

**Final Report on SJM 11 – A Joint Memorial Requesting the Secretary of Environment to
Convene a Task Force to Develop Guidelines for Environmentally Preferable Electronic
Procurement and Recycling by State Agencies and Make Recommendations for
Recycling and Disposal
2008**

BACKGROUND – Senate Joint Memorial 11 passed in the 2008 Legislative Session. In order to address the requirement of SJM 11, NMED invited a total of 31 people to join/participant in a task force. The task force consisted of representatives from state agencies, national laboratories, local governments, private computer industry, recycling coalitions, and the University of New Mexico. Three meetings were convened (April, June, and August).

FINDINGS

- Reviewed current procurement procedures for the NM Executive and Judiciary Branch
 - Save Smart (Executive Branch)
 - Energy efficiency and recycling was not part of the RFP package for computers
 - Contract is four years old (purchase only; no take-back)
 - GSD/DoIT preparing a new RFP
 - Price Agreement with Dell (Judiciary Branch)
 - Includes a price for removal, certified data destruction (hard-drive clean-up) and environmentally safe recycling or reuse
- Reviewed existing green computer procurement and recycling program initiatives
 - Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) assists Federal agencies to comply with President Bush's Executive Order-13423 requiring green purchase, use, and end-of-life management of electronic equipment
 - Provides checklists, links to on-line resources and tools, and recognition of successful programs
 - Participation is limited to federal agencies and facilities
 - State Electronic Challenge—Northeast Project (SEC); funded by a grant from EPA
 - Adapted from the FEC for state, regional, and local governments
 - Voluntary program; public leads the way in green purchase, use and end-of-life management of computers and other electronic equipment
 - Participation limited to 10 northeast states (pilot project)
 - Nationwide rollout scheduled for January 2010
 - Provides checklists and links to on-line resources and tools
 - Climate Savers Computing Initiative
 - Private companies and individuals commit to reducing energy consumption
 - Purchase high-efficiency computers
 - Use power management capabilities
 - Any government, business or individual may join Climate Savers
 - Computer hardware and software vendors - \$2,500
 - Government, individuals, organizations - Free
- Reviewed green electronic equipment procurement and use tools
 - Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) sets environmental performance standard for personal computer products
 - Segregates registered products into three tiers of performance standards (23 mandatory and 28 optional criteria); Bronze, Silver, and Gold
 - Includes ENERGY STAR criteria
 - Includes an environmentally sound recycling component

- Lists are available on web site
 - Provides an on-line Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator to measure the benefit of green computers
 - ENERGY STAR Program
 - Rates the energy of computers in standby, sleep and working modes
 - Products meeting ENERGY STAR specification receive label
 - Saves money and reduces greenhouse gases
- Reviewed environmentally sound end-of-life management
 - Current New Mexico Environment Department policy (*Eight Easy Steps to Recycle Electronic Scrap*)
 - Plug-in To eCycling Campaign
 - Partnership between EPA and electronics manufactures, retailers, and service providers
 - Partners have different approaches
 - Take-back, mail-in or trade-in
 - Support local collection
 - Host collection events at retail location
 - Support local events
 - On-line information and links provided
 - Other end-of-life management guidance information
 - International Association of Electronics Recyclers has a certification process for electronics recyclers
 - Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. developed a guidance document for electronic recycling practices
 - Hewlett Packard and Dell provided their company's due diligence regarding the selection of a recycler
 - Three private recycling companies explained their efforts to ensure that recycling meets environmental, health and safety regulations

RECOMMENDATIONS

- DoIT, with input from GSD, should adopt a written directive and policy for procurement, use, and recycling of electronics for all state agencies
 - Model after the FEC and SEC
 - Use the existing tools available
 - Give preference to EPEAT registered products
 - At least 95 % meet "Bronze" registered products
 - Mandate an employee education program
 - Powering up, shutting down and enabling "sleep" functions
- DoIT and the Chief Information Officers from each agency, with input from GSD, shall:
 - Create written directives for state agencies regarding the end-of-life management of e-scrap
 - Track computer equipment transferred, donated, reused, or recycled
 - Computer equipment may not be disposed in the trash
 - Establish requirements for electronics recyclers requiring environmentally sound management practices
 - Track state agencies' compliance with the directive and policy
- Evaluate compliance after two years. If agencies are not adhering to the directive then task force recommends legislative action or Executive Order

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