

RQP CLARIFICATIONS #2

Through the Recycler Qualification Program (RQP) audit process, several elements of the Electronics Recycling Standard (ERS) have been identified that were deemed to require additional clarification, in order to ensure consistency of application in line with the original intent of the ERS.

The following clarifications will be in effect as of May 1, 2014:

1. FINANCIAL ASSURANCE

Element 6.10. of the Electronics Recycling Standard (ERS) requires recyclers to:

“Maintain a documented closure plan that at a minimum identifies the financial requirements upon closure of the facility to remove, transport and process all materials under the ownership of the Recycler in accordance with the requirements of the ERS, and further provides the financial mechanism for ensuring the availability of such funds.”

For greater clarity on this requirement and to ensure adequate levels of financial assurance coverage are maintained, the Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) has provided the following clarifications with regard to closure plans and acceptable financial assurance coverage:

1. All recyclers must maintain a documented closure plan.
2. Recyclers must maintain any and all financial assurance as required by permits, approvals to operate and other regulatory mechanisms.
3. Financial assurance must be calculated based upon the recycler's maximum material capacity, meaning the facility's total capacity of all combined materials, at any point in time, which shall account for all incoming, in-process and inventoried materials.
4. Taking into account all requirements for financial assurance, primary recyclers must maintain at minimum the applicable financial assurance level outlined below, based on the maximum material capacity:

Material capacity	Financial assurance required
Maximum capacity less than 50 MT	= \$25k
Maximum capacity of 50 to 149 MT	= \$75k
Maximum capacity of 150 to 499 MT	= \$100k
Maximum capacity of 500 MT or greater	= \$125k

5. Where the recycler legally owns the facility for which the financial assurance is required, the recycler may either maintain the financial assurance indicated in Section 4. above, or the recycler can provide a completed *Commitment and Waiver Letter* to be approved by EPRA, accepting full responsibility and liability to cover all costs including, but not limited to, site cleanup in the event of a closure.

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All submitted recycler applications must align with the provided clarifications and above defined levels of assurance prior to being considered for review.

In addition, previously approved primary recyclers must demonstrate conformance with the aforementioned clarifications and applicable level of assurance during any re-audit, or their RQP approval will immediately be revoked.

2. POINT OF FINAL DISPOSITION - CLEAN METAL STREAMS

The RQP audit process is designed to encompass end-of-life electronics and the resultant material streams from the point of primary processing until the point of final disposition. Once it can be demonstrated that a clean material stream has been generated, further downstream audit is not required.

To provide greater clarity on the definition of the point of final disposition for clean metal streams, the following clarification is provided.

1. A clean metal stream is defined as a homogenous material with a minimum 95% purity rate.
2. Clean metal streams meeting the minimum 95% purity rate are deemed to have reached the point of final disposition and are not subject to the scope of the downstream audit based on the following:
 - a. The recycler can demonstrate the documented and repeatable process used to assess and determine the purity rate of the material stream; and
 - b. The recycler maintains records of all material assays and evidence of shipments of the material.

Where the above conditions cannot be demonstrated, the material and downstream flows continue to be subject to the standard conditions and requirements of the RQP and approval process.

For any questions regarding the RQP or the above listed clarifications, please contact the Recycler Qualification Office (RQO) at info@rqp.ca.