Household Electronic Waste Recycling: Marketplace in Connecticut

November 7, 2014
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NERC Fall Conference/ Amherst, MA

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Past: Development of Electronics Recycling

• Since early 2000’s, Municipalities / RRFs / SW Facilities began seeing increasing quantities of used electronics (E-waste) in municipal wastestream
  – Many municipal / regional budgets supported separate collections for E-waste recycling - “It was the right thing to do…”
  – Quickly created financial burdens on towns
  – Advent of end-of-life management BUT without shared responsibility component or financing

• Necessitated new recycling policies
Overview of CT’s E-Waste Law

- In 2007, P.A. 07-189 established Consumer Covered Electronic Devices (CEDs) Recycling Law

  ➢ Use of existing infrastructure, most collections points are town transfer stations
  ➢ free and convenient for residents (limit of 7 per trip)
  ➢ Voluntary, outreach based program for residents
  ➢ 100% of CEDs collected reimbursed by manufacturers
  ➢ Recyclers vetted and approved by CT DEEP
  ➢ Recycling prices set by CT DEEP
  ➢ Performance standards based on EPA’s Plug-In to E-cycling Guidance

  – 6/1/2010 – Adopted Regulations / Added Printers
  – 2/4/2011 - Began Implementation with Recycler Approvals (CERs)

  ➢ Currently 7 CERs, 1 located in CT, various CT partners
What’s Happening in CT with Electronics?

• Legislation: Driver for changing marketplace
  – Holds manufacturers financially responsible
  – Lessens burden on municipalities
  – Sets price for recyclers
  – Develops new recycling markets
  – Creates jobs!

### Economic Viability*

- Estimated recycling jobs created in CT: E-Waste

#### 2013/14 CT E-WASTE JOB NUMBERS BY CER & PARTNERS¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEEP-approved Recyclers</th>
<th>Current Jobs (Since Becoming CER)</th>
<th>2014 Projected Additional Jobs</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CT Jobs (FTE)</td>
<td>Jobs Created Outside of CT</td>
<td>Total FTEs (CT and Others)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecovanta</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>37</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>69</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GRAND TOTAL FTE** (Current) **69**

**GRAND TOTAL FTE (Projected 4Q14) 145**

2013/14 Percentage Increase **110%**

Note: 104 of 145 FTEs are expected to be located in CT by December 31, 2014 (72%).

¹ FTEs reported by DEEP-approved Covered Electronic Recyclers.

*Add 25 new CT jobs with CER approval of Take 2, Inc. in 3/14*
Program Highlights / Creating New Markets

- Material Flow – Over 35,000,000 lbs. recycled in first 2.5 years (2011-2013)
- Saved $1.5 million in recycling/disposal costs for municipalities
- Driver for responsible recycling CRT glass
- 54 CT jobs created

Future of Electronics Recycling

• Electronics recycling is here to stay...
  – Advent for other Extended Producer Responsibility laws in CT
  – Helps Design for the Environment

• Future Challenges:
  – Payments for municipal/regional collections
  – Lower value commodities
  – Recycling smaller, non-repairable devices
  – Mfr reimbursements based on price/pound or units?
  – Reuse / Refurbishment
  – Financial difficulties for approved CERs
  – Management of CRT glass
    – Are mercury-containing devices the next CRT glass?
  – Staff resources needed to review recycler applications annually (Dec 1 – Jan. 31)
  – Enhanced outreach to households to increase awareness (currently 60/40)
  – Enforcement of Program Elements against non-compliance
Questions?

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