

**Public Comment Received for Agenda Item 6**  
**CRV Update: Standing Item**  
**June 10, 2021**

**Comment 1**

**From:** Jim Martin <[jjmartin4140@gmail.com](mailto:jjmartin4140@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:30 PM

**To:** Tyler Egerer <[tegerer@hwma.net](mailto:tegerer@hwma.net)>

**Subject:** Board Item #6

HWMA Board of Directors,

I, along with many other taxpayers, are paying CRV taxes on all redemption items that we buy at the local stores locally. Myself and many others are inundated with these items, hopefully returning them to a recycling center and getting some return of the taxes we pay. The closest place to turn these in is Crescent City, which is really sad that we would have to travel that far.

When you reopened in October, I was the second vehicle in line and I felt that the system you had setup worked really well. When I left I saw the traffic backed up, but I felt that with a little effort with some coordination with the City of Eureka and Caltrans that this could have been dealt with. Look how everyone worked together on the opening of KFC. I worked for Caltrans for 40 years and we handled situations like that on construction jobs.

I understand that the original legislation setting up the CRV buy back program did not have any wording on setting up appointments for people to turn in their CRV items. The new revisions for AB 1311 has that prerogative where the facility for CRV buy back can setup appointments for consumers to bring in their CRV items. Are you going to wait until that legislation passes before attempting this or what?

Once you help the people of this area get rid of their backlog of CRV items, things will return to normal.

Thank you for letting me vent!

Jim Martin "Frustrated Resident of the Eureka Area" 442-5362



P.O. Box 129, 445 Elk Valley Road  
Crescent City, CA 95531

(707)464-6131

Fax (707)464-9375

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Hambro Conceptual Proposal  
For CRV Recycling in Humboldt

Hambro is considering establishing CRV recycling in Humboldt County. We are proposing a three phased approach to provided services in northern and southern Humboldt, to include possibly utilizing reverse vending machines at negotiated retailers' sites.

**Phase 1** Utilize a potential industrial site in Arcata. This site:

- Has a willing property owner
- Conversations with City officials have been initiated
- Could handle high volumes of traffic with minimal impact to streets or neighboring businesses
- We propose to utilize 1 to 3 scales operating concurrently as needed to reduce traffic and material bottlenecks
- The building would house up to 2 balers, 2 glass crushers, cashier and administration for crushing and baling operations
- The current plan is to receive and weigh material in the parking area, this could change during the wet season
- We are researching software to communicate between the scale and cashier to expedite the operating procedure
- 6 to 8 employees minimum would be needed to staff this site
- Assuming land use and zoning consistency and approval as a certified recycling center, we believe we could establish CRV buyback within 90 to 120 days
- We expect to be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Initial longer hours may be warranted and permitted by Cal Recycle.

**Phase 2** Will require:

- Identification of potential sites.
- Jurisdiction(s) to submit a Jurisdiction Pilot Project application to CalRecycle.
- If the jurisdiction's application is approved\*, Recycler will submit a refined Pilot Project application to CalRecycle.
- Recycling purchasing services would be conducted at this site
- A kiosk and covered area similar to what we're using in Crescent City
- Material would be transported to Arcata (assuming Phase 1 is implemented) site for baling, crushing and temporary storage
- Two trucks would be needed to provide transportation north
- A model for our proposal reflects the Bigfoot Recycling in Shasta County at their Red Bluff recycling center
- 3 to 5 employees will staff the facility

- Assuming pilot project funding, land use and zoning consistency and approval as a certified recycling center, we believe we could establish CRV buyback within 120 to 180 days from the Pilot Project approval.

\*if the Pilot Project funding is not awarded, we still plan to eventually open a CRV redemption location, it will take a longer to develop the necessary training and funding for expansion.

**Phase 3** Will require significant cooperation between local vendors, agencies, and the recycling center. Reverse Vending Machine will require:

- Pilot Project grant funding
- Acquisition of reverse vending machines as funding allows.
- Forming relationships with local merchants who would sponsor or potentially purchase RVMs.
- We would operate, maintain and service RVM facilities
- More research and cooperation will be needed to put this together.
- Assuming pilot project funding, RVM approval as a certified recycling center, we believe we could establish CRV buyback within 120 to 180 days from the Pilot Project approval.

We have the experience, human, physical and financial resources to provide a competitive advantage to our success. We have identified that the primary barrier to a profitable operation is the ability to secure significant material volume. In order to proceed with our planning and funding efforts we need to ask the HWMA Board of Directors and other Humboldt recycling centers what their intent is regarding future CRV operations. Hambro management does not want to compete with other agencies in this market. While it is not Hambros intention to interfere with free market competition, we will not enter this venture if previous recycling operators plan to re-enter this sector.