

eCycling Advisory Committee October 31, 2007 1:00 pm Speaker's Conference Room, General Assembly Building

Meeting Summary

• Call to order: Roll call, chairman's welcome.

Delegate Plum called the meeting to order stating that this would be the final meeting for the eCycling Advisory Committee.

• Fran Valluzzo, Manager State and Local Government Relations, Dell Inc.: Mr. Valluzzo will provide an overview of the Texas Computer Equipment Recycling Law.

Mr. Valluzo presented on the Texas legislation establishing a manufacturer responsibility computer recycling program. The presentation is available on the JCOTS website at http://jcots.state.va.us.

• Open Discussion- Texas/Dell Model Legislation: This is an opportunity for members of the advisory committee to engage in an open discussion regarding the Texas/Dell model eCycling legislation and develop final recommendations.

One of the major discussions focused around the option of adding televisions to the producer responsibility model in Texas. Televisions account for approximately 40% of the electronic waste stream, by volume, and contain toxic chemicals, that when aggregated, pose a danger to human health. Texas did not include televisions in their legislation, however, Dell would not oppose including televisions in Virginia legislation. Realizing that some manufacturers may oppose this decision, the advisory committee ultimately decided to include televisions in the Virginia legislation.

Another discussion focused around whether legislation should include printers, scanner, fax machines and other peripheral equipment. The advisory committee noted that many of these items do not pose the same volume or hazardous chemical problems that televisions, monitors,



and computers pose. The advisory committee decided not to include these items in the legislation at this time.

In regard to applicability, the advisory committee would like to see a minimum manufacturing threshold before the requirements of this legislation would be triggered. The draft will start with a minimum national production of 1,000 computers or televisions, which is based on Maryland's threshold for a similar program.

One related issue introduced by Goodwill is their problem with people dropping off broken or antiquated computers and televisions because they do not know where to take them. Although not directly related to the manufacturer responsibility legislation, this is an e-waste issue that may become ripe to address in the future.

The advisory committee would like to augment the reporting requirements found in the Texas legislation to include where the manufacturer sends its collected waste, in addition to the weight reporting requirement already in place.

An additional bill will be drafted by staff amending Section 10.1-1425.26 that will allow localities to ban from landfills or waste energy streams any equipment listed in the proposed legislation. The bill will contain a presumption that the manufacturer's recycling program will meet the 'recycling program' requirements of that section.

Staff will send a draft of the legislation to members of the advisory committee by November 16th and members will have until December 3rd to return any comments to staff.

Finally, with regard to implementation, DEQ raised the following issues:

- 1. Will DEQ need to certify that a manufacturer's plan meets code? If so, that will take additional staff resources.
- 2. Additional resources will be needed for any significant education plan.
- 3. DEQ may not be the best agency to perform audits of the manufacturer take-back recycling programs.
- 4. DEQ may not be the best entity to enforce violations. One potential idea is to leave this as a consumer reported enforcement activity. Regulations should address where violations would be reported.



• **Public comment:** Members of the public be given the opportunity to express their views about the work of the advisory committee.

No public comment was received.

• Adjournment.