



CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE WASTE AUTHORITY E-WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Thursday 29 July 2010
Department of Environment and Conservation
11.30 am – 1.30 pm

Meeting No. 04/2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Marcus Geisler	Chair
Mr Bernard Ryan	Manager, Waste Management Branch, DEC
Ms Leanne Reid	Project Coordinator, DEC
Ms Rebecca Brown	Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)
Mr Kevin Wilson	SITA (Waste Management Association of Australia (WA Branch) Rep)
Ms Inez Howcroft	SIMS Recycling Solutions
Mr Brent Pearce	Officeworks
Mr James Coghill	Total Green Recycling

APOLOGIES

Mr Greg McDougall	EDSYS Computers
Mr Vincent Holt	Secure Computer Disposal and Recycling
Mr Stuart Clark	Product Stewardship Australia
Mayor Ron Norris	Forum of Regional Councils (FORC)
Mr Josh Millen	AIIA
Mr Michael Mecham	Harvey Norman
Mr John Gertsakis	PSA
Ms Germaine Healy	DEC

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES & INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.30am and welcomed members to the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR.

Nil

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLUTION:

4.1 The minutes of E-waste Committee meeting number 03/2010 held on 1 July 2010 were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings. It was noted that the meeting was opened at 11:30am.

5. REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Chair reviewed the actions from previous meetings. The status of actions listed was acknowledged and noted by members.

Inclusion of Major Regional Centres in the interim Program

Discussion centered on the inclusion of the major regional centres in the interim program.

The major regional centres are those listed in Draft II Waste Strategy:

Karratha
Geraldton
Kalgoorlie
Avon

Mandurah
Bunbury
Albany

The cost of transportation of e-waste from the regional areas was highlighted. Currently some of the local governments within the major regional centres are undertaking e-waste collections at their own expense. Members emphasised that including the major regional centres in the interim program until the National Scheme comes on board, was rewarding the local governments for what they are undertaking already. This would allow the local governments to either increase their current capacity or to start a new scheme that did not previously exist.

RESOLUTION:

5.1 The members determined that the interim program include the major regional centres as listed in Draft II Waste Strategy.

5.2 It was noted that the National E-Waste Scheme may include other areas of WA.

6. PRESENTATION BY CATHY MCGOWAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP E-WASTE TEAM

Cathy McGowan from the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts delivered a 20 minute power point presentation on Developing the National Television and Computer Product Stewardship Scheme.

Key discussion following the presentation focused on:

- Development of National Standards for E-waste Dismantlers. The completion of the National Standards is dependent upon the pathway taken to develop the Standards. The

National Standards Committee has a priority placement list which can speed up the development of National Standards by approximately six months. The IWG is expecting to hear from the Standards Committee on 13th August as to whether the e-waste national standards have been accepted on the priority list. Standards developed on the priority placement list can take 18 months, whereas Standards not on the list can take two years to be developed. In the interim period however, ISO Standards will be used and companies will need to meet the ISO standards. These standards will be used whichever development pathway is followed. It is anticipated that these interim ISO Standards will be in situ early next year.

- WA focus for a seamless transition to the National Scheme. Cathy was asked what WA should focus on in order to seamlessly transition into the National Scheme.
Infrastructure locations – WA should consider the locations of both permanent take-back and/or individual day events. The network of locations needs to be based on demographics, consumer distribution, product distribution, and consumer travel distances. The E-Waste Committee can provide the National Scheme with their preferred sites and these may be incorporated into the National Scheme. The National Scheme will include the WA scheme in the national roll-out and requested from WATEP to be advised on the final outcome regarding the model and locations .
- Historical Waste The National scheme will collect orphan/historical waste. This e-waste should be stored undercover, contained and in vandal-free sites.
- Community Education

7. DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED ON OPTIONS FOR METROPOLITAN COMPONENT OF THE WATEP PROPOSAL

It was noted that a number of committee members had not provided comments on the WATEP options. The Chair requested that members are given another opportunity to provide a submission.

Option three was the preferred option by the Members present. The Industry members indicated that they would consider providing additional funding to cover any additional costs that occurred as part of the interim scheme, if the collections exceeded the funding provided by the Waste Authority.

WALGA provided a map indicating the major metropolitan landfills and transfer stations that recycle e-waste. Some Industry members thought that they could have collections at their premises. They will provide the coordinates to be included in the map developed by WALGA.

The term 'e-waste' was discussed. Does it include peripherals (scanners, printers, servers) or solely tv's and computers? The WA interim scheme should aim to be consistent with the National Scheme.

Action Points

The Chair:

7.1 requested that the electronic copy of the options presented in the WATEP proposal be again circulated to those members who have not provided their comments. The comments are to be provided by 9th August 2010.

7.2 requested that Industry provide their premises details to be included in a map to show potential collection sites and determine gaps.
7.3 Requested that the Waste Authority clarify the term 'e-waste'.

8. Correspondence

Nil

9. A.O.B.

10. NEXT MEETING AND CLOSE

The meeting closed at 1.40pm. The next meeting of the E-waste Committee is scheduled for Thursday 26 August 2010 at 11:30am.

APPROVED / APPROVED WITH AMENDMENT

Marcus Geisler
CHAIR, E-WASTE COMMITTEE
WASTE AUTHORITY