

# Connecticut's Consumer Electronics Legislation

## Producer Responsibility in Practice

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

February 26, 2008



# E-waste in the SWMP

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- Producer responsibility
- Increase recycling
- Decrease toxicity of the waste stream

# E-waste Law

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- Approved recyclers collect covered electronic devices from municipalities
- Approved recyclers sort the devices by manufacturer
- Approved recyclers bill the manufacturers a set price per pound based on the weight of devices that come in with their brand name on it plus a portion of the “orphan share”.

# Drafting Regulations

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- Formed an advisory committee of stakeholders
  - Manufacturers
  - Recyclers
  - Municipalities
  - Maine DEP
  - NGOs

# Regulations need to address:

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- Process for approving recyclers
- Table of allowable costs
- Standards for recyclers
- Developing a list of covered electronic recyclers
- Any other changes
  - Municipal requirement to provide convenient and accessible

# Process for approving recyclers

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- Submit application including:
  - Proposed fees for recycling and diverting specific brands
  - Demonstration of technical capability and capacity
  - Plan for separating brands
  - Compliance history

# Table of allowable costs

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- Transportation from collection point to recycling facility
- Recycling fees including dismantling
- Rental of storage containers
- Costs for conducting a one day collection

# Standards for approved recyclers

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- Follow EPA “Guidelines for Materials Management”
  - Responsible export
  - Environmental Health and Safety Plans
  - Priority to reuse and refurbishment
- Data security
- Adequate insurance, closure plan
- Reuse, refurbishment and recycle



# List of covered electronic devices

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- Proposing to add printers
  - Specifically mentioned in statute
  - Highest volume of ewaste after existing devices
  - Small number of additional manufacturers
- Develop criteria for adding devices
  - Toxicity
  - Volume
  - Cost
- We need to develop a fair way of allocating administrative fees and orphan share responsibility for additional products

# Municipal Plans

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- Municipalities required to provide “convenient and accessible collection”
- Develop municipal guidance
- Have municipalities submit a plan indicating how they plan to meet their requirement
- Allow for a regional approach similar to HHW or recycling
- Encourage each town to identify a publicly owned site such as a transfer station

# Timetable

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- Adopt regs by October 1, 2008
- Review and approve recyclers by December 1, 2008
- Provide a list of approved recyclers to municipalities by Jan 1, 2009
- Municipalities provide convenient and accessible collection by Jan 1, 2009

# Challenges

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- Ensure that all manufacturers are properly registered and fees paid
- Addressing the manufacturers concerns about limiting the number of covered electronics recyclers
- Tight timetable for implementation
- Reviewing and approving municipal plans

# More challenges

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- Separate funding for computers (return share) and televisions (market share)
- Agreements between recyclers and manufacturers to create economies of scale
- Increase in the number of manufacturers requesting their branded items be diverted to their own approved facilities
- Complicated nature of the definition of a manufacturer – brand owner or actual manufacturer?

## Contact information:

Web – [www.ct.gov/dep](http://www.ct.gov/dep) go to  
Materials Management page and  
search for e-waste

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