

# WEEE Update for the 2008 Compliance Period

April 2009



## Issue of Evidence for metal and plastics derived from Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) for the 2008 compliance period

If you are registered with the Department of the Environment as an Approved Authorised Treatment Facility (AATF) in order that you may treat, recover or recycle goods containing ozone depleting substances which are classified under the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006, then you should be aware of the interim arrangements for issuing evidence of WEEE metal and plastic arising between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008.

The following guidance detailing the interim arrangements has been produced by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and has been agreed by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency:

### Issue

1. Concerns have been expressed by a number of organisations about the difficulties in issuing evidence of collection, treatment and reprocessing of WEEE as a result in a fall in demand for metal and plastics for reprocessing.
2. The following is an extension of the flexibility given in February 2008 for the issue of evidence on metal destined for reprocessing overseas and applies to WEEE collected and treated in the 2008 compliance period only.

### Metal

3. AATFs dealing with metal derived from WEEE collected during the 2008 compliance period can, with immediate effect, issue evidence of collection treatment and reprocessing at the point the metal has completed all the necessary treatment processes. That is the metal derived from WEEE that has been treated in the UK and is in a state to be placed into a smelter for reprocessing without further treatment. It does not apply to whole items which will be exported for treatment.
4. This arrangement applies equally to metal which is destined for reprocessing in the UK or destined to be exported for reprocessing overseas.
5. This is an interim arrangement to assist the flow of evidence for the 2008 compliance period only. The position will however be kept under review for the 2009 compliance period and a further notice will be issued in due course.

### Plastics

6. AATFs dealing with plastics derived from WEEE collected during the 2008 compliance period can, with immediate effect, issue evidence of collection treatment and reprocessing once the plastics have been treated to the point that they can be reprocessed without further treatment. This would normally be that they have been sorted, graded and flaked or pelletised.

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7. The AATF issuing the evidence prior to the WEEE derived plastic being recovered must ensure that the plastic are subsequently recovered and must have in place an auditable system to show when this has happened.
8. This arrangement applies equally to plastic which is destined for reprocessing in the UK or destined to be exported for reprocessing overseas.
9. Waste management controls will continue to apply until the plastic has been fully recovered.

## Criteria

10. In order for an AATF to benefit from the interim arrangements set out above, the following criteria must be satisfied:
  - Metal and plastic must be derived from WEEE under The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006 as amended by The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007;
  - Metal and plastic must be derived from WEEE separately collected between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008 and for which evidence has not yet been issued;
  - Metal must be source segregated ie not within a general mix of other materials, for example paper or plastic;
  - Plastic must be source segregated ie not within a general mix of other materials, for example paper or metal;
  - The metal and plastic requires no further treatment prior to reprocessing and the recovery process has a low rate of process loss;

## Audit Requirements

11. The AATF issuing the evidence must ensure they have appropriate documentation as part of the audit trail to show the treated metal and plastic can be related to a tonnage of untreated WEEE received by the AATF between the 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008.
12. All appropriate documentation can be generated by the issuing AATF, for example weighbridge tickets, waste transfer notes, etc.

## Next Steps

13. All evidence for separately collected WEEE arising under the WEEE Regulations between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008 must be submitted to the appropriate PCS account no later than the **30 April 2009**. No evidence will be accepted on to the Settlement Centre after this date.

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