

Regulations regarding the Management of Electrical and Electronic Equipment Waste

Issued pursuant to Section 20.⁷, Paragraph two, Clauses 2 and 3 of the Waste Management Law

I. General Provisions

1. These Regulations prescribe:

1.1. the requirements for the collection and treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment;

1.2. the collection, reuse, amount and time limits for treatment and recovery of waste electrical and electronic equipment, as well as the procedures by which a report shall be provided regarding the performance of these works.

II. Requirements for the Collection and Treatment of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

2. Merchants shall collect waste electric and electronic equipment separately from other domestic and hazardous waste.

3. Before any operation is performed at the storage sites for waste electric and electronic equipment (including temporary storage), in order to separate, disassemble, shred, as well as prepare for treatment or disposal (hereinafter – treatment), the operator shall install:

3.1. a water and pollutant-proof anti-filtration covering;

3.2. a weatherproof covering; and

3.3. surface water collection (and drainage) installations and oil traps if at the appropriate storage place it is intended to store waste electric and electronic equipment, from which the excretion of oils is possible.

4. An operator shall install in the waste electric and electronic equipment treatment facilities (hereinafter – treatment facilities):

4.1. scales for the determination of the weight of the electric and electronic waste;

4.2. a water and pollutant-proof anti-filtration covering with surface water collection (and drainage) installations and, where appropriate, with oil traps, as well as weatherproof covering at the places where the waste electric and electronic equipment are stored and treated;

4.3. an appropriate storage for disassembled components;

4.4. appropriate containers for the storage of batteries and accumulators, polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls containing capacitors and other hazardous waste such as radioactive waste; and

4.5. treatment and disposal systems for wastewater.

5. A treatment facility operator shall ensure the separation of the following substances and components contained in the separately collected waste electrical and electronic equipment delivered to such treatment facilities:

5.1. polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) containing capacitors;

5.2. components containing mercury (including mercury containing relays, switches or illuminating lamps);

5.3. batteries and accumulators;

5.4. printed circuit boards of mobile phones if the surface of the printed circuit board is greater than 10 square centimetres,

5.5. liquid and pasty toners, as well as colour toner cartridges;

5.6. plastic containing brominated flame extinguishing chemical substances and chemical products;

5.7. asbestos waste and components which contain asbestos;

5.8. cathode ray tubes;

5.9. chlorofluorocarbons (cryofluorane, CFC), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) or hydrofluorocarbons (HFC), hydrocarbons (HC);

5.10. gas discharge lamps;

5.11. liquid crystal displays (together with their casing) if their surface is greater than 100 square centimetres and all those displays, which are illuminated with gas discharge lamps;

5.12. external electric cables;

5.13. components containing refractory ceramic fibres;

5.14. components containing radioactive substances (with the exception of components with which performance of operations are allowed without any special permit (licence) or a permit for operation with sources of ionising radiation); and

5.15. electrolyte capacitors containing substances (height > 25 mm, diameter > 25 mm or a proportionately similar volume).

6. A treatment facility operator shall ensure the following treatment of the separately collected waste electrical and electronic equipment:

6.1. the separation of the fluorescent coating from cathode ray tubes;

6.2. extraction of ozone depleting chemical substances and global warming gases from foams and refrigeration circuits; and

6.3. the separation of mercury from gas discharge lamps.

7. Material and components contained in waste electric and electronic equipment, after the shredding of which hazardous waste may arise, shall be separated and stored separately.

8. Waste electric and electronic equipment, which is hazardous or radioactive, shall be delivered to operators, who have received a permit for the recovery and disposal of hazardous or radioactive waste.

9. In order to register the hazardous waste generated during treatment of waste electric and electronic equipment, a separate register shall be prepared in accordance with regulatory enactments regulating the registration of hazardous waste.

10. If a treatment facility operator does not manage waste separated from electric and electronic equipment, as well as waste, generated after the operation of other treatment facilities and does not perform wastewater treatment, he or she shall present the following contracts upon the request of the State environment inspector:

- 10.1. regarding the transfer of waste for management;
- 10.2. regarding wastewater treatment; and
- 10.3. regarding oily wastewater treatment.

11. The regional environmental board shall, at least once a year, check the compliance of the treatment facilities to the requirements of regulatory enactments regulating environmental protection and to the conditions of the permit.

III. Amounts and Time Limits of Collection, Reuse, Recycling and Recovery of Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment

12. Implementation of amounts of collection, reuse (utilisation for initial purpose thereof), recycling and recovery of waste electric and electronic equipment in the time limits specified in these Regulations shall be ensured by:

- 12.1. producers of electric and electronic equipment; and
- 12.2. organisations for waste electric and electronic equipment management established in accordance with Section 20.⁴, Paragraph two of the Waste Management Law.

13. As of 1 January 2009, the amount of collection of household waste electric and electronic equipment shall be at least four kilograms of the household waste electric and electronic equipment for each inhabitant.

14. As of 1 January 2009, the persons referred to in Section 12 of these Regulations shall ensure the reuse, recycling and recovery of the waste electric and electronic equipment conveyed to the treatment facilities in the following amounts each year:

- 14.1. recycling of at least 80 per cent of the average mass of waste electric and electronic equipment of category 1 (large household appliances) and category 10 (vending machines) referred to in Cabinet Regulation No. 624 of 27 July 2004, Regulations regarding Categories of Electric and Electronic Equipment (hereinafter –

Regulation No. 624), reusing and recovering at least 75 per cent of components, materials and substances of this waste;

14.2. recycling at least 75 per cent of the average mass of waste electric and electronic equipment of category 3 (information technology and telecommunication equipment) and category 4 (consumer equipment) referred to in Regulation No. 624, reusing and recovering at least 65 per cent of the components, materials and substances of this waste;

14.3. recycling at least 70 per cent of the average mass of waste electric and electronic equipment of category 2 (small household appliances), category 5 (lightning equipment), category 6 (electrical and electronic tools (with the exception of large-scale stationary industrial tools)), category 7 (toys, leisure and sports equipment) and category 9 (monitoring and control instruments) referred to in Regulation No. 624, reusing and recovering at least 50 per cent of the components, materials and substances of this waste; and

14.4. recycling and recovering at least 80 percent of the components, materials and substances contained in gas discharge lamps.

15. The amount of recycling, reuse and recovery shall be determined as a percentage of the average weight of the electric and electronic equipment, which have been delivered to the waste treatment facilities during the previous year.

16. In order to prove the amount of collection, recycling, reuse and recovery, the persons referred to in Paragraph 12 of these Regulations shall determine and register the mass of waste electric and electronic equipment, the mass of the components, materials and substances thereof, when this waste is delivered to the treatment facilities and brought out of the treatment facilities or when this waste is delivered to recycling or recovery facilities.

17. The mass of waste electric and electronic equipment exported outside the European Community shall be added to the amount of collection, reuse, recovery and recycling if the exporter can prove, that the recycling, reuse or recovery of this waste in the country of importation has been done in accordance with the requirements equivalent to the requirements of these Regulations and other regulatory enactments regulating management of waste electric and electronic equipment.

IV. Report regarding the Amount of Collection, Reuse, Recycling and Recovery of Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment

18. Producers and distributors of electric and electronic equipment shall submit by 1 May of each year a report to the Ministry of Environment or to an authorised body thereof regarding the number and weight of electric and electronic equipment put on the market during the previous year (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624).

19. Persons and operators of treatment facilities referred to in Section 12 of these Regulations shall submit to the Ministry of Environment or to an authorised body thereof by 1 May of each year:

19.1. a report regarding the weight and number of electric and electronic equipment collected separately in the previous year (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624);

19.2. a report regarding the weight and number of electric and electronic equipment reused, recycled and recovered in the previous year in Latvia (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624);

19.3. a report regarding the weight and number of electric and electronic equipment collected in the previous year, which are taken out of Latvia for treatment (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624); and

19.4. a report regarding the quantity of electric and electronic equipment brought into Latvia for treatment in the previous year (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624).

20. Producers of electric and electronic equipment, who supply electric and electronic equipment, using a distance contract, shall submit by 1 May of each year a report to the Ministry of Environment or to an authorised body thereof regarding the number and weight of electric and electronic equipment distributed in the markets of other countries during the previous year (regarding each category of electric and electronic equipment referred to in Regulation No. 624).

V. Closing Provisions

21. Chapter IV of these Regulations shall come into force on 1 January 2006.

Informative Reference to European Union Directives

These Regulations contain legal norms arising from Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 27 January 2003 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

Prime Minister

I.Emsis

Minister for Environment

R.Vējonis