



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR 15 2005

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Mr. Larry Chalfan
Executive Director
Zero Waste Alliance
One World Trade Center
121 SW Salmon St., Suite 210
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mr. Chalfan:

Thank you for your letter dated March 11, 2005. I am glad to know that EPA's "Plug-In to eCycling" Guidelines will be used as a basis for the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool's (EPEAT) End-of-Life (EOL) requirements for used electronic equipment.

In your letter you state that EPEAT's Development Team needs further clarification from our office in order to provide guidance to Plug-In to eCycling participants. Specifically, you ask for a list of countries which are parties to the Basel Convention and a list of those which are members of the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). Further, you ask how these two agreements affect cross-boundary shipments of used electronic materials. Our response is provided below.

Basel Convention

As of April 8, 2005, 165 countries were parties to the Basel Convention. Enclosure 1 provides a list of those countries. Please note that Afghanistan, Haiti, and the United States of America are signatories to the Basel Convention but have not ratified the Convention. Up-to-date information on Basel countries can be found on the following website:
<http://www.basel.int/ratif/frsetmain.php>.

OECD

Thirty countries are members of the OECD. Enclosure 2 provides a list of those countries. This list of OECD member countries can also be found on the following website:
http://www.oecd.org/countrieslist/0,3025,en_33873108_33844430_1_1_1_1_1,00.html.

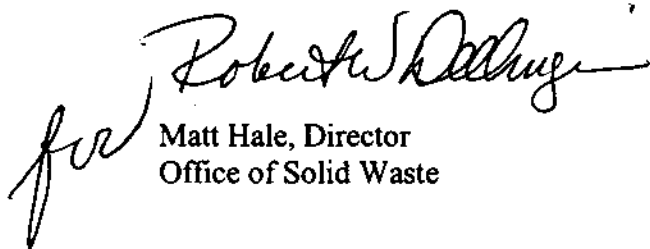
Other than what is found on the main OCED and Basel websites, we do not have a list of "live links" to guidance from other countries on used electronic imports. For information regarding guidance and requirements for specific countries, we recommend contacting the competent authorities in the countries where proposed exports are destined. The OECD and Basel websites identify the competent authorities for each country.

Transboundary Shipments of Electronic Scrap

Your letter asks a series of questions regarding how the Basel Convention and the OECD agreement might affect transboundary shipments of various categories of electronic scrap. My office is currently in the process of developing clarifying guidance and questions and answers on this topic and will be happy to provide this information to you as soon as it is available.

I hope these answers are of assistance to you and to the promotion of the eCycling Guidelines. Please feel free to contact Robert Tonetti of the International and Transportation Branch at (703) 308-8878 or me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "for Robert W. Hale". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Matt Hale, Director
Office of Solid Waste

Enclosures

Enclosure 1
Countries that are Party to the Basel Convention as of April 8, 2005

Albania	Cameroon	European Community
Algeria	Cape Verde	Finland
Andorra	Chad	France
Antigua and Barbuda	Chile	Gambia
Argentina	China	Georgia
Armenia	Colombia	Germany
Australia	Comoros	Ghana
Austria	Cook Islands	Greece
Azerbaijan	Costa Rica	Guatemala
Bahamas	Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea
Bahrain	Croatia	Guinea-Bissau
Bangladesh	Cuba	Guyana
Barbados	Cyprus	Honduras
Belarus	Czech Republic	Hungary
Belgium	Democratic Republic of Congo	Iceland
Belize	Denmark	India
Benin	Djibouti	Indonesia
Bhutan	Dominica	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Bolivia	Dominican Republic	Ireland
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Ecuador	Israel
Botswana	Egypt	Italy
Brazil	El Salvador	Jamaica
Brunei Darussalam	Equatorial Guinea	Japan
Bulgaria	Eritrea	Jordan
Burkina Faso	Estonia	Kazakhstan
Burundi	Ethiopia	Kenya
Cambodia	Ethiopia	Kiribati

Kuwait	Netherlands	Seychelles
Kyrgyzstan	New Zealand	Singapore
Latvia	Nicaragua	Slovakia
Lebanon	Niger	Slovenia
Lesotho	Nigeria	South Africa
Liberia	Norway	Spain
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Oman	Sri Lanka
Liechtenstein	Pakistan	Sweden
Lithuania	Panama	Switzerland
Luxembourg	Papua New Guinea	Syrian Arab Republic
Madagascar	Paraguay	Thailand
Malawi	Peru	Macedonia
Malaysia	Philippines	Togo
Maldives	Poland	Trinidad and Tobago
Mali	Portugal	Tunisia
Malta	Qatar	Turkey
Marshall Islands	Republic of Korea	Turkmenistan
Mauritania	Republic of Moldova	Uganda
Mauritius	Romania	Ukraine
Mexico	Russian Federation	United Arab Emirates
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Rwanda	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Monaco	Saint Kitts and Nevis	United Republic of Tanzania
Mongolia	Saint Lucia	Uruguay
Morocco	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Uzbekistan
Mozambique	Samoa	Venezuela
Namibia	Saudi Arabia	Viet Nam
Nauru	Senegal	Yemen
Nepal	Serbia and Montenegro	Zambia

Enclosure 2
Countries that are members of the OECD

Australia
Austria
Belgium
Canada
Czech Republic
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Japan
Korea
Luxembourg
Mexico
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Slovak Republic
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States