

September 29, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton Chairman Energy and Commerce Committee 2125 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ed Whitfield Chairman, Energy and Power Subcommittee Energy & Commerce Committee 2125 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Frank Pallone Ranking Member Energy and Commerce Committee 2322 A Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Rush Ranking Member, Energy and Power Subcommittee Energy & Commerce Committee 2322 A Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Whitfield and Ranking Members Pallone and Rush:

The Paper Recycling Coalition strongly supports adoption of Section 4114, the recycling provision, in the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015. Our coalition is comprised of nine 100% recycled paperboard and containerboard manufacturers, representing over 50,000 well paid direct jobs in 42 states. PRC member companies manufacture a wide range of 100% recycled paper products; everything from cereal boxes and mailing tubes to corrugated containers and pizza cartons.

We are deeply concerned about the continued availability of our raw material, recycled paper. Our members must meet strict FDA requirements for their recycled packaging and unfortunately, paper that is commingled with food, diapers, medical waste, and other types of trash has a high risk of contamination and is no longer suitable for use as a raw material for recycled packaging. Although there is the availability of advanced municipal solid waste sorting systems, the contamination has occurred before the materials have reached these systems.

Section 4114 has evolved with input from all of your offices and will help ensure that paper recycling continues to play an important part in the nation's economy while maintaining local solid waste decision making. Our industry contributes over \$9 billion to local, state and federal government revenues. Every ton of 100% recycled paperboard manufactured in the U.S. avoids the emissions of 3.17 tons of carbon dioxide. In addition, paper can be recycled up to eight times. These benefits are only achievable if paper is separated from garbage and available as a feedstock for recycled paper mills.

We applaud your tremendous leadership on this issue which will help fulfill the promise of recycling for America.

Sincerely,

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Terese Colling President Paper Recycling Coalition, Inc.

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Steve Voorhees CEO, WestRock Member, Board of Directors

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