



The Association of
Plastic Recyclers



ECONOMIC OVERVIEW – ASSUMPTIONS

ASSUMPTIONS = WIDE MOUTH #2 HDPE & #5 PP BAKERY AND DELI CONTAINERS

BALING

- Generation rate per store per year = 4,000 pounds
- Rigid plastics stacked at individual stores in “watermelon bins”, backhauled to DC
- Rigid plastics baled in “small” horizontal baler. Bale weight = 1,000 pound
- Labor cost = \$20 per hour
- Time needed to make a bale = 30 minutes
- Baling wire cost = \$2 per bale. Power cost = \$1 per bale
- Baled rigid plastics sold FOB – no cost to transport to market
- Revenue – o #2 HDPE & #5 PP baled together = 5¢ per pound
 - o #2 HDPE only = 12¢ per pound
 - o #5 PP only = 12¢ per pound
- Compacter/dumpster haul cost = \$100 per haul
- Avoided waste hauls = 4/year (Bulky rigid plastics recycling eliminates one haul/quarter/store)
- Waste disposal cost = \$50 per ton
- No cost to segregate rigid plastics by resin type – same size containers are same resin so are easily segregated via stacking
- Rigid plastics cleaning – only scraped

STACKING

- Assumes availability of local markets to purchase stacked rigid plastics
- Generation rate per store per year = 4,000 pounds
- Rigid plastics stacked at individual stores in “watermelon bins”, backhauled to DC
- Revenue – o #2 & #5 stacked together = 0¢ per pound
 - o #2 HDPE only = 2¢ per pound
 - o #5 PP only = 2¢ per pound
- Compacter/dumpster haul cost = \$100 per haul
- Avoided waste hauls = 4/year (Bulky rigid plastics recycling eliminates one haul/quarter/store)
- Waste Disposal cost = \$50 per ton
- No cost to segregate rigid plastics by resin type – same size containers are same resin so are easily segregated via stacking
- Rigid plastics cleaning – only scraped

SINGLE STREAM

- All activity happens at individual stores
- Rigid plastics, as well as containers, office paper, etc., are mixed together in a dumpster
- Dumpster of “single stream” material is hauled to a single stream recycling facility.
- Single stream hauling and tipping costs are the same as handling the material as trash.