Sample. Illustrative data for a fictional brand.

PRELIMINARY EPR READINESS BRIEF

This is a sample packaging EPR gap report, the kind you get free. Every name and number below is illustrative.

Scope of this brief

> **No packaging documents, registrations, exemptions or prior filings were reviewed. Obligations, completeness and fees remain to be confirmed.**

What we know, what we estimate, what is next

Each row starts from something the brand told us. Estimates are labeled as scenario assumptions where they are not measured.

WHAT YOU TOLD US	WHAT WE ESTIMATE	WHAT REMAINS UNKNOWN	WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
We sell packaged food into Oregon, Colorado and California.	These three programs are likely to apply. Exemptions are possible and have not been checked.	Whether the brand is a producer in each state, whether any exemption applies, and who the registered producer is.	Confirm registrations, earlier submissions and each program's next deadline and data year with CAA.
About 420 SKUs, with packaging specs held in spreadsheets and supplier PDFs.	Scenario assumption: about three packaging components per SKU, so roughly 1,260 component records to map. This is not a measurement.	The actual component count, components shared across SKUs, and which SKUs are discontinued.	Map SKUs to components from your item master and packaging use list.
About 60 packaging suppliers.	Scenario assumption: each supplier covers one or more components. Reply quality will vary by supplier.	Which suppliers hold current spec sheets, and which components are multi-material.	Request component specs from each supplier by email, and follow up on anything missing.

WHAT YOU TOLD US	WHAT WE ESTIMATE	WHAT REMAINS UNKNOWN	WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
We have last year's units sold by state.	Units supplied into each state, not national totals, set the weight reported for that state.	Whether the units match the data year a program asks for, and whether any units reach a state through a distributor.	Confirm the data year, then join units by state to component weights.
We registered in California last year, we think.	Nothing can be estimated here. No registration record was reviewed.	Registration status and any earlier submission in each state.	Confirm with CAA before any reporting work starts.

State by state: next date and required action

Dates match the state table on zeehub.ai/epr/, reviewed on November 8, 2026. Confirm registrations, earlier submissions and each program's next deadline and data year with CAA.

STATE	NEXT DEADLINE OR DATE, AS PUBLISHED	REQUIRED ACTION
Oregon	2027 fees are invoiced in two halves, January and July (CAA 2027 Oregon fee schedule).	Confirm your registration and earlier submissions. Confirm the data year for the next report.
Colorado	Fees are live. Next invoice January 2027.	Confirm your registration and earlier submissions. Confirm the data year for the next report.
California	2027 fees are invoiced in two halves, January and July (CAA 2027 California fee schedule). The 2026 registration and supply report deadline was May 31.	Confirm your registration, earlier submissions and the next deadline and data year with CAA.
Washington	Early fees for 2027 were published October 1, 2026. The invoice date has not been announced.	Confirm your PRO membership and the next invoice date with CAA.
Maryland	Simplified reports yearly. Cost reimbursement starts July 1, 2028; fees may start earlier.	Confirm your registration and that the yearly report is on your calendar.

STATE	NEXT DEADLINE OR DATE, AS PUBLISHED	REQUIRED ACTION
Minnesota	Simplified reports yearly. Fees start February 2029.	Confirm your PRO membership and that the yearly report is on your calendar.
Maine	No reporting deadline yet. The stewardship organization is not yet contracted.	Confirm the program's next deadline with CAA and the state agency when timing is set.

Component level in, material category out

ZeeHub collects data at component level. Each tray, film, cap and case is its own record with a material, a weight, a supplier and a source document. State reports are aggregated by material category under each state's rules, so the component records stay available if a category assignment is corrected.

Open-gap register: first items to confirm

These are open questions, not findings. Nothing has been requested or reviewed yet. In a real brief the register is built from the brand's own supplier list.

SUPPLIER	COMPONENT	OPEN QUESTION TO CONFIRM	OWNER	NEXT STEP
Northfield Films	Lid film	Multi-material composition or reporting category is unclear	Supplier	Request the film structure and layer materials.
Cascade Board Co.	Tray	Multi-material composition or reporting category is unclear	Supplier	Request the board spec, including any coating or lining.
Prairie Corrugated	Shipper case	Component weights lack a documented basis	Supplier	Request the weight and how it was measured.
Summit Print	Sleeve	Component weights lack a documented basis	Supplier	Request the weight and how it was measured.

SUPPLIER	COMPONENT	OPEN QUESTION TO CONFIRM	OWNER	NEXT STEP
Delta Closures	Cap	Component weights lack a documented basis	Supplier	Request the weight per unit and the unit of measure.
Ridgeway Labels	Label	Multi-material composition or reporting category is unclear	Supplier	Request the label construction and adhesive details.

One fee example: why the category matters

A fictional 38 g paperboard tray, with 100,000 units supplied into Oregon. This counts units supplied into that one state, not national sales.

REPORTING CATEGORY (OREGON 2027 SCHEDULE)	RATE PER POUND	WEIGHT SUPPLIED INTO OREGON	FEE ON THIS COMPONENT
Paper/Fiber: Paperboard	$0.05	about 8,378 lb	$418.88
Paper/Fiber: Polycoated Paperboard	$0.34	about 8,378 lb	$2,848.37

The same tray, the same weight, about seven times the fee, depending on the category. The lower rate applies only when the packaging qualifies; the risk runs both ways: guess wrong and you overpay, or under-report. Fees shown are for this one component only, from the final fee per pound in the **CAA Oregon 2027 producer fee schedule** (Paper/Fiber: Paperboard and Polycoated Paperboard). Confirm current rates with CAA.

Who provides what

WHO	WHAT THEY PROVIDE
Suppliers	Specs for each component: material, weight, coatings, recycled content, and the document that shows each.

WHO	WHAT THEY PROVIDE
The brand	The SKU list, packaging use for each SKU, units supplied by state, registrations and prior submissions.
ZeeHub	Requests the specs, reads what comes back, checks it, joins it to your SKUs and units, and keeps the gap register.

What 30 days can look like

If the brand shares its SKU list, packaging use, units by state and supplier contacts, and suppliers reply, then within 30 days the brand has two things: a reviewed dataset for the components covered, and an open-gap register with an owner and a next step for each component still open. Components still waiting on a supplier stay on the register.