

## Summary of Proposed Amendments

# Waste Electronic Equipment Stewardship Regulations



### Background

Saskatchewan's electronic recycling program began in 2006 and was developed to ensure old or end-of-life electronic products are managed in an environmentally-appropriate manner. In 2010, the Regulations were amended to include Phase II materials such as audio/video playback systems and non-cellular telephones. As of June 2016, 25,000 metric tonnes of end-of-life-electronics have been recycled. There are 82 electronics collection sites across the province, including SARCAN depots and Return-to-Retailer locations. The current program includes desktop and personal computers, computer peripherals, desktop printers, televisions, audio/video equipment, and non-cellular phones. For more details on the current program see [RecycleMyElectronics.ca/SK](http://RecycleMyElectronics.ca/SK).

### Rationale

The Ministry of Environment's Plan for 2016-17 demonstrates its commitment to the province's vision and Plan for Growth by focusing on a number of goals including reducing

risk and harm from environmental contamination; a clean and safe environment for communities; and high client service satisfaction. The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to developing innovative policies and investing in vital programs and services that meet the needs of Saskatchewan residents and ensure the environment is managed for the broadest possible public benefit.

Waste electronic products that are not collected through the current program have few alternatives outside of being landfilled. Many of these electronics contain heavy metals that are a concern to our health and surrounding environment. Toxic or hazardous substances present in information technology (IT) equipment and electronics includes mercury, lead, cadmium, beryllium, hexavalent chromium, antimony, brominated flame-retardants, and polyvinyl chlorides. Given the toxic and, in some cases, bio-accumulative nature of some of the materials used in the manufacturing of IT and electronics, the issue of proper disposal and recycling of this waste needs to be addressed. The expansion of the waste electronic equipment recycling program into Phase III will ensure the effective management of additional end-of-life electronics and assist the ministry in reducing risk and harm from environmental contamination, thereby creating clean and safe environment for communities and a better quality of life for Saskatchewan residents.

Additionally, there is an on-going demand from Saskatchewan municipalities and the public to include more products in Saskatchewan's electronics recycling program. Several other provinces have already expanded their electronics recycling programs to include the products proposed for the Phase III expansion. Expanding the program will increase Saskatchewan's recycling rate, lead to greater harmonization with other provinces, increase the number of products available to be recycled, and provide a service to meet the needs of Saskatchewan residents.

The Government of Saskatchewan is consulting on the proposed additions to *The Waste Electronic Equipment Regulations* and wants your input. Your feedback will ensure that the electronic waste recycling program will continue to meet the needs of Saskatchewan residents, keep pace with changing times, and lead to positive environmental, social and economic outcomes. **Deadline for response is August 31, 2016.**

[Take our survey!](#)

## More info?

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## Proposed Change

The Ministry of Environment is interested in expanding *The Waste Electronic Equipment Regulations* and recycling program to include additional electronic products. The product categories outlined in the following table have been identified as potential additions for the Phase III program expansion.

### Potential Product Categories for Phase III Expansion of the Electronics Recycling Program

Category	Sub-Category	Description
<b>IT Equipment</b>	Desktop and Portable Computers	• Additional Desktop and Portable Computer Equipment not currently included in the program, such as virtual desktops, thin clients, mini PCs, and servers and data storage equipment.
	IT and Telecom Equipment	• Including but not limited to video conferencing systems, internet modems and Ethernet switches.
<b>All-in-one and Display Devices</b>	No Sub-Category	• Additional All-in-one and Display Products not currently included in the program, such as e-book readers, electronic whiteboards with displays, and GPS devices.
<b>Imaging Devices</b>	Desktop Imaging Devices	• Currently, only printers and multi-function devices are included in the program. The addition of this sub-category would allow scanners, fax machines and multi-function devices without printing capabilities to be added to the program.
	Floor Standing Imaging Devices	• Including Printers, Scanners, Copiers, Fax Machines and Multi-Function Devices.
<b>Accessories and Peripherals</b>	Computer Accessories and Peripherals	• Additional Computer Peripherals not currently included in the program, such as external hard drives and gaming controllers.
<b>Appliances</b>	Microwaves	• Including counter-top microwave ovens.
	Small Appliances	• Including, but not limited to, items related to home care, personal care, and sports and leisure, such as , coffee makers, toasters, bread makers, curling irons, hair dryers, bathroom scales, clocks, sewing machines, vacuums, binoculars, treadmills, etc.
	Large Appliances	• Including, but not limited to, refrigerators, freezers, ovens, etc.
<b>Power tools</b>	No Sub-Category	• Including, but not limited to, test and measurement devices, hand-held power tools, bench-top / free standing power tools, etc.
<b>Toys</b>	No Sub-Category	• Including, but not limited to, powered ride-on toys, e-toys, etc.
<b>Medical Devices</b>	Medical Monitoring and Control Devices	• Including, but not limited to, breast pumps, Doppler Ultrasound, blood pressure monitors, hearing aids, etc.
<b>Electronic Musical Instruments</b>	No Sub-Category	• Including, but not limited to, amplifiers and mixers, electric guitars, keyboards, etc.