Companies are using advanced recycling and recovery technologies, also known as chemical recycling, to complement ongoing recycling efforts. Growing interest and investments in advanced recycling can reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills and generate a diverse range of raw materials, feedstocks for manufacturing, chemicals and fuels.

Advanced recycling and recovery technologies should be recognized as complementary to traditional recycling and an important part of a community’s integrated solid waste management.

Laws and regulations should identify advanced recycling and recovery companies as producers of an alternative energy source. Rather than a form of disposal, this process should qualify as utilizing raw materials for a manufacturing process under existing state and local regulations.

States should ensure their permitting frameworks and regulations for advanced recycling and recovery technologies reflect 21st century innovations.

The U.S. could support up to 600 advanced recycling facilities, generating nearly 39,000 jobs.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL
FOR ADVANCED RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES IN THE U.S.

The U.S. could support up to 600 advanced recycling facilities, generating nearly 39,000 jobs.

38,500 Jobs

$2.2 Billion
in annual payrolls generated

$9.9 Billion
in U.S. economic output from plastics conversion operations, including:
- $4.1 billion related to increased products generated by the facilities
- $5.8 billion in additional supplier and payroll-induced impacts

supported by new conversion facilities, including:
- 9,400 directly employed
- 15,100 employed in supply chain industries
- 14,000 payroll-induced jobs

STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ENSURE THEIR LAWS ARE UPDATED TO SUPPORT THE POTENTIAL OF ADVANCED RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES:

Advanced recycling and recovery technologies should be recognized as complementary to traditional recycling and an important part of a community’s integrated solid waste management.

Laws and regulations should identify advanced recycling and recovery companies as producers of an alternative energy source. Rather than a form of disposal, this process should qualify as utilizing raw materials for a manufacturing process under existing state and local regulations.

States should ensure their permitting frameworks and regulations for advanced recycling and recovery technologies reflect 21st century innovations.

Source: Economic Impact of Advanced Plastics Recycling and Recovery Facilities in the U.S., February 2019