US and Canada to add major processing capacity

by Colin Staub

The new NERC report includes 15 new and 10 expanding facilities processing recycled plastics in North America. | About Chinese Plastic Waste

The North American plastics recycling sector is poised to add over 1 billion pounds of annual capacity, according to a group charting processing growth.

The Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) this month published a report charting recycled plastic processing capacity increases in North America, including both new facilities and plant expansions. Citing company announcements, media reports and more, the NERC resource lists facility locations, capacity expansion figures where available, materials processed and more.

The analysis shows expansions and new facilities that were announced or completed in 2017 and later. It includes 15 new and 10 expanding facilities.

Overall, for the projects that have released estimated capacity figures, the resource lists 1.1 billion pounds of additional scrap plastic processing capacity coming on-line through the planned and completed projects. This capacity spans numerous polymers, both post-consumer and post-industrial, with LDPE having the most planned capacity, according to NERC.

The bulk of growth is taking place in the western part of North America. NERC noted, with six projects in California, one in Nevada and one in British Columbia. The South also has an influx of planned projects, with four in South Carolina and one each in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and North Carolina.

Plastics Recycling Update has written about the following projects that appear on the list:

- **Avangard Innovations**
- **Carboline**
- **GHG Manufacturing**
- **LLS-plastics**
- **DS Manufacturing**
- **Green Tech Solutions**
- **Indorama Ventures Polyolefins**
- **Martin Plastics and Peninsular Plastics**
- **Polywood**
- **PreZero Polymers**
- **PureCycle Technologies**
- **Roplast Industries**
- **Roy Tech Environ**
- **Sirmax**
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More stories about processors

- **Berry elaborates on its chemically recycled plastic**: Berry Global's use of chemically recycled LDPE in demonstration pouches is only the beginning of the company's embrace of post-consumer plastic recycled via pyrolysis.
- **Brand owner adopts recyclable PE pouch for granola**: A Kellogg's brand has begun using a pouch with an additive that compatibilizes its EVOH barrier layer and PE film during recycling.
- **The plan to strengthen plastics recovery in Texas**: A coalition of industry stakeholders will invest in recycling improvements in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, anticipating the projects will capture an additional 3 million pounds of PET per year.
- **UK waste giant opens large PET recycling facility**: A plant capable of recycling nearly 126 million pounds of post-consumer PET bottles per year is coming on-line today from Biffa in the United Kingdom.
- **Meet the Speakers: Kara Pochiro, VP of Communications and Public Affairs, The Association of Plastic Recyclers**: As we get within a few weeks of the 2020 Plastics Recycling Conference and Trade Show, we're pleased to introduce you to another expert set to take the conference stage.
- **Nestlé wants to build markets by creating demand**: Nestlé says it will buy a huge quantity of food-grade recycled resin over the next five years. A company leader explained why the brand owner is committing to use recycled plastic despite its higher cost.
- **China turns its focus to domestic plastics waste**: After shaking up the U.S. recycling sector with an import ban on post-consumer plastics, the Chinese government is taking aim at its own plastic waste generation.