

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Canada Consults on a Regulatory Framework for Plastic Packaging

Country: Canada

Post: Ottawa

Report Category: Climate Change/Global Warming/Food Security, Agriculture in the Economy

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Report Highlights:

The federal government launched public consultations on a regulatory framework to establish mandatory requirements for recycled content and labelling for plastic products, and on a technical paper that outlines the reporting requirements for the federal plastics registry. The proposed future measures would impact food manufacturers, as well as food distributors, importers, and retailers. The comment period ends on May 18, 2023.

On April 18, 2023, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) [announced](#) two public consultations meant to move forward the federal government’s zero plastic waste [initiative](#).

The [first consultation](#) is related to the development of rules and requirements to increase recycled content in plastic products, and to improve the accuracy of recyclability and compostability labelling. ECCC submitted for comment a detailed [regulatory framework](#) for plastic packaging and certain single-use plastics, that would include three key elements:

- Recycled content requirements that mandate minimum levels of recycled post-consumer plastics in packaging.
- Recyclability labelling rules requiring accurate information on packaging to inform consumers on whether packaging or single-use plastics are recyclable, and how to dispose of them properly.
- Compostability labelling rules prohibiting the terms “biodegradable” or “degradable” on plastic packaging and single-use plastics, and limiting the use of the term “compostable” to plastics that meet certain standards and labelling requirements.

The input collected during this round of consultation will assist ECCC in drafting proposed regulations, which are targeted for publication by the end of 2023, and which will be followed by another consultation period before being finalized.

The [second consultation](#) is about the development of a proposed federal plastics registry for producers of plastic products (“producers” are defined as companies that manufacture, import, distribute, or retail plastic packaged items, including food). ECCC submitted for comment a detailed [technical paper](#) listing the conditions and requirements for reporting to the Federal Plastics Registry the amount of plastic material introduced by companies on the market.

For both consultations, interested stakeholders have until **May 18, 2023** to submit comments at the following coordinates:

- By email at: plastiques-plastics@ec.gc.ca
- By mail to:
Tracey Spack, Director
Plastics Regulatory Affairs Division
Environment and Climate Change Canada
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard, Gatineau, QC, Canada, K1A 0H3

Attachments:

No Attachments.