

National Waste Policy



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment,
Water, Population and Communities

NATIONAL TELEVISION AND COMPUTER RECYCLING SCHEME



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useful links

National Waste Policy
environment.gov.au/wastepolicy

National Television and
Computer Recycling Scheme
environment.gov.au/ewaste

upcoming events

10 October 2011 - submissions on
the exposure draft of the Product
Stewardship (Televisions and
Computers) Regulations due

10-11 October 2011 - NACRO
Conference, Fremantle WA
nacro.org.au

10-11 November 2011 –
Australasian Waste & Recycling
Expo, Darling Harbour NSW
awre.com.au

Welcome to the new look e-bulletin

Welcome to the 8th issue of the e-bulletin and the first with the new branding. The e-bulletin has been a key communication tool in providing information on the development of the *Product Stewardship Act 2011* and the Scheme.

With the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations planned to commence in November 2011, the e-bulletin will continue to be a primary source of information during the implementation phase of the Scheme.

Public consultation underway

On 12 September 2011 an exposure draft of the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011 was released for a four week public consultation period. More information on the Regulations is on page 2.

Public meetings have now been held in all capital cities. A copy of the public consultation presentation is available on the Department's website at: environment.gov.au/ewaste. A copy of the exposure draft and commentary documentation is also available on the website.

Written submissions on matters relating to the Regulation and the Scheme are invited by 10 October 2011. Submissions should be sent to wastepolicy@environment.gov.au.

Feedback from the submissions will inform the final Regulations, which are expected to be made by November 2011.

Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011

In November 2009, all Australian governments, through the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC), agreed to a *National Waste Policy: Less waste, more resources*. A key commitment under the policy was establishing national product stewardship legislation, with televisions and computers to be the first products covered by co-regulatory arrangements under the legislation.

The commencement of the Product Stewardship Act 2011 on 8 August 2011 paves the way for the establishment of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme. The Scheme will involve a combination of government regulation and industry action to take responsibility for the recycling of waste televisions, computers and computer products. The aim of the Scheme is to increase the recycling rate of televisions and computers to 80 per cent by 2021 (up from approximately 17 per cent in 2010).

The Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations provide the legal basis for the Scheme. The draft Regulations:

- Identify the specific television and computer products to be covered by the Scheme (via tariff codes used to identify these products) (Schedule 1).
- Identify that importers and manufacturers of these products will be liable parties for the purposes of the Product Stewardship Act and any thresholds for exemption.
- Specify the outcomes and requirements to be complied with by Industry, including recycling target starting at 30 per cent and ramping up to 80 per cent by 2021, a material recovery target of 75 per cent and providing reasonable access to collection services in metropolitan, regional and remote areas.

Written submissions are due by Monday 10 October 2011 and will inform the final Regulations. The Regulations are expected to be made by November 2011.

Reasonable access to collection services

Regulation 3.03 sets out the metrics which product stewardship arrangements will be required to meet in order to satisfy the requirement for reasonable access to collection services in metropolitan, regional and remote areas:

- **Metro areas:** at least one service for every 250,000 people in each metro area (min. 55 services per arrangement)
- **Inner Regional areas:** at least one service within 100km of every town of 10,000 people or more (min. 24 services; 94 per cent of population with access within 100km)
- **Outer Regional areas:** at least one service within 150km of every town of 4,000 people or more (min. 21 services; 94 per cent of population with access within 150km)
- **Remote areas:** at least one service within 200km of every town of 2,000 people or more and at a frequency of at least once every two years (min. 24 services every 2 years; 77 per cent of population with access within 200km)

Arrangement administrators have flexibility in the type of collection service they can provide. In addition to fixed collection sites, access to a service can include, for example, take-back events and mail-back programs. Recycling targets that increase each year will also encourage provision of services in many areas.

Comment through written submissions is invited on the metrics presented in the draft Regulations.



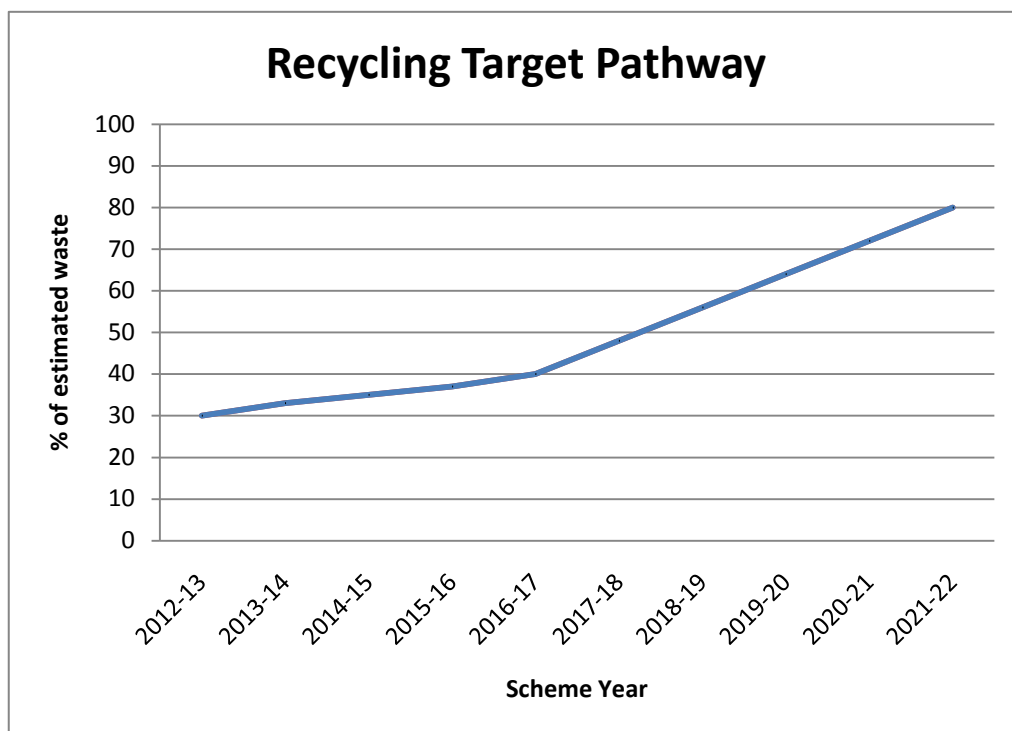
Scheme targets

Recycling means the initial processing of a product, including disassembly or shredding, for the purpose of recovering useable materials.

Regulation 3.04 sets out how recycling targets are to be calculated for product stewardship arrangements. The recycling target is the overall target for the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme. A share of the scheme target will be allocated to each approved product stewardship arrangement based on import/manufacture share of that arrangements member liable party's.

The scheme target will be set as a percentage of the waste estimated to be generated in the year. Waste arising is estimated on the basis of recent number of imports converted to weight.

Recycling targets start at 30 per cent in 2012-2013 and increase to 80 per cent in 2021-2022.



Regulation 3.05 sets out how recycling targets may be met and includes details of what would occur where a product stewardship arrangement does not meet the recycling target, or over-achieves the amount to be recycled.

A material recovery target is included in the draft Regulations to provide a basis for consultation. The inclusion of a material recovery target in the final Regulations will be subject to the completion of a regulation impact statement. Regulation 3.06 sets out that from 2014-2015 a minimum of 75 per cent material recovery target from the units recycled must be achieved. The commencement date of the material recovery target will allow time for the development of consistent measurement and reporting methods to be developed.

Comment through written submissions is invited on targets.



Registering interest in establishing an arrangement

The Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011 will provide for a national collection and recycling scheme for end-of-life televisions, computers and computer peripherals.

Under the Regulations, liable parties will be companies that import or manufacture products covered under the regulations above a certain number of units during the previous financial year. Under section 18 of the Product Stewardship Act liable parties meet their obligations by becoming a member of an approved product stewardship arrangement. A product stewardship arrangement is a set of activities or measures designed to achieve the outcomes in the regulations. For a product stewardship arrangement to operate, it must have at least one member who is a liable party.

The entity responsible for administering the product stewardship arrangement on behalf of liable parties is known as an arrangement administrator. The arrangement administrator must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the outcomes specified in the regulations are met, including achieving their liable party members' share of the Scheme recycling target and providing Australia-wide coverage.

The administrator must apply to the Minister or his delegate for approval of a product stewardship arrangement.

With the new industry-led national scheme expected to commence in late 2011, anyone with an interest in seeking approval to establish a product stewardship arrangement should contact the Product Stewardship E-Waste Team at ewaste@environment.gov.au. During the development and implementation of the Regulations, there is opportunity for interested parties to engage with the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities in understanding the outcomes to be achieved in the regulations.

Contact details for organisations that have registered interest

Two organisations have publicly announced they are interested in establishing a product stewardship arrangement. Anyone wishing to contact potential product stewardship arrangements for information about how on ground operations may work should contact:

DHL Supply Chain

Mark Phillips
Account Manager - Special Projects
Mark.Phillips2@dhl.com
Phone: 02 8759 7148
Mobile: 0419 474 348

AIIA – PSO Project Office

Carmel Dollisson
General Manager
C.Dollisson@aiaa.com.au
Phone: 03 9412 5115
Mobile: 0418 360 057

The Department will make available contact details of other organisations that have registered interest in establishing a product stewardship arrangements as they become available.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at:

ewaste@environment.gov.au