National Policy Town Hall:
Recycling Market Development and Infrastructure
Recycling market development largely overlooked in recent decades.

Strategic planning, innovation, education and outreach and developing local & regional markets for recyclables not central.

The U.S. became too reliant on China and other countries for end markets for material.
Chinese markets created a disadvantage to U.S. processors & manufacturers (end markets).

Single-Stream recycling

Low petroleum/natural gas prices & declining manufacturing contributed to lower demand by domestic markets.
Today’s panel:

• Bret Bigger - Economist, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
• Ruth Abbe - Principal, Abbe & Associates, Co-Chair, CRRA Global Recycling Council
• Lisa Skumatz, Ph.D. – Principal, Skumatz Economic Research Associates
• Susan Kinsella – Executive Director, Conservatree
• Neil Seldman, Ph.D. - Institute for Local Self-Reliance
• Elisa Seltzer - Senior Consultant, Resource Recycling Systems

Moderator:

• Manuel Medrano – Environmental Services Manager – City of Chula Vista, California Association of Recycling Market Development Administrators
Topics:

• What’s Contamination and How to Recycle Right

• Latest Processing Improvements (e.g. more labor, slower belts, more equipment, robotics)

• Using Materials Domestically & Bringing Recycling Jobs Home

• Container deposit systems to provide cleaner materials

• Dual vs. Single Stream Collection and Processing

• Recycling Incentives (e.g. Save as you Throw)
What’s Contamination and How to Recycle Right?
Latest Processing Improvements
(e.g. more labor, slower belts, more equipment, robotics)
Using Materials Domestically & Bringing Recycling Jobs Home
Container deposit systems to provide cleaner materials
Dual vs. Single Stream Collection & Processing
Recycling Incentives (e.g. Save as you Throw)