Electronics Recycling Update

Tom Metzner Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection February 24, 2009



What We'll Cover

- Regulation status and implementation schedule
- Municipal collection issues
- Permitting
- Regional collaboration
- Market share data
- Approving recyclers
- Establishing a goal
- Data security
- Next steps



Implementation Schedule

- Through April 2009 Receive and review municipal plans
- March 6, 2009 Release draft regulations to stakeholder group and hold a conference call
- June 2009 Go to public comment on regulations
- December 2009 Adopt regulations
- March 2010
 - Develop list of approved recyclers
 - Program implementation



Municipal Collection Issues

- Storage of ewaste
 - Container rental is a proposed reimbursable cost for recyclers, municipalities should not have to pay for a container
- Non CEDs
 - Business manage in accordance with permit
 - Other devices even given current market conditions they are likely to be offered at no cost
- "Free Recycling"
 - Beware of companies offering free or nearly free electronics recycling, the materials may be going overseas or illegally dumped
- Curbside collection for large televisions?



Permitting

- Transfer Station General Permit includes electronics, storage limit will increase to 10,000kg
- Recycling General Permit will not be renewed for municipalities. Move to transfer station general permit or individual. Limit to stay at 5000kg
- Individual permit
 - Includes electronics limit increased to 10,000kg
 - Does not include electronics permit to be modified by DEP letter with no fee.

Permitting (cont.)

- No permitted site Use other municipal site using universal waste management standards, consider transfer station general permit.
- Permit application pending with department When approved will include electronics.
 Meanwhile, existing permit will be modified to allow for electronics with no additional fee.



Regional Collaboration

- Submitting plans
- Regional collection programs
 - Shared collection points
 - One-day collections
 - Retail
- Vendor selection and contracting
 - Establishing stricter requirements than state
 - Greater bargaining power
 - Reduced paperwork for the town

Market Share Data

- Purpose
 - Administrative fee determination
 - Television recycling fees
 - Computer orphan share responsibility
- Status
 - Market share data purchased in January
 - Currently working with vendor to change the format of the data

Approving Recyclers

- Criteria outlined in regulation
 - Demonstrated ability to meet the requirements of the law
 - Price Must be competitive with other applications and in line with current prices.
 - Any other information obtained by the commissioner
- How many will apply? How many will be approved? 18 applicants in Oregon, 3 selected



Establishing a Collection Goal

- 4 pounds per capita per year
- Includes all electronics not just those mentioned in the law
- Based on data and goals from other states including Maine and Minnesota
- Differences in demographics?
- How will the goal be used?
 - Evidence of underperforming programs
 - Report on progress to legislature



Data Security

- Starts with homeowner
 - Free software available to erase hard drive prior to recycling (DBAN, KillDisk)
- Municipality
 - Needs to provide secure drop site as a condition of permit
- Approved recycler
 - Requires data security measures such as erasure or physical destruction

DEP's Next Steps

- Adopt regulations
- Develop a budget
- Renew manufacturer registrations
- Develop forms for
 - CER approval
 - reporting
- Public education
- Assign market share

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