



ABRI News

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LANDFILL BANS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The South Australian Government is introducing progressive landfill bans for electrical and electronic products under the *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010*:

- Lead acid batteries are banned from landfills state-wide from 1 September 2010
- Computer monitors and TVs are banned from landfills in Adelaide from 1 September 2012 and state-wide from 2013 (this includes components, sub-assemblies and consumables that are part of the equipment when discarded)
- 'Other electrical and electronic products' are banned from landfills state-wide from 1 September 2013.

More information is available [here](#).

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP FRAMEWORK LEGISLATION

The Federal Government's Product Stewardship Framework legislation, which is a key element of the National Waste Policy (NWP), was due to be introduced to the Spring session of Parliament. The release of a Discussion Paper on the draft legislation, by the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA), has been delayed by the election, and the date of its release has not been disclosed. Updates will be provided through the [NWP web site](#).

QUEENSLAND WASTE STRATEGY

The Queensland Government has released its *Waste strategy 2010-2020 Waste avoidance and recycling consultation draft*. The strategy proposes a new Act to cover waste and resource management, which could include product stewardship programs or bans for 'priority products'. It notes, for example, that 'This initiative ... will reduce the amount of heavy metals and other toxins in Queensland landfills and the environment. Products such as batteries, electronic waste and fluorescent lamps contain toxic metals.' Identification of priority products will begin in 2010. More information is available [here](#).

PACKAGING STANDARD FOR ULABS

ABRI's Wet Cell Working Group has finalised the *Packaging Standard for used lead acid batteries*. Meeting the standard will ensure acceptance by the carrier and the ULAB recycling facility and avoid the inconvenience and cost of consignments being rejected. A copy can be downloaded from the [ABRI web site](#).

UK HOUSEHOLD BATTERY COLLECTION TRIALS

The Waste & Resources Action Program (WRAP) in the UK was commissioned by government agencies to run a series of collection trials for batteries. The following collections systems were trialled: kerbside collection (a bin or box to be collected with the regular kerbside recycling bin), retail take-back, community drop-off, postal returns and drop-off through the National Health Service and Fire Service. The most successful system in terms of batteries collected was the kerbside box/bag, with 7.9 batteries collected per household over the trial period (almost 2 years) compared to 1.7 batteries for retail take-back.

The report can be downloaded [here](#).

NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

Each year Planet Ark's national recycling week (NRW) encourages Australian householders and businesses to improve their recycling habits. One of the priorities of this year's national recycling week (8th-14th November) is to improve the recycling rate of household batteries by encouraging discussion of recycling options and promoting existing and new drop off locations. Varta is a proud sponsor of NRW 2010. For more information call planet ark on 02 8484 7200 or visit <http://recyclingweek.planetark.org/>.

MEMBER PROFILE: EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

In 2003, the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) established Western Australia's first school dry cell battery collection program. Since then, the program has been expanded to public places such as libraries, Council administration offices and shopping centres. Quantities collected have increased from 570 kg of household batteries in 2005 to over 8.5 tonnes in 2009.

On 1 September 2009, the public place battery recycling program was adopted by all metropolitan regional councils,

providing residents across Perth with the opportunity to recycle their batteries through more than 150 drop-off sites. In March this year they sent 25 tonnes of batteries to AusZinc for processing. The program is funded through the Western Australian Landfill Levy Fund and Household Hazardous Waste Program.

Click [here](#) for details of Perth's battery recycling program.

