

Gabrielle Batzko-Conley

Included are corrections and suggestions relevant to the North Central Region of the EPR for the Packaging Preliminary Needs Assessment.

Counties with Recent SWMP (p.14) - Stearns, Sherburne, and Benton Counties worked together on the last SWMP. All three counties submitted different reports, but collaborated on language, initiatives, and goals. All three reports were submitted in 2021.

Transfer Stations (p.44) – Is West Central Station supposed to be West Central Sanitation? If so, West Central Sanitation no longer has a transfer facility in Sauk Centre, MN.

Vonco II should be added to the list of SSO facilities for the North Central Region.

Data Gaps: MPCA Score Reporting (p.13&14) - It should be noted that the methods for obtaining information that are included in the SCORE Reporting process vary from county to county. While data may seem "complete" due to the number of counties that submit, some counties have barriers in place to ensure accurate information, while others rely on assumptions. This may create the illusion of complete data, but may not actually fully represent waste management systems and processes within an area.

Data Gaps: Cost and Organics Methods (p.14) - Later in the report (roughly p. 57), statewide cost assumptions are derived from metro-area cost data. The Data Gaps section should, therefore, not only note that the report's assumptions primarily rely on metro-area information but also clearly describe the steps taken and the additional assumptions made by the contractor to justify extending these data to a statewide context and to support confidence in their findings.