



R2V3 Certification Status and Its Impact on Due Diligence – You've Had Your Audit... Now What?

Picture the following scenario: Your organization has completed its R2v3 Transition audit and closed any nonconformities (NCRs) that may have been issued, but a certificate hasn't been received yet. You're understandably anxious to receive that incredibly important piece of paper! Here's what PJR wants you to know:

1. The sense of urgency to receive the final certification approval is, in some cases, compounded by requests from upstream suppliers to satisfy their respective due diligence or certification criteria. In at least some of these cases, PJR suspects there may be some degree of confusion—specifically for those pursuing their Transition to R2V3. Luckily, SERI's COP Advisory 22 (version 1.4) outlines the requirements clearly! To quote directly from the Advisory:
 - “Where the R2v3 Standard provides requirements for recognizing the use of another R2 Facility as a DSV, the downstream vendor shall:
 - Actively hold an R2v3 certificate, or
 - Be R2:2013 Certified and have completed an R2v3 Transition Audit, and
 - Have a Scope of certification that covers necessary equipment, components, and materials as well as all applicable R2 Process Requirements.
 - DSVs that are R2:2013 Certified but have not completed the R2v3 Transition Audit shall be qualified by the R2 Facility through the non-R2 downstream requirements in accordance with R2v3 Appendix A (8).”

The above excerpt specifically indicates that in order for a Recycler to be considered R2v3-certified (for the purposes of expedient downstream due diligence) they must *either* have an active R2v3 certificate *or* have completed their Transition audit *with* a scope of R2 Process Requirements (i.e. Appendices) in alignment with the upstream's FM processing expectations. This is significant! Having completed the Transition audit, even while awaiting final certificate issuance, should satisfy the need to demonstrate a certification status or similar evidence.

2. PJR is excited to issue your organization's certificate as soon as possible as well! As a Certification Body subject to many specific Accreditation requirements, we are expected to apply a good deal of scrutiny to each and every audit and revisit package. SERI's expectations are high as the standard-holder, and the standard is incredibly rigorous; this is what gives R2v3 such a high degree of reputability in the recycling industry at large. PJR strives to process audit packages in as timely a manner as is feasible, giving consideration to a number of variables—including, but not limited to, closure of any NCRs through an R2v3 revisit, auditor resources, and prioritization of urgent packages for processing with upcoming expiry dates and/or active suspensions.

While PJR understands that delays can be frustrating and the potential short-term impacts unfortunate, we will continue to do our best to support our clients and appreciate the patience and confidence our clients have shown to PJR throughout this R2v3 Transition period.

