



2024 Schedule of Contributions - Company Consultations Program



Background

The fee development process has followed a well-established sequence since the Regulation on the compensation plan. Indeed, ÉEQ is required to submit a draft Schedule of Contributions by December 31 of each year, applying all preliminary steps ahead of final approval by the Board of Directors.



The draft Schedule of Contributions is submitted to targeted companies and organizations as part of a consultation process. The process covers various mechanisms and pertains to application rules as well as to the methodology for developing the contribution table. For each Schedule of Contributions, ÉEQ's Board of Directors adopts a consultation process that is transparent and reaches as many stakeholders as possible in order to provide them with information and receive their input. ÉEQ must then submit the contribution table, along with a detailed report on the outcome of the consultations, to RECYC-QUÉBEC.

The 2024 Schedule during the transition towards modernization of curbside recycling

The 2024 Schedule of Contributions was developed as part of the transition towards Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and based on directions presented to ÉEQ's Board of Directors. Although the current compensation plan will end in 2025, improvements are suggested in order to ensure the evolution of eco-modulation measures and update of certain inputs.

ÉEQ and RecycleMédias (RM) are required to submit a single Schedule for both organizations. Therefore, ÉEQ continues to work with the various actors from RM regarding this process.

The application rules were updated to take into account the draft regulation amending the regulation respecting the compensation plan, published on August 30th, 2023. However, it is important to note that these changes have a limited impact on producers' obligations in practical terms; rather, they are intended to provide details and/or are to be considered more linguistic in nature. The rules have also been adjusted to reflect some of the changes introduced in the new policies, developed in connection with the producer membership contract, in order to allow for a smoother transition to EPR. A change to the eligibility criteria for an exemption of payment or a flat rate is also proposed, to increase company accountability regarding materials they market.

The contribution table was developed pursuant to exchanges with municipal organizations regarding cost estimations and the end of the 2023 Schedule reporting period, in order to reflect quantities reported by targeted companies and monitor trends. Although we had not anticipated important fluctuations regarding reported quantities when we presented directions to the Board in June, lower quantities regarding containers and packaging were detected after the reporting period. Habits formed during the pandemic seem to be waning, and a return to “normalcy” is anticipated in certain sectors.

Communications with targeted companies and organizations

Through the consultation process for the Schedule of Contributions, ÉEQ aims to reach, inform and consult with as many of the targeted companies and organizations via a series of channels and mechanisms. These communications are meant to enhance preparedness overall, so that companies can anticipate upcoming changes and share with us any impacts the changes will have on their operations.

Personalized approaches

With industrial sector associations and the association committee as part of its new, broadened mandate.

Electronic newsletter

Serves as a channel to announce consultation meetings, provide information on consultation mechanisms and encourage targeted entities to take part in the process.

Website

To facilitate access to information for targeted entities so they may submit questions and information requests regarding Schedules of Contributions and the consultation process, and to fill out the consultation's questionnaire.

Summary

This document is sent to companies who are registered for the consultations and is posted on the website. It provides:

- Basis for the estimates of net costs
- Rates per material and explanations regarding rate variations
- Changes to application rules

Questionnaire

Main tool targeted entities use to convey their point of view regarding new directions being taken with regard to the Schedule of Contributions and to comment on rate application rules and on the methodology for developing the related contribution table.

It is published online as of the first consultation meeting, sent to participants, and published via newsletter.

Comments

Companies and organizations can send us their questions and comments after the consultation meetings by e-mail or letter.

Consultation meetings

Meetings with targeted entities constitute a major step in the company consultation process. These meetings will be held as webinars. Two meetings will be available for all representatives of targeted companies and organizations once ÉEQ's Board of Directors adopts the draft of the 2024 Schedule of Contributions.

The object of these meetings is to:

- Inform companies on the situation and the evolution of curbside recycling in Québec.
- Submit, for consultation purposes, a draft Schedule of Contributions that includes fees per material as well as main adjustments made to the application rules.
- Explain the process steps leading up to the development of the contribution table to company and organization representatives in clear and everyday language to ensure their best understanding of the issues.

It should be noted that application rules for the 2024 Schedule of Contributions are posted on ÉEQ's website in both official languages a few days ahead of the meetings to give participants time to read them beforehand.

Finally, files pertaining to the development of the contribution table will be published in French and in English after the consultation meetings.

Consultation meetings on the 2024 Schedule of Contributions will be held on October 31, 2023

French	English
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.