

Solid Waste Bureau Guidance on Registration for Electronic Scrap Recyclers

Effective February 13, 2009

Regarding electronic scrap recyclers (in some circles referred to as e-scrap or e-waste), the following clarifies the Solid Waste Bureau's position on such facilities:

- Per [20.9.3.27.B NMAC](#), a recycling facility registration is not required for an electronic scrap recycler that accepts e-scrap for less than seven days. Therefore, entities (e.g., local/county governments, schools) that have electronic scrap collection events lasting six or less consecutive days per calendar year, or events lasting for a total of six or less non-consecutive days per calendar year, do not require registration.
- Per 20.9.3.27 NMAC, businesses established to accept or purchase, collect, transfer or process electronic waste for the purpose of recycling must register the operation as a recycling facility.
 - Such recycling facilities typically sort, stack, wrap and ship whole, uncrushed or uncut CRTs. They may refurbish CPUs for resale or donation. They may also remove hard drives and memory boards from CPUs. However, these registered recycling facilities must not crush or cut the CRTs, or chemically or physically extract precious metals from CPUs' motherboards.
- If a recycling facility intends to (or actually does) crush, cut or otherwise break the CRT, or if there will be (or actually is) a chemical or physical process utilized to extract precious metals from the CPU or other components of the electronic scrap, then regulatory oversight and registration or permitting of the operation shall fall within the domain of the Hazardous Waste Bureau. A recycling registration issued under the Solid Waste Act would not be appropriate.

The New Mexico Environment Department recommends that all electronic scrap recyclers read and – if applicable – follow [20.4.1 NMAC](#), incorporating [40 CFR 261.39-41](#), which addresses the exclusion for used, broken CRTs, and processed CRT glass undergoing recycling.

For questions to the Solid Waste Bureau regarding this policy, contact:

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