

By: Thompson of Brazoria

H.B. No. 3060

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of recycling and recycled products.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 361.003, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subdivisions (1), (10-a), (24-a), (25), (25-a), (26-a), (27), (34), (35), and (36) and adding Subdivisions (1-a), (6-a), and (37-a) to read as follows:

(1) "Advanced recycling facility" means a manufacturing facility that receives, stores, and converts post-use polymers and recoverable feedstocks using advanced recycling technologies and processes including pyrolysis, gasification, solvolysis, and depolymerization. For purposes of this chapter and rules adopted by the commission under this chapter, an advanced recycling facility is not a solid waste facility, final disposal facility, waste-to-energy facility, or incinerator.

(1-a) "Apparent recharge zone" means that recharge zone designated on maps prepared or compiled by, and located in the offices of, the commission.

(6-a) "Depolymerization" means a manufacturing process through which post-use polymers are broken down into:

(A) smaller molecules, including monomers and oligomers; or

(B) raw materials or intermediate or final

1 products, including plastics and chemical feedstocks, basic and  
2 unfinished chemicals, waxes, lubricants, or coatings.

3 (10-a) "Gasification" means a process through which  
4 recoverable feedstocks are heated and converted into a fuel-gas  
5 mixture in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere and the mixture is  
6 converted into ~~[a]~~ valuable raw materials or valuable~~[7]~~  
7 intermediate~~[7]~~ or final products ~~[product]~~, including plastic  
8 monomers, chemicals, waxes, lubricants, or chemical feedstocks ~~[a~~  
9 ~~plastic, monomer, chemical, wax, lubricant, or chemical feedstock~~  
10 ~~or crude oil, diesel, gasoline, diesel and gasoline blendstock,~~  
11 ~~home heating oil, ethanol, or another fuel]~~. The term does not  
12 include incineration.

13 (24-a) "Post-use polymers" means plastics that:

14 (A) are derived from any industrial, commercial,  
15 agricultural, or domestic activity, including preconsumer  
16 recovered materials and postconsumer materials;

17 (B) are sorted from solid waste and other  
18 regulated waste and may contain residual amounts of organic  
19 material and incidental contaminants or impurities such as paper  
20 labels or metal rings;

21 (C) are not mixed with solid waste or hazardous  
22 waste onsite or during processing at an advanced recycling  
23 facility;

24 (D) are used or intended for use as a feedstock or  
25 for the production of feedstocks, raw materials, or other  
26 intermediate or final products using advanced recycling; and

27 (E) are processed or held prior to processing at

1 an advanced recycling facility [~~plastic polymers that derive from~~  
2 ~~any household, industrial, community, commercial, or other sources~~  
3 ~~of operations or activities that might otherwise become waste if~~  
4 ~~not converted into a valuable raw, intermediate, or final product.~~  
5 ~~Post-use polymers include used polymers that contain incidental~~  
6 ~~contaminants or impurities such as paper labels or metal rings but~~  
7 ~~do not include used polymers mixed with solid waste, medical waste,~~  
8 ~~hazardous waste, electronic waste, tires, or construction or~~  
9 ~~demolition debris~~].

10 (25) "Processing" means the extraction of materials  
11 from or the transfer, volume reduction, conversion to energy, or  
12 other separation and preparation of solid waste for reuse or  
13 disposal. The term includes the treatment or neutralization of  
14 hazardous waste designed to change the physical, chemical, or  
15 biological character or composition of a hazardous waste so as to  
16 neutralize the waste, recover energy or material from the waste,  
17 render the waste nonhazardous or less hazardous, make it safer to  
18 transport, store, or dispose of, or render it amenable for recovery  
19 or storage, or reduce its volume. The term does not include:

20 (A) pyrolysis, [ex] gasification, solvolysis, or  
21 depolymerization; or

22 (B) activities concerning those materials  
23 exempted by the administrator of the United States Environmental  
24 Protection Agency under the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as  
25 amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, as  
26 amended (42 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.), unless the commission  
27 determines that regulation of the activity under this chapter is

1 necessary to protect human health or the environment.

2 (25-a) "Pyrolysis" means a manufacturing process  
3 through which post-use polymers are heated in an oxygen-deficient  
4 atmosphere [~~until melted and thermally decomposed and then cooled,~~  
5 ~~condensed,~~] and the pyrolysis product is converted into [a]  
6 valuable raw materials or valuable[7] intermediate[7] or final  
7 products [product], including plastic monomers, chemicals,  
8 naphtha, waxes, polymers, or plastic and chemical feedstocks [a  
9 plastic, monomer, chemical, wax, lubricant, or chemical feedstock  
10 or crude oil, diesel, gasoline, diesel and gasoline blendstock,  
11 home heating oil, ethanol, or another fuel]. The term does not  
12 include incineration.

13 (26-a) "Recoverable feedstock" means one or more of  
14 the following materials, derived from recoverable waste other than  
15 coal refuse, that has been processed so that it may be used as  
16 feedstock in an advanced recycling facility or through [a]  
17 gasification [facility]:

18 (A) post-use polymers; and

19 (B) material, including municipal solid waste  
20 [~~containing post-use polymers~~] and other post-industrial waste:

21 (i) [~~containing post-use polymers, that has~~  
22 ~~been processed into a fuel or feedstock~~] for which the commission or  
23 the United States Environmental Protection Agency has made a  
24 non-waste determination under 40 C.F.R. Section 241.3(c); or

25 (ii) that the commission or the United  
26 States Environmental Protection Agency has otherwise determined  
27 are feedstocks and not solid waste.

1           (27) "Recycling" has the meaning assigned by Section  
2 361.421 [~~means the legitimate use, reuse, or reclamation of solid~~  
3 ~~waste~~].

4           (34) This subdivision expires on delegation of the  
5 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 authority to the  
6 Railroad Commission of Texas. Subject to the limitations of 42  
7 U.S.C. Section 6903(27) and 40 C.F.R. Section 261.4(a), "solid  
8 waste" means garbage, rubbish, refuse, sludge from a waste  
9 treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution  
10 control facility, and other discarded material, including solid,  
11 liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from  
12 industrial, municipal, commercial, mining, and agricultural  
13 operations and from community and institutional activities. The  
14 term:

15                   (A) does not include:

16                           (i) solid or dissolved material in domestic  
17 sewage, or solid or dissolved material in irrigation return flows,  
18 or industrial discharges subject to regulation by permit issued  
19 under Chapter 26, Water Code;

20                           (ii) soil, dirt, rock, sand, and other  
21 natural or man-made inert solid materials used to fill land if the  
22 object of the fill is to make the land suitable for the construction  
23 of surface improvements;

24                           (iii) waste materials that result from  
25 activities associated with the exploration, development, or  
26 production of oil or gas or geothermal resources and other  
27 substance or material regulated by the Railroad Commission of Texas

1 under Section 91.101, Natural Resources Code, unless the waste,  
2 substance, or material results from activities associated with  
3 gasoline plants, natural gas or natural gas liquids processing  
4 plants, pressure maintenance plants, or repressurizing plants and  
5 is hazardous waste as defined by the administrator of the United  
6 States Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Solid  
7 Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and  
8 Recovery Act of 1976, as amended (42 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.);  
9 or

10 (iv) post-use polymers or recoverable  
11 feedstocks processed through pyrolysis, ~~or~~ gasification,  
12 solvolysis, or depolymerization that do not qualify as hazardous  
13 waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42  
14 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.); and

15 (B) does include hazardous substances, for the  
16 purposes of Sections 361.271 through 361.277 and 361.343 through  
17 361.345.

18 (35) This subdivision is effective on delegation of  
19 the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 authority to the  
20 Railroad Commission of Texas. Subject to the limitations of 42  
21 U.S.C. Section 6903(27) and 40 C.F.R. Section 261.4(a), "solid  
22 waste" means garbage, rubbish, refuse, sludge from a waste  
23 treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution  
24 control facility, and other discarded material, including solid,  
25 liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from  
26 industrial, municipal, commercial, mining, and agricultural  
27 operations and from community and institutional activities. The

1 term:

2 (A) does not include:

3 (i) solid or dissolved material in domestic  
4 sewage, or solid or dissolved material in irrigation return flows,  
5 or industrial discharges subject to regulation by permit issued  
6 under Chapter 26, Water Code;

7 (ii) soil, dirt, rock, sand, and other  
8 natural or man-made inert solid materials used to fill land if the  
9 object of the fill is to make the land suitable for the construction  
10 of surface improvements;

11 (iii) waste materials that result from  
12 activities associated with the exploration, development, or  
13 production of oil or gas or geothermal resources and other  
14 substance or material regulated by the Railroad Commission of Texas  
15 under Section 91.101, Natural Resources Code; or

16 (iv) post-use polymers or recoverable  
17 feedstocks processed through pyrolysis, ~~or~~ gasification,  
18 solvolysis, or depolymerization that do not qualify as hazardous  
19 waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42  
20 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.); and

21 (B) does include hazardous substances, for the  
22 purposes of Sections 361.271 through 361.277 and 361.343 through  
23 361.345.

24 (36) "Solid waste facility" means all contiguous land,  
25 including structures, appurtenances, and other improvements on the  
26 land, used for processing, storing, or disposing of solid  
27 waste. The term includes a publicly or privately owned solid waste

1 facility consisting of several processing, storage, or disposal  
2 operational units such as one or more landfills, surface  
3 impoundments, or a combination of units. The term does not include  
4 an advanced recycling [a pyrolysis or gasification] facility.

5 (37-a) "Solvolysis" means a manufacturing process  
6 through which post-use polymers are purified with the aid of  
7 solvents while heated at low temperatures, pressurized, or both  
8 heated at low temperatures and pressurized, to remove additives and  
9 contaminants and make useful products, including monomers,  
10 intermediates, valuable chemicals, plastic and chemical  
11 feedstocks, and raw materials. The process includes hydrolysis,  
12 aminolysis, ammonolysis, methanolysis, and glycolysis.

13 SECTION 2. Section 361.0151, Health and Safety Code, is  
14 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

15 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, the commission or a  
16 political subdivision of this state that establishes goals or  
17 requirements for recycling or the use of recycled material must  
18 base those goals or requirements on the definitions and principles  
19 established by Subchapter N. This subsection does not apply to a  
20 program described by Subchapter Y or Z.

21 SECTION 3. Section 361.041(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

23 (a) The commission may not consider post-use polymers or  
24 recoverable feedstock to be solid waste if they are converted using  
25 pyrolysis, [or] gasification, solvolysis, or depolymerization into  
26 [a] valuable raw materials or valuable[~~r~~] intermediate[~~r~~] or final  
27 products [product], including plastic monomers, chemicals, waxes,



1 lubricants, or chemical feedstocks [~~a plastic, monomer, chemical,~~  
2 ~~wax, lubricant, or chemical feedstock or crude oil, diesel,~~  
3 ~~gasoline, diesel and gasoline blendstock, home heating oil,~~  
4 ~~ethanol, or another fuel~~].

5 SECTION 4. Section 361.119(c-1), Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (c-1) A facility that reuses or converts recyclable  
8 materials through pyrolysis, [~~or~~] gasification, solvolysis, or  
9 depolymerization, and the operations conducted and materials  
10 handled at the facility, are not subject to regulation under rules  
11 adopted under this section if the owner or operator of the facility  
12 demonstrates that:

13 (1) the primary function of the facility is to convert  
14 materials into products [~~that have a resale value greater than the~~  
15 ~~cost of converting the materials~~] for subsequent beneficial use;  
16 and

17 (2) all the solid waste generated from converting the  
18 materials is disposed of in a hazardous solid waste management  
19 facility or a solid waste facility authorized under this chapter,  
20 as appropriate, with the exception of small amounts of solid waste  
21 that may be inadvertently and unintentionally disposed of in  
22 another manner.

23 SECTION 5. Section 361.421, Health and Safety Code, is  
24 amended by amending Subdivisions (5), (6), (7), and (8) and adding  
25 Subdivision (6-a) to read as follows:

26 (5) "Recyclable material" means material that can be  
27 or has been recovered or diverted from the [~~solid~~] waste stream for

1 purposes of reuse, recycling, or reclamation, a substantial portion  
2 of which is consistently used in the manufacture of products which  
3 may otherwise be produced using raw or virgin materials. The term  
4 includes any waste stream, including post-use polymers and  
5 recoverable feedstocks that are converted through pyrolysis, ~~[or]~~  
6 gasification, solvolysis, or depolymerization into valuable raw  
7 materials or valuable~~[r]~~ intermediate~~[r]~~ and final products.  
8 Recyclable material is not solid waste unless the material is  
9 deemed to be hazardous solid waste by the Administrator of the  
10 United States Environmental Protection Agency, whereupon it shall  
11 be regulated accordingly unless it is otherwise exempted in whole  
12 or in part from regulation under the federal Solid Waste Disposal  
13 Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of  
14 1976 (42 U.S.C. Section 6901 et seq.), by Environmental Protection  
15 Agency regulation. However, recyclable material may become solid  
16 waste at such time, if any, as it is abandoned or disposed of rather  
17 than recycled, whereupon it will be solid waste with respect only to  
18 the party actually abandoning or disposing of the material.

19 (6) "Recycled material" means materials, goods, or  
20 products that consist of recovered recyclable material or materials  
21 derived from recoverable feedstocks, post-use polymers,  
22 postconsumer waste, industrial waste, or hazardous waste which may  
23 be used in place of a raw or virgin material in manufacturing a new  
24 product or that are certified under a third-party certification  
25 system for mass balance attribution identified by the commission  
26 under Section 361.4215. The term includes recycled plastics  
27 ~~[post-use polymers and recoverable feedstocks used in pyrolysis or~~

1 ~~gasification~~].

2 (6-a) "Recycled plastics" means products that are  
3 produced from:

4 (A) mechanical recycling of post-use polymers;  
5 or

6 (B) nonmechanical recycling of recoverable  
7 feedstocks or post-use polymers that are certified under a  
8 third-party certification system for mass balance attribution  
9 identified by the commission under Section 361.4215.

10 (7) "Recycled product" means a product that is  
11 eligible to be considered a recycled product under ~~[which meets the~~  
12 ~~requirements for recycled material content as prescribed by]~~ the  
13 rules established by the commission under ~~[described in]~~ Section  
14 361.427. The term does not include a product sold as fuel.

15 (8) "Recycling" means a process by which materials  
16 that have served their intended use or are scrapped, discarded,  
17 used, surplus, or obsolete are collected, separated, or processed  
18 and returned to use in the form of raw materials or feedstocks used  
19 in the manufacture ~~[production]~~ of new products. The term does not  
20 include incineration of plastics or waste-to-energy processes.

21 Recycling includes:

22 (A) the composting process if the compost  
23 material is put to beneficial reuse as defined by the commission;

24 (B) the application to land, as organic  
25 fertilizer, of processed sludge or biosolids from municipal  
26 wastewater treatment plants and other organic matter resulting from  
27 poultry, dairy, livestock, or other agricultural operations; and

1 (C) the conversion of post-use polymers and  
2 recoverable feedstocks through pyrolysis, ~~[or]~~ gasification,  
3 solvolysis, or depolymerization.

4 SECTION 6. Subchapter N, Chapter 361, Health and Safety  
5 Code, is amended by adding Section 361.4215 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 361.4215. MASS BALANCE ATTRIBUTION. The commission by  
7 rule shall identify third-party certification systems for mass  
8 balance attribution that may be used for the purposes of Sections  
9 361.421(6) and (6-a).

10 SECTION 7. Sections 361.427(a) and (b), Health and Safety  
11 Code, are amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The commission, in consultation with the comptroller,  
13 shall promulgate rules to establish guidelines by which a product  
14 is eligible to be considered a recycled product based on:

15 (1) the percent of the total content of a product that  
16 consists of recycled material; or

17 (2) the portion of the total content of a product that  
18 is determined to consist of recycled material according to a  
19 third-party certification system for mass balance attribution  
20 identified by the commission under Section 361.4215. ~~[which specify~~  
21 the percent of the total content of a product which must consist of  
22 recycled material for the product to be a "recycled product."]

23 (b) The guidelines established under this section shall  
24 specify a minimum percent of the recycled material in a product  
25 which must be postconsumer waste or post-use polymers.

26 SECTION 8. Sections 361.003(10-b) and (25-b), Health and  
27 Safety Code, are repealed.

1           SECTION 9. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
2 of this Act, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall  
3 adopt rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this  
4 Act.

5           SECTION 10. This Act takes effect immediately if it  
6 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
7 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.  
8 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate  
9 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.