

Summary of the Discussion in the Lamp Recycling Session

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Portland, Maine

Data from Lamp Recyclers – is it available?

- Recyclers could provide it; Association with 19 recyclers and 24 members total; These 19 companies recycle about 80 percent of lamps
- Report to EPA and NEMA yearly on national numbers
- MN – 60 percent recycling rate; TX – 5 percent recycling rate

Recommendations: policy for members of ALRMA to provide recycling numbers or rates for each state

Cost of recycling: \$0.05/linear foot; \$10/box for shipping; \$0.01 – 0.005/foot processing

Outreach materials – include proper containers; comply with Universal Waste Rule (use pictures to show what is needed for compliance)

Outreach materials consistent labels with Universal Waste Rule with dates, etc.

Need to develop markets for recycled materials; regulators' help is needed

How do you get generators to use compliant containers and labeling? Compliance assistance inspections

Percent of compacts recycled? Maybe 5 percent of total

Has lamp amnesty increased rates?

Addressing Barriers

1. Transportation costs for remote rural locations – reverse distribution might work; Maine example of electrical wholesaler

Recommendation: Post articles from TED magazine on NEWMOA website

2. Green tip bulb exemption: Creates a problem for businesses

3. Municipalities

- cost to municipalities
- logistics; how it will be done (convenience)
- Knowledge/education – why? Awareness – small business and general public
- displays, awareness
- solid waste management can assist

4. Legislation – sends a clear message; higher recycling rates with legislation; Minnesota has 80% recycling rate New York recently passed legislation and now 1200 NYC schools are recycling, NYC transit system is spending \$1.6M recycling in first year

Cost is often cited as a barrier but *recycling less than 1 percent of cost of lamp lifecycle*

5. Landfill ban

6. Voluntary programs –Example from Washington media attention for the company recycling; drugstore chain take back for compact fluorescents with \$0.50/bulb and coupon book

7. UPS/Fed Ex hazardous transportation

8. Lack of enforcement – priorities and resources; use fire marshals to inspect and enforce lamp rules

Data needed on mercury from compact fluorescents; their use is increasing

Responsibility for manufacturer of lamps – like RBRC; upfront lamp fee when you purchase funded by manufacturer; manufacturers do not want to do this

NEMA provides sales data – could states get this data? Sales information is only available nationally; an estimates 3 lamps/person used in the US