

Nadeau, Jessica

From: Jeff Titon <jtiton@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 12:56 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 428: Stewardship Program for Packaging

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DEP,

Living in rural Maine, as I do, I've noticed that my neighbors have turned to ordering goods online for delivery more and more often. These items are always delivered in cardboard packaging which I always break down and take to the dump. But in my town, like so many others in Maine now, recycling is no longer possible, and so this cardboard goes right into the waste stream.

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging rules. Implementing EPR will reduce taxpayer costs, improve recycling, and reduce the waste entering our landfills.

It's unfair that Maine communities are on the hook for the wasteful packaging produced by large companies that ends up in our waste stream. EPR is a commonsense solution that provides financial incentives for producers to minimize waste and increase recyclability. Maine has had success in other EPR programs, like the bottle bill and programs for rechargeable batteries, mercury-containing products, electronics, paint, and pharmaceuticals. Applying this practical approach to packaging is a logical next step.

I urge the Board to adopt the EPR for Packaging rules, setting an example for other states and contributing to a cleaner, more sustainable Maine. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jeff Titon
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