



February 13, 2023

**Minnesota House of Representatives  
Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee**

Chair: Rep. Rick Hansen (53B)

Vice Chair: Rep. Sydney Jordan (60A)

Re: Support for HF1315/SF1321 expanding the State's Compostable Bag labeling law (325E.046) to also cover food or beverage products and packaging received at composting facilities

Dear Representatives Hansen and Jordan,

The Minnesota Composting Council (MNCC) is working with both the Minnesota Senate and the House to introduce language that will expand the State's Plastic Bag Labeling law (325E.046) to include all food and beverage products and packaging, including straws and utensils received at composting facilities. We are requesting that you support moving the bill forward when it is introduced in the House. Expanding the language for what "compostable" products are allowed here in Minnesota, will reduce confusion amongst residents, retailers, restaurants, and composting facilities who regularly encounter products that are claiming they are "biodegradable" and/or "degradable but do not completely breakdown in composting facilities. Products labeled "compostable" will have undergone testing and verification by a third party confirming that the products meet ASTM D6400 or ASTM D6868 as applicable to the item. Products will be clearly labeled, making the local organics collections cleaner and making it easier for processing facilities (composting facilities) to identify and sort out non-compostable products to reduce contamination issues that they currently face; thereby ensuring that they can manufacture a high-quality finished product.

Northern Technologies International Corp (NASDAQ: NTIC) has its corporate headquarters located in Circle Pines, MN with 86 employees on staff, 57 of them here in Circle Pines. NTIC has a business unit, Natur-Tec, dedicated to developing and manufacturing our proprietary blends of biobased and compostable plastics. All our products meet the legislative requirements listed above and support the circular economy efforts. Our resins are used to manufacture finished products such as third party certified (BPI certified) compostable liners, biobased and compostable cutlery, and other single-use food service products sold under the Natur-Tec® and Natur-Bag® brands. Many of these products are

currently sold to, and used by end-users here in Minnesota who are diverting their organics to composting facilities. As a Minnesota-based company, and a member of the MNCC, we ask for your support in the expansion of the 325E.046 to include food and beverage products and packaging received at composting facilities. It will support the current and ongoing efforts NTIC and the Natur-Tec business unit have taken to develop innovative technologies and products that meet the proposed legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration for the expansion of 325E.046. Any questions or concerns you may have related to the language being proposed, or our business and products, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,



Vineet Dalal  
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