

AFPA wants stimulus money spent to support recycling

March 19 -- The American Forest & Paper Association wants to see some stimulus package money spent to support recycling.

The Washington, D.C.-based trade group is calling on U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu to spend some of the \$3.2 billion his department received for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants on paper recycling initiatives.

"In the wake of our economic downturn, overall paper demand has declined and taken the value of recovered fiber down with it," AF&PA President and CEO Donna Harman said in a letter to Chu. "Every effort must be made to preserve the consumer behaviors and recycling infrastructure that have made our current [recycling] success possible."

Stimulus money can support efforts to use more energy efficient recycling equipment, upgrade recycling infrastructure and help private sector efforts to work with communities on recycling goals, AF&PA said.

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