

Sustainability Claims to Compliance: How EU PPWR Is Changing Foodservice Packaging Procurement and Grizzlies' Response



Shenzhen, Guangdong Oct 14, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - PPWR Compliance at a Glance • Broad sustainability claims alone are not sufficient for EU packaging procurement. Buyers need SKU-specific specifications, technical evidence and documentation linked to the actual packaging structure. • From 12 August 2026, PPWR Article 5(5) sets PFAS concentration limits for food-contact packaging: 25 ppb for any targeted PFAS, 250 ppb for the sum of targeted PFAS, and 50 ppm for PFAS including polymeric PFAS. Article 5(4) also limits the combined concentration of lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium to 100 mg/kg. • Compliance must continue into series production. Relevant design or material changes may require conformity reassessment. • For single-use packaging, manufacturers must retain the applicable technical documentation and EU declaration of conformity for five years after the packaging is placed on the market. The EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2025/40, PPWR) is shifting foodservice packaging procurement from broad environmental claims to product-level evidence, technical documentation and controlled series

production. For bagasse food packaging buyers, the key question is not simply whether a product is called “plant-based,” “PFAS-free” or “compostable,” but which exact SKU, material structure and evidence support that claim. For Grizzlies, this fits a factory-direct sourcing model. Product design, sample approval, compliance evidence, production control and batch traceability need to stay connected through bulk production. Buyers can review the company’s bagasse tableware range (<https://www.grizzliesind.com/collections/bagasse-tableware>) while building a market-specific approval file. Why Sustainability Claims Are No Longer Enough PPWR makes the evidence behind a claim more important. Two bagasse clamshells may look similar while using different fiber formulations, barrier coatings, laminations, inks, lids or adhesives. Evidence for one structure should not automatically be applied to another. Procurement teams should therefore verify the covered SKU and structure, manufacturing site, tested specification version, change-control process and records linking the approved sample to mass production. For high-volume programs, a compliant sample has limited value if later production cannot reproduce the same construction consistently. What PPWR Means for Bagasse Food Packaging Bagasse is a molded-fiber substrate, but the finished package determines the relevant performance and compliance profile. Standard molded bagasse, barrier-coated bagasse and laminated bagasse should not be treated as interchangeable structures. A laminated structure using PLA, PET, CPET or an EVOH-containing layer may offer different sealing, grease, moisture or temperature performance, but its end-of-life positioning must be assessed on the finished construction. PPWR also does not make BPI or OK compost certification a universal requirement for every EU foodservice item. If a compostability claim is used, buyers should verify the certification scope for the exact finished SKU. For PFAS, buyers should work from the Regulation’s concentration limits and product-specific analytical evidence rather than a generic “PFAS-free” slogan. How Grizzlies Supports EU-Focused Procurement Grizzlies combines compliance support with source-manufacturer scale: 15+ years of OEM/ODM manufacturing experience, 11 production bases, 280+ automated machines and capacity of up to 200 × 40HQ per month. For EU-focused bagasse packaging programs, Grizzlies can connect product development with controlled specifications, sample approval, in-process inspection, batch traceability and documented change control. Buyers can develop standard molded bagasse plates, bowls, trays and bagasse clamshells (<https://www.grizzliesind.com/collections/bagasse-sugarcane-clamshell/products/biodegradable-compostable-sugarcane-bagasse-clamshell>), plus selected barrier-coated or laminated structures for more demanding applications. The technical team can review dimensions, food application, barrier needs, lid compatibility, printing or embossing, destination market and required documentation before bulk production. For private-label and multi-SKU programs, direct factory communication also helps move projects from sample testing to tooling, quality control and container loading. Build a PPWR-Ready Procurement File Around the SKU A useful approval file should connect four things: product identity -> technical structure -> supporting evidence -> production control.

- Define the exact SKU, drawing, dimensions, intended food, temperature, contact time and use limitations.
- Map the complete structure, including molded fiber, coating or lamination, lid, ink, adhesive and other relevant components.
- Match each applicable requirement to the correct report, certificate or technical document.
- Record approved samples and specification revisions, and define which changes require reassessment.
- Verify that factory, product and document identities match the planned production order.

For single-use packaging, PPWR requires manufacturers to retain technical documentation and the EU declaration of conformity for five years after the packaging is placed on the market. Document control is therefore part of supplier management, not a one-time pre-shipment exercise. Common PPWR Sourcing Pitfalls Pitfall 1: Relying on a generic “PFAS-free” claim. A supplier statement or logo should not replace product-level evidence. Verify the actual finished structure against the applicable PPWR PFAS thresholds and analytical evidence. Pitfall 2: Assuming every bagasse product is home compostable. Bagasse fiber does not automatically make every finished package home compostable. Coatings, laminations, inks, adhesives and lids can change the finished structure, so the certification scope should match the actual SKU. Pitfall 3: Approving a sample without controlling later production changes. A compliant sample does not prove that every future run remains identical.

Changes to coatings, laminations, fiber formulation, lids or inks may require review or reassessment; PPWR requires procedures to keep series production in conformity. From Compliance File to Factory-Direct Quote PPWR is pushing foodservice packaging procurement toward a simple principle: environmental positioning must be supported by the right product evidence and by a manufacturer capable of keeping mass production aligned with the approved specification. For EU bagasse packaging projects, Grizzlies combines manufacturing scale with product development, sample approval, production control and compliance-document coordination. Buyers can send the target product, application, order volume, destination market and required documentation to the Grizzlies team (<https://www.grizzliesind.com/pages/contact-us>) to request samples and a factory-direct quotation before scaling the order.

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