DLA Piper Canada – Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)- Canada

- DLA Piper Canada advises producers, importers, retailers and manufacturers on the full spectrum of extended producer responsibility (EPR) obligations across Canada's evolving and complex regulatory landscape, including provincial product stewardship regimes governing packaging, electronics, batteries and hazardous materials. Leveraging our nationally integrated Environmental, Regulatory, Corporate and Litigation capabilities, we deliver end-to-end EPR solutions—supporting clients from initial regulatory interpretation and compliance strategy through to implementation, operational integration and risk management.
- Our team provides comprehensive support across all aspects of EPR, including regulatory analysis, compliance program design, producer responsibility organization (PRO) structures, commercial contracting and cross-border supply chain alignment. We work closely with clients to embed EPR requirements into their operational and commercial frameworks, ensuring alignment across procurement, manufacturing and distribution activities while mitigating regulatory, financial and reputational risk.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)- Canada *cont.*

- With a strong foundation in sustainability and energy transition matters, and seamless integration with DLA Piper's global environmental and product stewardship teams, we deliver coordinated, cross-border solutions that enable multinational clients to align Canadian obligations with EPR regimes in the EU, UK and United States.
- In a rapidly shifting regulatory environment where EPR obligations are increasing in scope and complexity, DLA Piper provides clients with the clarity, practical guidance and global coordination needed to stay ahead—turning compliance into a strategic advantage and positioning organizations for long-term, sustainable success.

Core Canadian Capabilities

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- Regulatory interpretation & compliance
  - Advising on provincial EPR regimes and stewardship programs
  - Supporting compliance with product stewardship and waste diversion obligations
- Commercial & operational integration
  - Structuring contractual frameworks to allocate EPR responsibilities across supply chains
  - Embedding EPR obligations into procurement, manufacturing and distribution activities
- Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) advisory
  - Advising on participation models, governance and service agreements
- Cross-border coordination
  - Aligning Canadian EPR obligations with EU, UK and US regimes for multinational clients
- Risk mitigation & disputes
  - Managing regulatory enforcement exposure and commercial disputes
  - Challenging administrative penalties and other administrative decisions including approvals and amendments of EPR plans

These capabilities are supported by DLA Piper Canada's broader strength in environmental, regulatory and sustainability-related advisory work, including advising clients operating within complex regulatory frameworks and environmentally focused sectors.

Canada EPR-Related Experience

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- Advised a major retailer on the implementation of multi-provincial packaging EPR obligations, including regulatory analysis, internal compliance frameworks and alignment of supplier contracts across Canada.
- Supported a multinational electronics company in aligning Canadian electronics recycling obligations with EU and US product stewardship requirements, including coordination of reporting and compliance systems.
- Advised on participation in multiple provincial stewardship programs, including review and negotiation of PRO agreements and cost allocation mechanisms.
- Assisted a manufacturer in assessing regulatory exposure and compliance strategy for hazardous materials stewardship obligations, including risk mitigation and internal policy design.
- Structured contractual arrangements to allocate EPR obligations between importers, distributors and downstream sellers, reducing regulatory and financial risk.

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