

Partnership on Waste and Energy

Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility

The Partnership on Waste and Energy (PWE) seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of communities we serve while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate.

PWE supports product stewardship among manufacturers, suppliers, retailers and consumers, relying on an extended producer responsibility (EPR) framework to create producer-led partnerships that reduce lifecycle impacts of products and packaging.

PWE supports EPR strategies that lead producers to manufacture non-toxic products, prevent waste, preserve natural resources, increase reuse or recycling of products and achieve public health and environmental protection at end-of-life management.

PWE supports EPR systems that reduce the financial burden on local government and taxpayers and establish measurable and enforceable goals.

Better resource management, building a circular economy

Product stewardship and EPR policies can effectively address problem materials, especially the following:

- Packaging for food, beverages and consumer products
- Mattresses
- Carpet
- Prescription and over-the-counter drugs
- Medical sharps
- Electronic devices
- Lithium-ion batteries
- Solar panels

Better health and environmental outcomes, reduced financial impacts on taxpayers and local government

Well-designed product stewardship and EPR approaches:

- Encourage product and packaging redesign
- Provide funding relief to local programs and taxpayers
- Offer consumers management options that are fair, convenient and better for the environment

\$18 million annually

spent by Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties to properly manage recyclable, hazardous and problem materials.

Contact for More Information

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