

8/01/16



### **Recycled Carpet Content Product Procurement Grants (Cycle 1C) Questions/Comments and Answers**

***Comment:*** The comment period is too short. We would request that the comment period be extended beyond June 17, which is 3 days after the Cycle 1C public informational webinar.

*Answer:* CARE extended the comment period to COB on June 24, which added one extra week to the comment period.

***Question:*** What methodologies are acceptable for calculating the percentages and/or pounds of recycled content in a product that is procured?

*Answer:* Grant applicants are ultimately responsible for calculating the percentages and/or pounds of CA-generated post-consumer carpet (PCC), PCC and post-consumer recycled content (PCRC) in the materials they plan to procure. Applicants should support that methodology with sound reasoning. CARE has already researched the pounds and percentages of CA PCC, PCC and PCRC per unit for products on CARE's pre-qualified list. These numbers could be extrapolated to an entire project, for example.

***Question:*** Our experience is that most of the carpet installed in buildings is procured by private contractors as part of new construction or tenant improvement projects, either in County-owned or leased facilities. If the grants are available only to public purchasers, I'm concerned many will not be able to take advantage of these grant funds. Is there a way to structure the grant program to allow for municipalities to transfer rights to access the grant funds, for instance through a contract clause in a construction contract?

*Answer:* CARE has made the decision to allow private contractors to apply for Cycle 1C grant funds only if that project is in formal partnership with a CA public agency and sited on CA public agency property.

***Question:*** Would it be possible for a JPA to apply for a Cycle 1C grant and then allow that JPA to distribute the grant among its local governments who would go through a competitive bidding process for projects? This funding would be used as an incentive to procure products made with post-consumer carpet (PCC) and CA PCC.

*Answer:* For this Cycle 1C pilot cycle, CARE will not allow JPAs to distribute grant funding to individual government projects that have not yet been vetted. CARE will decide which government projects receive funding for this current procurement cycle.

***Question:* I don't see any carpet included on the 1C Pre-Qualified Products Information Sheet. Do any carpet lines meet the minimum thresholds set forth in the 1C solicitation?**

*Answer:* This is correct. CARE has left it to the grant applicants to research carpet lines that meet the minimum threshold set forth in the 1C solicitation. While several carpet manufacturers use post-consumer recycled material, post-consumer carpet (PCC) and California-generated PCC in their products, at the time this document was published, only Interface produces lines of (and backings for) carpet tile that meet the minimum CA-generated PCC threshold set forth in the 1C grant solicitation.

***Question:* How should applicants verify that the products they are procuring meet the minimum thresholds for CA-generated post-consumer carpet (PCC), PCC and post-consumer recycled content set forth in the solicitation?**

*Answer:* During the contract period, CARE will provide a product content verification form including information to be filled in by the producer, holding the producer accountable for the percentages and/or pounds of CA-generated PCC, PCC and PCRC that their product claims. For carpet, percentages of CA-generated carpet will be based on a mass balance equation that will be included in CARE's form.