



Media Contact:
Samantha Kappalman
skappalman@recyclingpartnership.org
(443) 223-3322

Quote Sheet

The Recycling Partnership's Polypropylene Recycling Coalition

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (Aug. 24, 2021)

"Keurig Dr Pepper has invested over \$30 million to improve recycling infrastructure since 2014, with \$10 million specifically dedicated to improving polypropylene recovery," said Monique Oxender, Chief Sustainability Officer at Keurig Dr Pepper. "We catalyzed improvements to polypropylene recovery by co-founding and becoming the largest funder of the Coalition, and KDP will continue to invest in meaningful partnerships to bring together stakeholders and amplify both dollars and action."

"Strengthening polypropylene recycling is a critical part of the NextGen Consortium's work to accelerate more circular solutions for cups and other food service packaging, alongside advancing reuse models and increased recovery of recyclable resources across material types. We know that to achieve this goal, wide-scale, cross-sector collaboration is critical," said Kate Daly, Managing Director of the Center for the Circular Economy at Closed Loop Partners. "The NextGen Consortium is proud to be part of the Polypropylene Recycling Coalition's steering committee, helping accelerate the collective effort needed to ensure polypropylene packaging, such as cups, is pulled back into supply chains and never wasted."

"At a time that we are seeing such strong demand for polypropylene, EFS-plastics is proud to support this action-oriented initiative," said Martin Vogt, President & CEO of EFS-plastics Inc. "The Polypropylene Coalition has solicited applications, reviewed proposals and distributed significant funds at a truly aggressive pace. The whole supply chain - from MRFs to plastic recyclers to brands - has benefited greatly from their urgency. Valuable polypropylene resources simply should not be lost to landfills, and The Polypropylene Coalition is doing everything in their power to stop that from happening."

"The Polypropylene Recycling Coalition's work to invest at the MRF level gives KW Plastics confidence that supply will be available to meet the capacity needs of our recently completed sixth wash line, designed specifically to address the challenges of processing curbside collected polypropylene bales," said Scott Saunders, General Manager, KW Plastics. "Our capital investment of \$20 million to accept an additional annual capacity of 120 million pounds of recycled polypropylene is in response to growing demand for these resins. As the world's largest plastics recycler and the first domestic market for recycled polypropylene bales, KW Plastics has the proven technology to convert polypropylene scrap into high-quality resin to support brand owner demand. Until now, we have lacked the critical supply needed to meet that demand and the Coalition's work is a powerful piece in filling that supply chain gap."

"We are excited about brand owners' commitment to circular packaging and wish to support them with the quality and volume of feedstock they require. Their desire to be a part of circular packaging has driven an increase in demand for recycled PP volume and PP quality," said Tony Moucachen, President of Merlin

Plastics. “This is all consistent and in-line with the community goal of making sure that packaging does not end up in our natural environment while striving towards a circular plastic economy.”

“Empowering local communities across the country to collect even more polypropylene is an important step toward curbing plastic waste,” said Tamsin Ettefagh, Chief Sustainability Officer, PureCycle Technologies. These grants will help increase collection of #5 plastics, resulting in more feedstock that PureCycle can transform into ultra-pure resin that can be reused time and time again. We recently announced a second PureCycle facility in Augusta, Georgia that can recycle up to 650 million pounds of PP, just part of our goal of recycling one billion pounds of plastic waste by 2025. The Recycling Partnership’s grant program gets us one step closer to achieving this major milestone.”

“As Closed Loop Partners accelerates the transition to a circular economy, we know that advancing the recycling of polypropylene is one of several priority areas. As the demand pull for recycled polypropylene swells, Closed Loop Partners continues to invest in critical infrastructure to capture, sort and transform the valuable material after its use,” said Jon Powell, Executive Director, Closed Loop Partners. “We are proud to be an advisor to the Polypropylene Recycling Coalition, working with key stakeholders across the value chain to create large-scale impact through its catalytic granting program.”