

# Current Waste Efforts



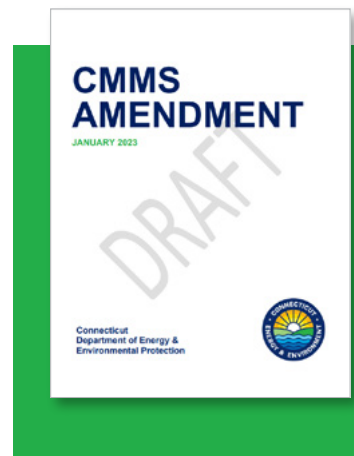
On January 24, 2023, Governor Lamont announced his **2023 Legislative Proposal: Addressing the Future of Materials and Waste Management** through a combination of diversion programs and infrastructure development. The proposal includes four key policy components: (1) Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging, (2) accelerating organics reuse and diversion efforts, (3) post-consumer recycled content standards, and (4) the restructuring and decommissioning of the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA). The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is working collaboratively with the General Assembly to exchange information from this public process to inform the legislative dialogue on **Governor's Bill 6664 An Act Managing Waste and Creating a Waste Authority**.

These four proposals are critical to achieving a sustainable approach to materials management in Connecticut and collectively are included as one of Governor Lamont's key policy priorities for the 2023 legislative session. DEEP has also announced several strategies to address the deficit in the state's waste management self-sufficiency and would like to take this opportunity to identify those opportunities.

## Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy Draft Amendment

The 2016 Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) constitutes the revised statewide Solid Waste Management Plan called for by Public Act 14-94. The CMMS is a roadmap to achieving the state's waste management, waste reduction, and diversion goals.

A **draft amendment of the CMMS** was initiated as a result of the closure of the MIRA resources recovery facility in July of 2022. In the wake of MIRA's decision to cease operations at its resource recovery facility in Hartford in July 2022, Connecticut has significantly increased its reliance on out-of-state landfills for municipal solid waste disposal, in direct conflict with the statutory waste management hierarchy. To address this DEEP issued a Draft Amendment to the CMMS (CMMS Update) to identify opportunities for additional materials management infrastructure development in the State. The CMMS Update recommends implementation of diversion and recycling programs that can reduce the 860,000 TPY self-sufficiency deficit and ultimately the exportation of 40% of the State's generated Municipal Solid Waste (MSW).



The draft amendment outlines the details of the self-sufficiency deficit and highlights several solutions, including implementing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packaging and accelerated organics diversion. Information on how to participate in a February 16, 2023 Public Hearing or provide written comments on the amendment are listed in the table below. DEEP particularly welcomes responses to any or all of the questions posed in the **Notice of Written Comments and Public Hearing**.

<b>Draft Amendment released</b>	January 24, 2023.
<b>Deadline to sign up to speak at public hearing</b> email <a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov">Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov</a>	February 13, 2023
<b>Public Hearing via Zoom</b> To attend, <a href="#">Register via Zoom</a>	February 16, 2023 at 10 AM
<b>Deadline for Submission of Written Comments</b> Email <a href="mailto:DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov">DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov</a>	March 10, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Any questions may be addressed to [DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPanning@ct.gov)

## Regional Waste Authority (RWA) Grant Opportunity

DEEP has also announced the availability of **\$1.5 million in state grant funding** through the Sustainable Materials Management Grant Program to help municipalities and Regional Waste Authorities evaluate interest and identify governance to form new or expand existing Regional Waste Authorities and engage in planning activities for diversion programs and infrastructure development. The RWA grant RFP was announced January 24th, 2023 and can be found [here](#). Applications must be submitted to [DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov) by **Friday, March 31 at 5:00 PM**.

<b>Grant Program Announced</b>	January 24, 2023.
<b>Informational webinar</b> <i>Individuals wishing to attend are required to <a href="#">Register via Zoom</a></i>	March 7, 2023 at 10:00 AM
<b>Deadline for Submission of Applications</b> <i>Applications should be emailed to <a href="mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov">DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov</a></i>	March 31, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Any questions may be addressed to [DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov)

## Connecticut Materials Management Infrastructure Request for Information

DEEP has issued a request for information to solicit information on materials management infrastructure –including disposal infrastructure, recycling infrastructure, and composting infrastructure –to meet the goals of the 2023 Draft Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy Amendment of improving diversion of municipal solid waste for recycling and regaining self-sufficiency in managing municipal solid waste disposal within Connecticut’s borders. DEEP is seeking comment and information on the best approaches to support waste infrastructure development, particularly in alignment with long-term contracts, siting, or complementary programs such as food scrap collection that are under municipal authority and control. The request for information can be found [here](#).

<b>Release of RFI</b>	February 9, 2023
<b>Deadline to sign up to speak or present at Listening Session</b> <i>To sign up to provide oral comments, email <a href="mailto:Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov">Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov</a></i>	March 10, 2023
<b>Public Listening Session</b> <i>Individuals wishing to attend are required to <a href="#">Register via Zoom</a></i>	March 14, 2023 at 10:00 am EST
<b>Deadline for Submission of Concept Papers</b> <i>Concept papers should be emailed to <a href="mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov">DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov</a></i>	April 14, 2023 at 5:00 pm EST
<b>Deadline for Submission of Written Comments</b> <i>Comments should be emailed to <a href="mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov">DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov</a></i>	April 14, 2023 at 5:00 pm EST

Any questions may be addressed to [DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov)

## Legislation

More information on the legislative process can be found at [CGA \(ct.gov\)](http://CGA.ct.gov) or contact Harrison Nantz at [Harrison.nantz@ct.gov](mailto:Harrison.nantz@ct.gov)

Connecticut  
Department of Energy &  
Environmental Protection  
[portal.ct.gov/DEEP](http://portal.ct.gov/DEEP)

