ is the convener of the stakeholder process. DEQ and other stakeholders will use the information and report developed in this process to inform the implementation of product stewardship in Oregon, including potential legislative recommendations.

**Stakeholder Group Work Outline:** Over the course of eight meetings the group will consider the following general themes:

- *Product Stewardship as a tool of sustainability*
  - Improving the life cycle impacts of products

- Including incentives in the state approach to stewardship
- *Governance*
  - Roles and responsibilities
  - Core elements of an effective product stewardship program.
  - Common concerns
- *Moving forward – elements of Oregon’s approach to stewarding products*
  - Harmonization with other states and national initiatives
  - Product identification process
  - Roles for voluntary and legislatively mandated programs
  - Learning from existing programs and what others have done

**Proposed Meeting Outline:**

*First meeting* – Overview, review themes and work outline, establish group goals and ground rules

*Two meetings on governance issues – potential topics include:*

- System financing
- Convenience standards
- Performance measures
- Disposal bans
- Roles and responsibilities

*One meeting on environmental and health protection*

*One meeting on “upstream” improvements*

*Two meetings on moving forward*

- Product identification
- Voluntary and legislated programs
- Harmonization

*Final meeting for comment on draft report*