



Reference: 418522

March 4, 2026

Cliff McNeil-Smith, Chair
and Directors
Capital Regional District
PO Box 1000
Victoria BC V8W 2S6

Sent via email: crdchair@crd.bc.ca

Dear Chair McNeil-Smith and Directors:

I am writing to follow up on my letter of December 19, 2025, in response to your letter of December 2, regarding mattresses and foundations in the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Five-Year Action Plan.

The current global economic climate has made it difficult to get by, and we are listening to concerns from British Columbians about affordability challenges. This has helped inform our decision not to regulate mattresses at this time. We remain committed to the principle that producers should take responsibility for the products they sell. Current delays are temporary and reflect the broader economic climate and not a change in direction or intent.

While economic conditions have required adjustments, advancing B.C.'s circular economy remains a priority. Recent amendments to the Recycling Regulation introduce more moderate-risk product categories, which as you note, include automotive products, canisters, medical sharps, electronic and electrical products, battery-containing products and large consumer batteries. These changes represent an important step in strengthening B.C.'s leadership in EPR. Programs for these categories will launch in phases beginning in 2027.

The October 27, 2025 amendments are available in the online version of the [Recycling Regulation](#).

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We greatly value the input of local governments such as yours. Your participation in our engagement process contributed meaningfully to the successful adoption of the recent amendments. Going forward, local governments and other affected parties will be consulted once we have direction on next steps for adding additional priority products under the Recycling Regulation.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tamara Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tamara Davidson
Minister of Environment and Parks

cc: Carolyn Jenkinson, Manager, Executive Operations, Capital Regional District