

### Recycled Plastics Reality Check

24 September 2024

2024 Canadian Stewardship Conference



Recycled Plastics Senior Editor, ICIS

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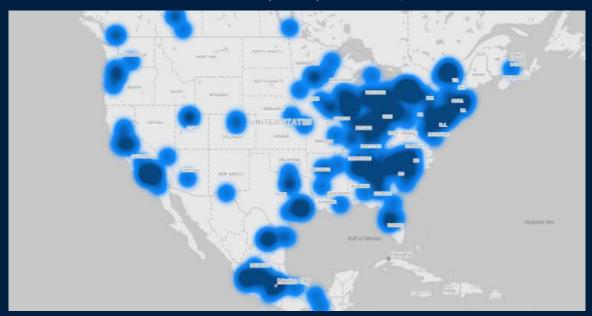
# Plastic Recycling Infrastructure and Supply



# Mechanical recycling relatively established in comparison to nascent but fast developing chem recycling



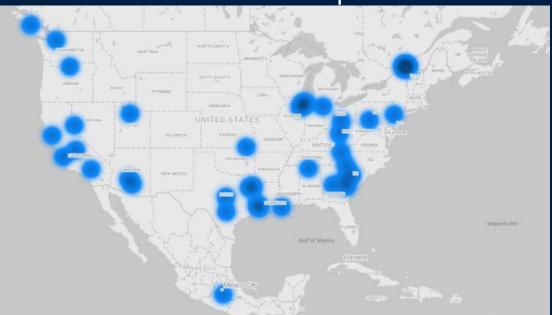
Mechanical recycling plants\*, operating and announced (FID) ~330 plants



#### Key developments:

- Converter upstream, waste company downstream integration
- Virgin producer involvement
- Growth in film, PP recycling

Chemical recycling plants\*\*, operating and announced ~40 plants



#### Key developments:

- Proving reliability at scale
- Unlocking affordable feedstocks
- Regulatory pushback, support

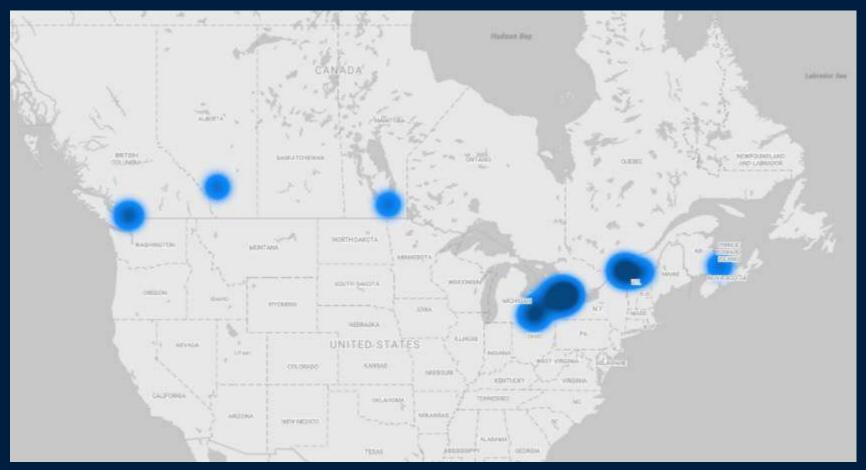
\* Includes PET, PE and PP capacities

\*\*Includes all types for all polymers and all plant scales (both pre-commercial and commercial)

#### Canadian recycling infrastructure supports local, US markets



Mechanical recycling plants\*, operating and announced (FID)



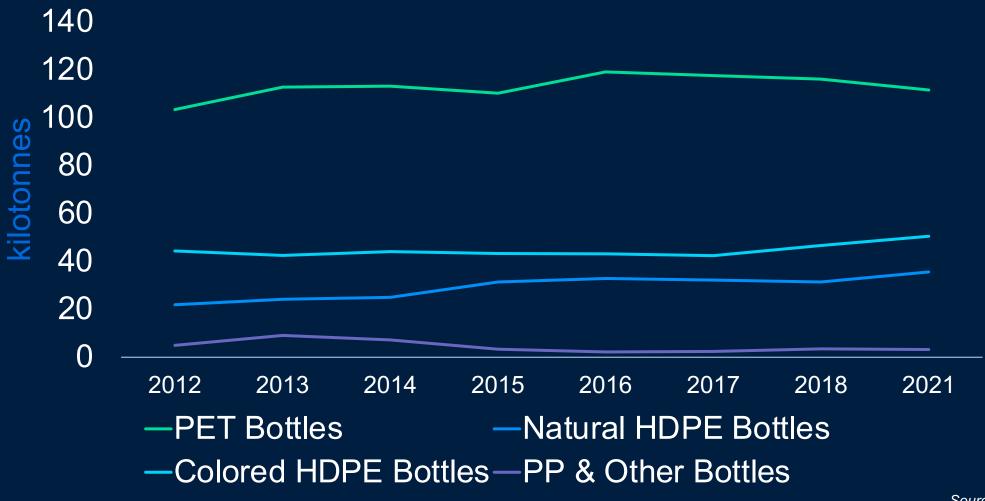
Capacity: 1.3 M tonnes/year

Plant Count: ~50

#### Canadian bottle recycling shows little growth



Post-consumer Bottles Recovered for Recycling



#### Reality Check: Model Assumptions



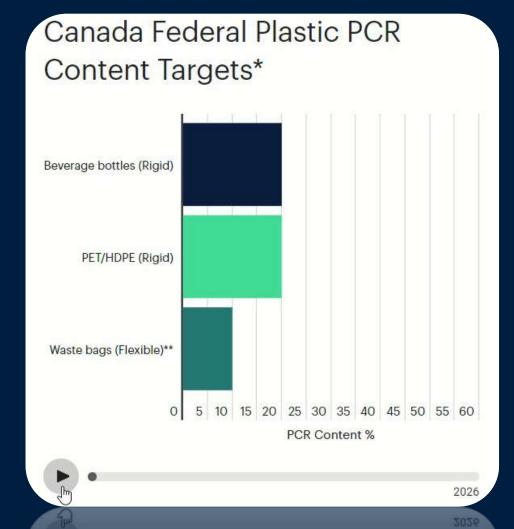
#### Plastic packaging demand

(Total CA plastics demand \* packaging subsector)

Mechanically recycled plastic output

(split by polymer)

PCR targets:
Rigids 60%
Flexibles 40%

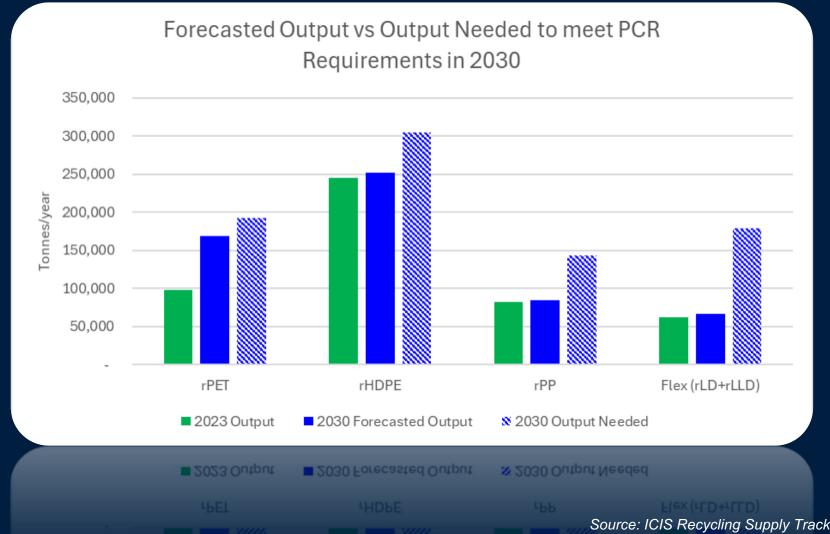


\*Canada's Zero Plastic Waste Agenda draft targets, pending finalization

\*\* Displaying max requirement; waste bag requirement based on thickness

# Significant capacity investment still needed to reach proposed goals



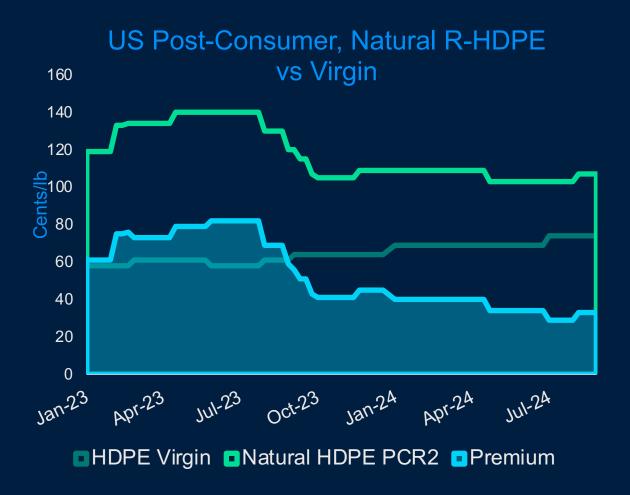


+25

Additional recycling plants with ~13,200 tpy output to achieve 2030 goals from 2023 output

# Current conditions subject sustainability-driven grades to feedstock volatility





US Post-Consumer, Food Grade R-100 PET Pellet vs Virgin 80 Cents/lb 40 20 Jan-23 Mar-23 Jul-23 Sep-23 Nov-23 Jan-24 Mar-24 May-24

■Food Grade PET PCR Pellet ■PET Virgin ■Premium

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# Future Market Disruptors

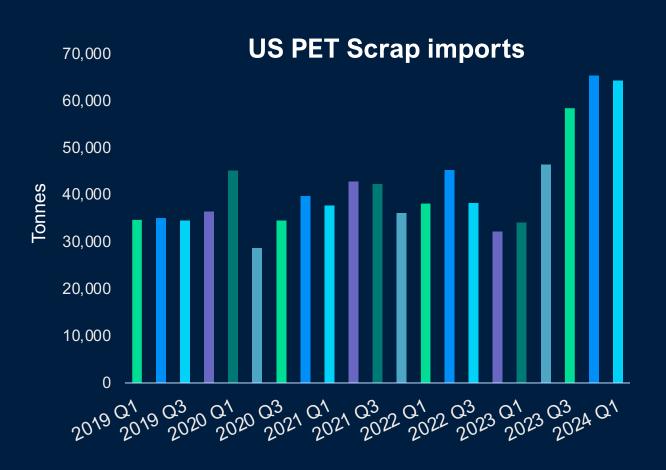


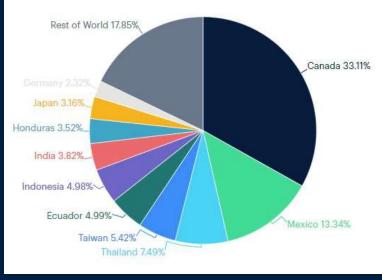
#### North American market facing onslaught of imported recycled resins, threat and opportunity

**US Scrap Imports** 

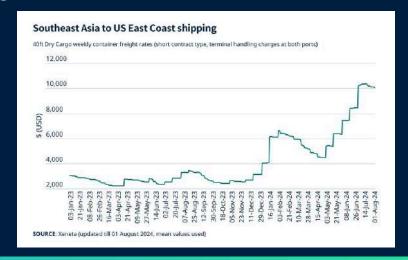
by Country







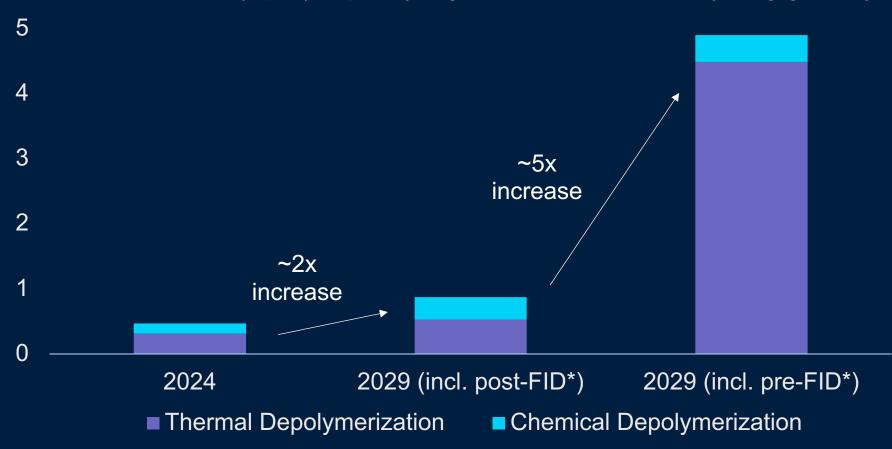
#### **Asia-US Freight Rates**



# Chemical recycling could unlock additional feedstock, capacity



Total installed (input) capacity\*\* growth in chemical recycling globally



# Chemical recycling capacity still faces challenges EX: Delays in chemical recycling capacity — 2023



2023 Capacity Landscape

Expected online capacity by 2024 was 6x from start of 2023, but largely remained the same



#### Top of mind facility updates



Film	Nova Chemicals/Novolex (Indiana)
	GDB International running Myplas (Minnesota)
	EFS (Pennsylvania)
	Dow running Circulus (Arkansas & Oklahoma)
PET	Republic Services (Indiana)
	Eastman (Tennessee & FID on Texas)
	Circularix (Florida)
	EFS (Alberta)
HD	Blue Polymers (Nevada, Indiana)
	LyondellBasell running PreZero (California)
PP	Blue Polymers (Nevada, Indiana)
	Kal-Polymers (Georgia & Ontario)
	PureCycle (Ohio)

#### North America Key 2024 Outlook Positions

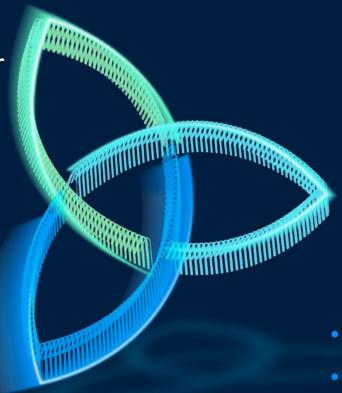


#### **Bales**

- PET to tighten through winter
- Increased export competition
- Natural HDPE in up-cycle, supply remains tight

#### **Market Disruptors**

- Import competition to persist
- Increasing capacities, new players
- Ramp up of chemically recycled resin



#### **PCR**

- R-PET seasonality diminishing
- Packaging demand to strengthen with new programs
- Durables markets showing interest

#### **Other**

- Continued economic recovery
- Fragmented legislation activity to increase (new and existing EPR, PCR)
- Global Plastics Treaty outcomes uncertain

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