



Association of California Recycling Industries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycling Industry Leaders Will Discuss China Import Crisis

Panelists will explore the suspension of recyclable material imports from North America and the resulting impacts on California and recycling markets

San Gabriel, Calif., May 16, 2018 – The Association of California Recycling Industries (ACRI) announced it will host a luncheon to discuss current Chinese import policies and their impact on the recycling industry including the current ban on all recyclable material imports into China from May 4 thru June 4 of this year. For years China has been the largest market for generated recyclables in the United States and thus China's recent actions could have a ruinous impact on California's recycling industry and infrastructure.

The luncheon panel will feature Scott Smithline, Director of CalRecycle, Greg Rudder, Editor of PPI Pulp & Paper Week, and Lai En, President of Cycle Link International. These policy and industry leaders are well positioned to share their expertise during this critical time.

China's actions come on the heels of their March 1, 2018 announcement banning the importation of twenty four types of scrap materials, such as mixed paper and post-consumer plastics, and required other recyclable materials to meet strict quality standards that are inconsistent with well-established global standards. With fewer markets for recyclables and tougher quality standards, average prices have suffered significant downward pressure, driven by a collapse in mixed paper prices.

China's unparalleled quality standards have also resulted in increased sorting costs and financial risks to recyclers across the state, this while California pushes for higher recycling rates. As new items are added to the recycling stream, many of which do have end markets, these items risk increased contamination that result in degraded quality of recovered recyclables.

These issues will be explored on **Wednesday, May 23 from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Marriott**. The Long Beach Marriott is located at 4700 Airport Plaza Drive in Long Beach.

Event tickets are available at www.acri.eventsmart.com.

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About the Association of California Recycling Industries: The Association of California Recycling Industries (ACRI), a nonprofit trade association representing the interests of independent recyclers throughout California, is committed to promoting free market principles and ethical practices, fostering awareness of recycling issues, and leading the development of recycling policy. For more information about the Association of California Recycling Industries please visit: www.acrinow.org.