

We Can't Recycle Our Way Out of Plastic Pollution



Martin Bourque
Executive Director
Ecology Center



The Ecology Center

- First curbside recycling operation in the US
- Mission-driven nonprofit
- Dual Stream, Quality Focused
- Policy advocacy
- Due Diligence



▸ The East-West Waste Connection



- International Partners helped with “ground truthing.”



Direct Line of Sight:
Berkeley Recycling Yard → Super Link
Super Link → King Fong
GAIA / WuHu Ecology Center Inspection



Direct line of sight to King Fong in China



英文名称: KINGFONG

King Fong Products

Main products: ABS, PE, PP, PET, PBT, POM, PVC, PA, PC, other scrap, broken materials, recycled materials, plates, etc.



King Fong Environmental Standards



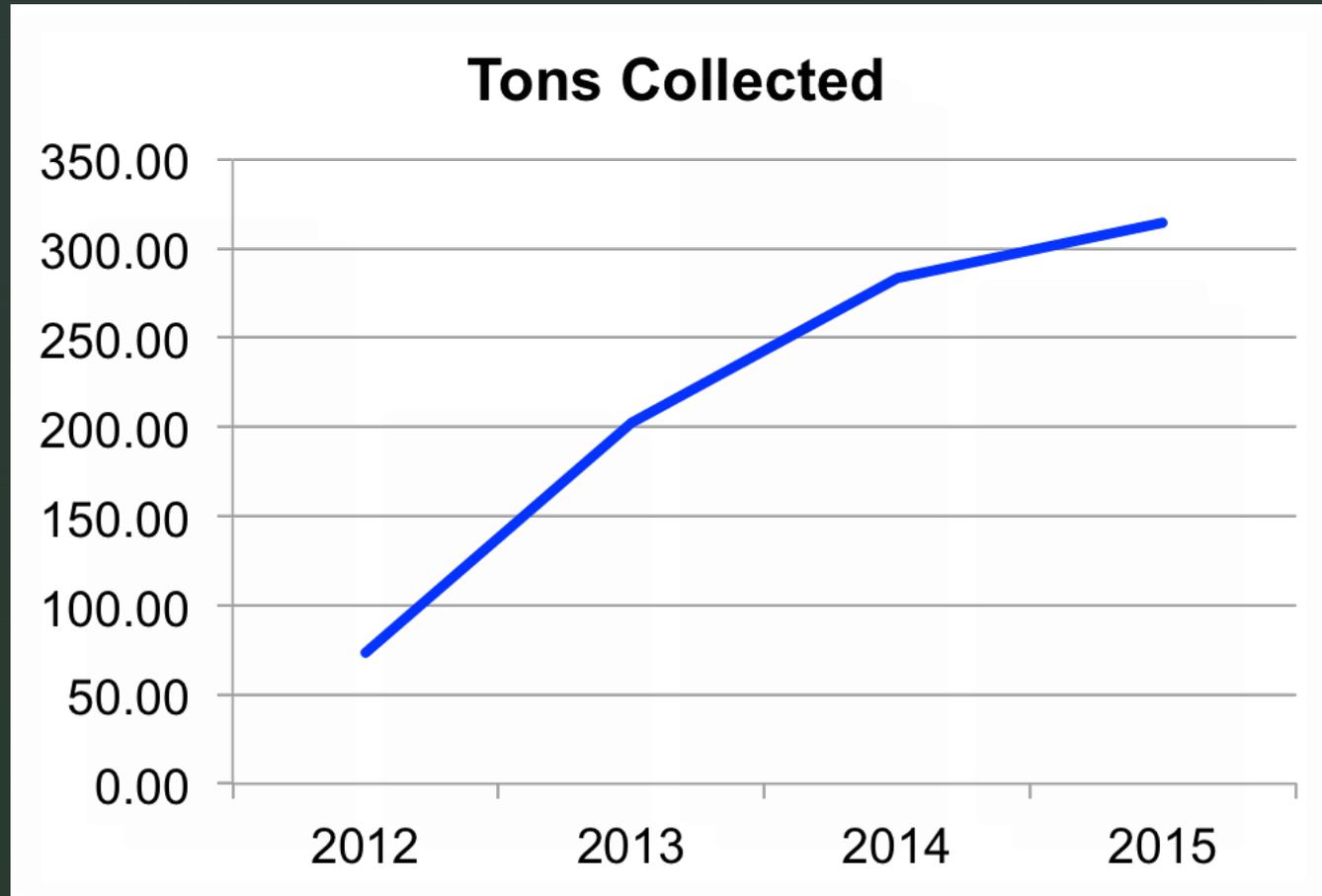
- Water Filtration & Aeration
- Air Quality Control: ventilation and carbon filtration

King Fong Labor Conditions

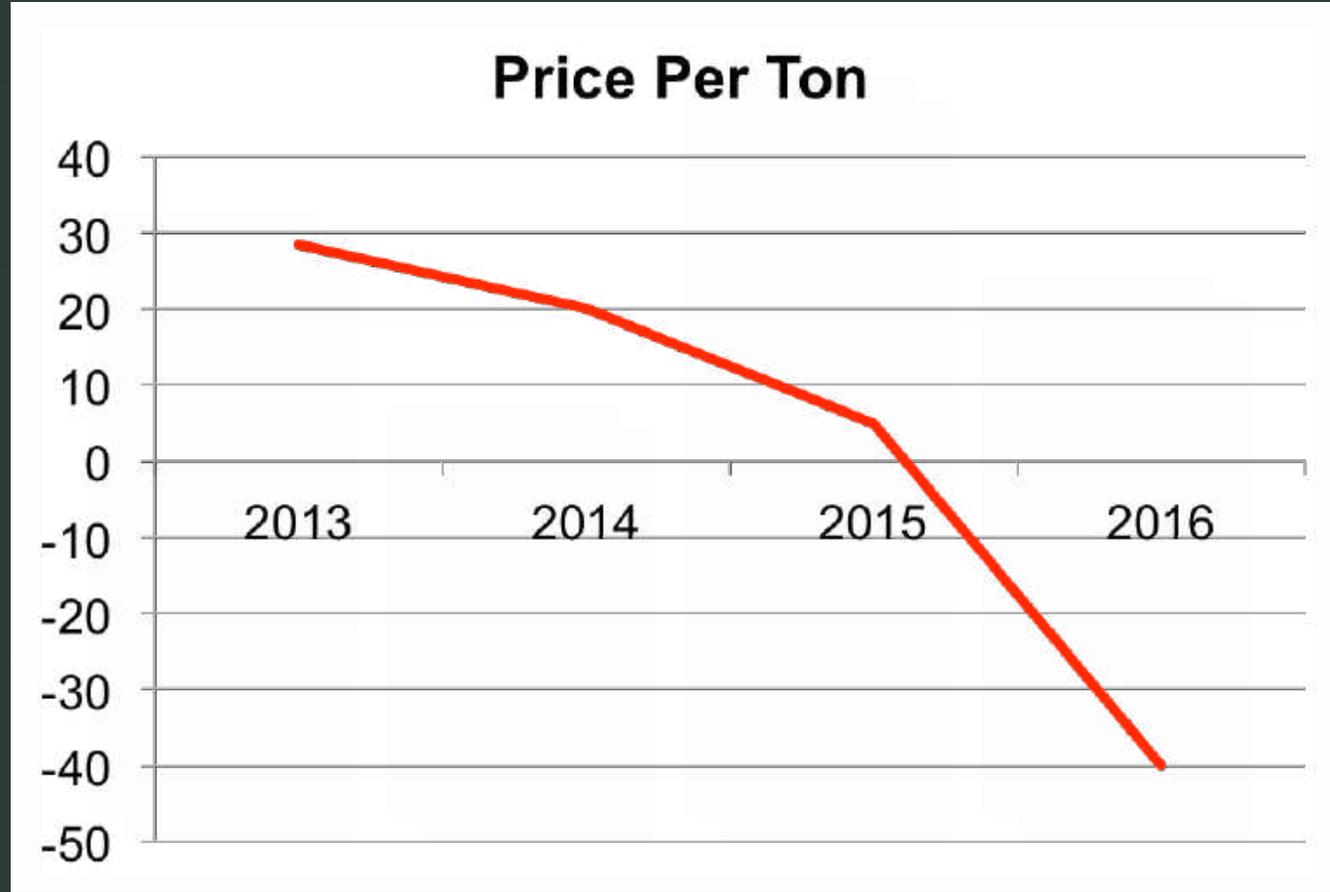


- Medical Care
- 6 Day Work Week
- Paid Sick & Holiday
- Annual Bonus Pay
- Training & Development
- Relatively Higher Wages
- Workers' Comp
- Maternity Leave
- Housing
- Child Care
- Cafeteria, Gym, Library

Local Plastic Recycling Trends

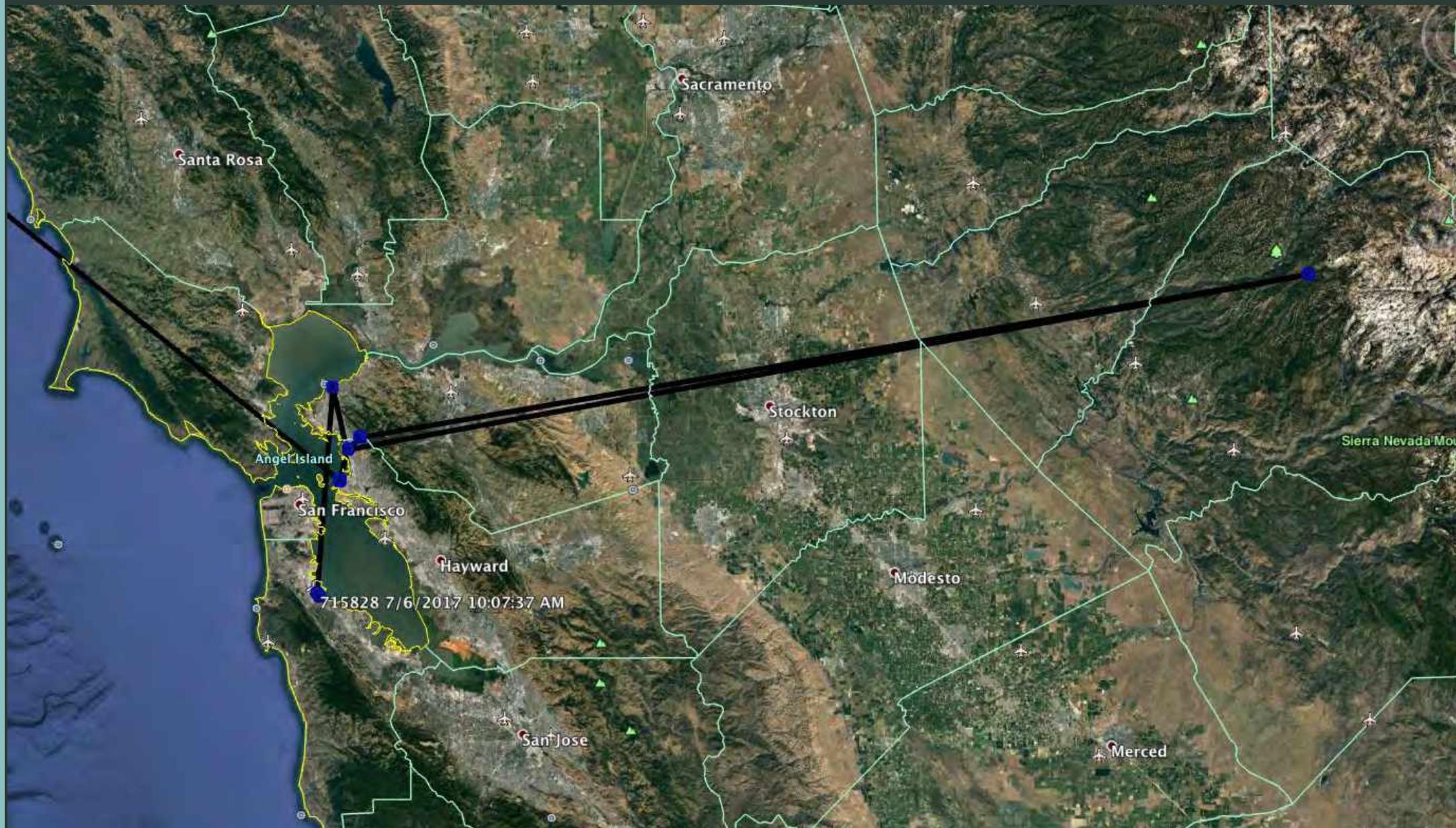


Local Plastic Recycling Trends



GPS trackers inserted in mixed, low-grade, non-bottle, plastic container bales











409687 10/11/2016 11:02:11 PM



Site Visit



Site Visit



Site Visit



Chinese Recycling: closing up shop, moving to Vietnam

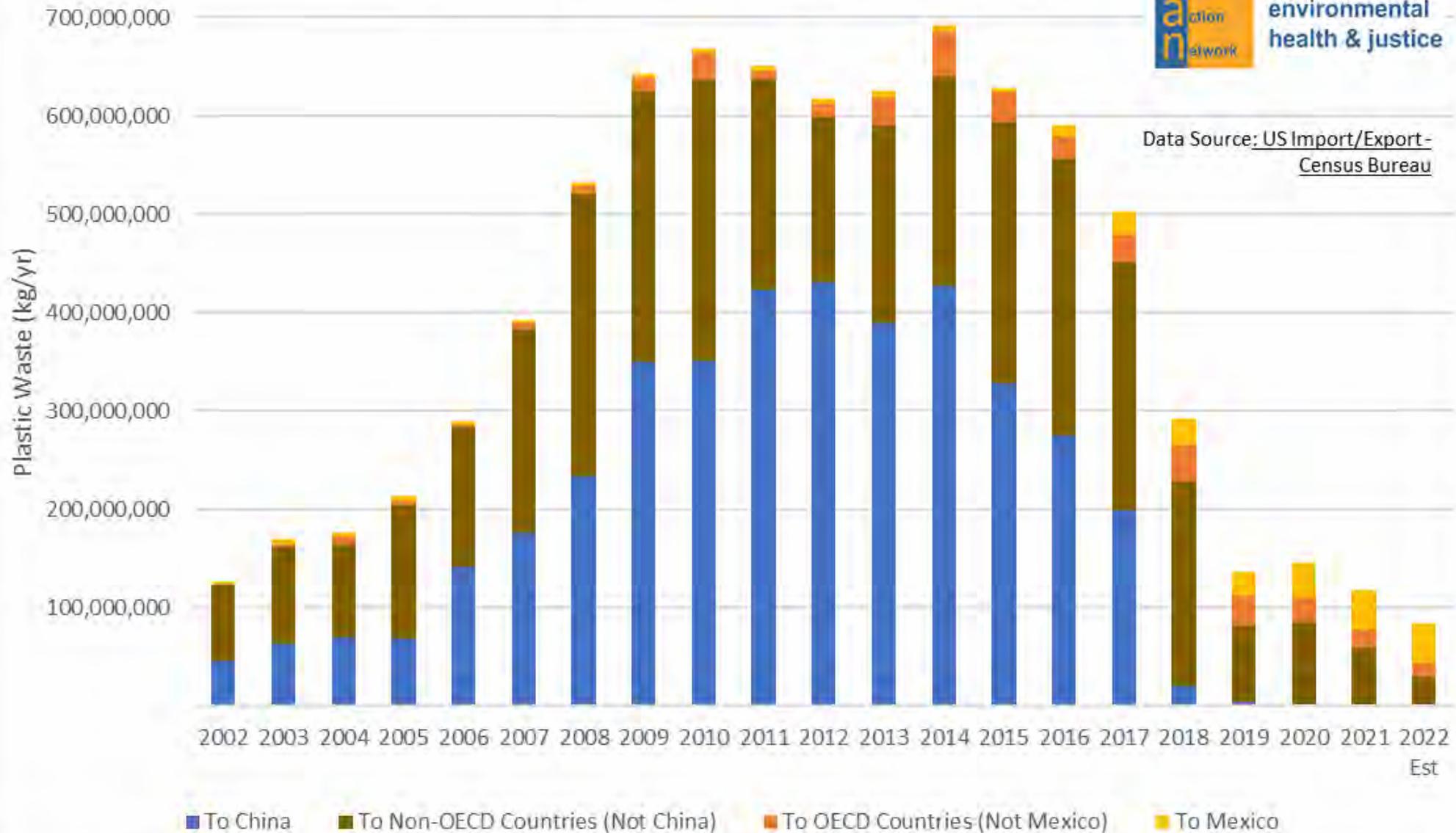


Photos by Liwen Chen

California Plastic Waste Exports (HS3915)



Champions of
environmental
health & justice



US Plastic Recycling Options

- Costs about \$1,000/ ton to sort and dispose of
- Titus PRF 50% to Landfill \$75/ton
- Burning Residuals in Cement Kilns
- Mexico Highly Questionable
- "Advanced Recycling" is Neither
- #5 No Markets in the West
- Cal recycle Commission study finds only #1 and # 2 recyclable
- SB 343 Ca Recycling Label Law
- SB 54 EPR for Plastic Packaging



▸ The Solution: Stop Accepting It

Save processing costs

Be More Transparent and
Honest

Educate Customers

Drive Packaging Changes



Thanks!



ecologycenter.org



@EcologyCenter



[/ecologycenter.org](https://www.facebook.com/ecologycenter.org)



ecology center



Martin Bourque
Martin@ecologycenter.org