Glass Recycling
Northeast Recycling Council

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Who We Are
We are the largest glass recycler in North America, with nearly 50 plants.

With over 100 years of experience, we are a recycling market leader for glass and plastics.

The markets we serve with our recycled glass helps to reduce manufacturing costs and improve sustainability.

We recycle nearly 3 million tons of glass a year into a variety of applications.
Glass in New England
Market dynamics
Why Glass?

We recycle nearly **3 million tons of glass** a year into a variety of raw materials for manufacturing applications.

**Recycled glass demand** is more than current supply in the container glass and fiberglass insulation industries in the majority of areas in the U.S.
Before Ardagh, Milford, MA closed:

- 100% of ME & CT deposit glass was going to Ardagh
- We were supplying ~ 75% of our glass supply to the glass manufacturing and ~25% into other markets, allowing to also collect MRF/curbside glass in some areas.
- Ardagh Milford was the highest user of cullet in the U.S.
- The glass recycling model worked well for the region due to geographic reach/low freight costs.
  - **Outbound freight was approximately $3/ton making recycled glass or cullet competitive**
Glass in NE After Ardagh Closing

After Ardagh, Milford, MA closed:

- Need to backfill glass in Ardagh’s absence
  - Other container **glass manufacturing** facilities to include **more cullet** in operations – NE & Beyond. On average, most operations are **only using 40% and could use up to 100% cullet**.
  - **Challenge**: Freight in Mid-Atlantic jumps from **$3/ton to $55/ton**
  - Fiberglass insulation is nearly maximized
Throughput is also a benefit, but throughput and energy savings aren’t realized when running furnaces harder to meet demand.
What is Next?
Expectations & Support

We want to keep glass recycling in the Northeast.

We need:
- Other glass container manufacturing locations to include more cullet in their batch – increase usage
- Price will change due to freight constraints – We are forced to export glass from the NE area.
- Find & grow alternate markets for recycled glass – with high value e.g. Road base aggregate is not enough
  - Other markets include specialty; aggregates; foam glass; concrete additive; abrasives
Thank You