



# DEEP's Universal Waste Used Electronics Rule

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# Why Designate Used Electronics as Universal Waste?

- ◆ A rapidly-rising part of the waste stream.
- ◆ Ubiquitous in commerce and the public.
- ◆ Readily recyclable for material values.
- ◆ EPA CRT rule:
  - ◆ Not yet adopted by DEEP
  - ◆ Would not address other wastes.
  - ◆ Universal Waste is an overall better fit.

# Definition of Used Electronics -100(c)(34)

- ◆ **“Used electronics” or “used electronic device” means a device or component thereof that contains one or more circuit boards or a cathode ray tube and is used primarily for data transfer or storage, communication, or entertainment purposes, including but not limited to, desk top and lap top computers, computer peripherals, monitors, copying machines, scanners, printers, radios, televisions, camcorders, video cassette recorders (“VCRs”), compact disc players, digital video disc players, MP3 players, telephones, including cellular and portable telephones, and stereos.**

# Applicability

## -113(b)

- ◆ To be a universal waste, a waste must first be a hazardous waste. *But, how do you know...?*
  - ◆ HW determination.
  - ◆ KOP/Mfr information (must be documented).
  - ◆ Alternatively: assume HW (likely with lead solder).
- ◆ Used electronics become UW when discarded.
- ◆ Unused electronics become UW when a decision is made to discard them.

# Defining The Point of Discard

- ◆ Discard includes:
  - ◆ Shipment to UW handler or destination facility.
  - ◆ Shipment to a non-profit (e.g., Computers for Kids).
  - ◆ Disposal to trash, etc.
- ◆ Discard does not include:
  - ◆ Direct re-use on-site or at another location.

# Regulatory Requirements

- ◆ Small Quantity Handlers (-113(c)):
  - ◆ Federal SQH rules in 40 CFR 273 subparts B & F.
  - ◆ Manage to prevent releases.
  - ◆ Store in a building or trailer to prevent exposure, etc.
  - ◆ Containerize breakage.
  - ◆ No treatment (disassembly is allowed).
  - ◆ Label or mark each device or container.

# Regulatory Requirements (Cont.)

- ◆ Large Quantity Handlers (-113(d)):
  - ◆ Federal LQH rules in 40 CFR 273 subparts C & F.
  - ◆ Remainder is same as SQHs, except disassembly requires a permit.
- ◆ Transporters (-113(e)):
  - ◆ Federal rules in 40 CFR 273 subparts D & F.
- ◆ Destination Facilities (-113(f)):
  - ◆ Federal rules in 40 CFR 273 subparts E & F.

# Issues of Note

- ◆ Inadvertent breakage of UW is regulated as UW, not HW - 113(a)(2)(K) & (V).
- ◆ Wastes not managed under UW rules subject to HW rules - 113(a)(2)(C).
- ◆ CESQGs can manage as UW but are not req'd to.
- ◆ HHW: if residential used electronics are mixed with regulated UW, the mixture becomes UW.
- ◆ Scrap metal exclusions – 40 CFR 261.4(a)(14) and 261.6(a)(3)(ii) – can apply to used electronics.



# Resources for Additional Information

- ◆ DEEP Universal Waste Fact Sheet.
- ◆ Posted on the [DEEP website](#).
- ◆ For additional information, contact:
  - ◆ DEEP Compliance Assistance Program:
    - ◆ Tel. 1-888-424-4193.
    - ◆ Email: [DEEP.RCRAHelp@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.RCRAHelp@ct.gov).
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