Modernizing Oregon E-Cycles: Workshop 1

DEQ State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

PSI PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE

Zoom Logistics

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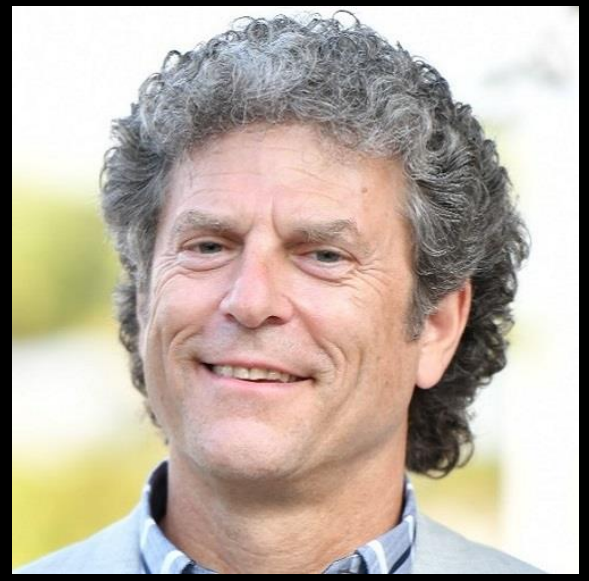
Introductions

Abby Boudouris
Sr. Legislative Analyst
OR DEQ

Cheryl Grabham
Materials Mgmt.
Program Manager
OR DEQ

Michael Lee
Operations and Policy
Analyst
OR DEQ

Introductions



Scott Cassel
CEO / Founder

Lelande Rehard
Policy and Programs Associate

Oregon E-Cycles Overview

Goal

DEQ seeks to engage with national and state stakeholders to identify and analyze options for modernizing the Oregon E-Cycles Program through legislation to be introduced in 2023.

Representative Pam Marsh

District 5
Southern Jackson County

Purpose of Today's Workshop

Objective 1: Background Information

Objective 2: Gather input on issues facing Oregon E-cycles

Objective 3: Discuss opportunities to modernize Oregon E-Cycles

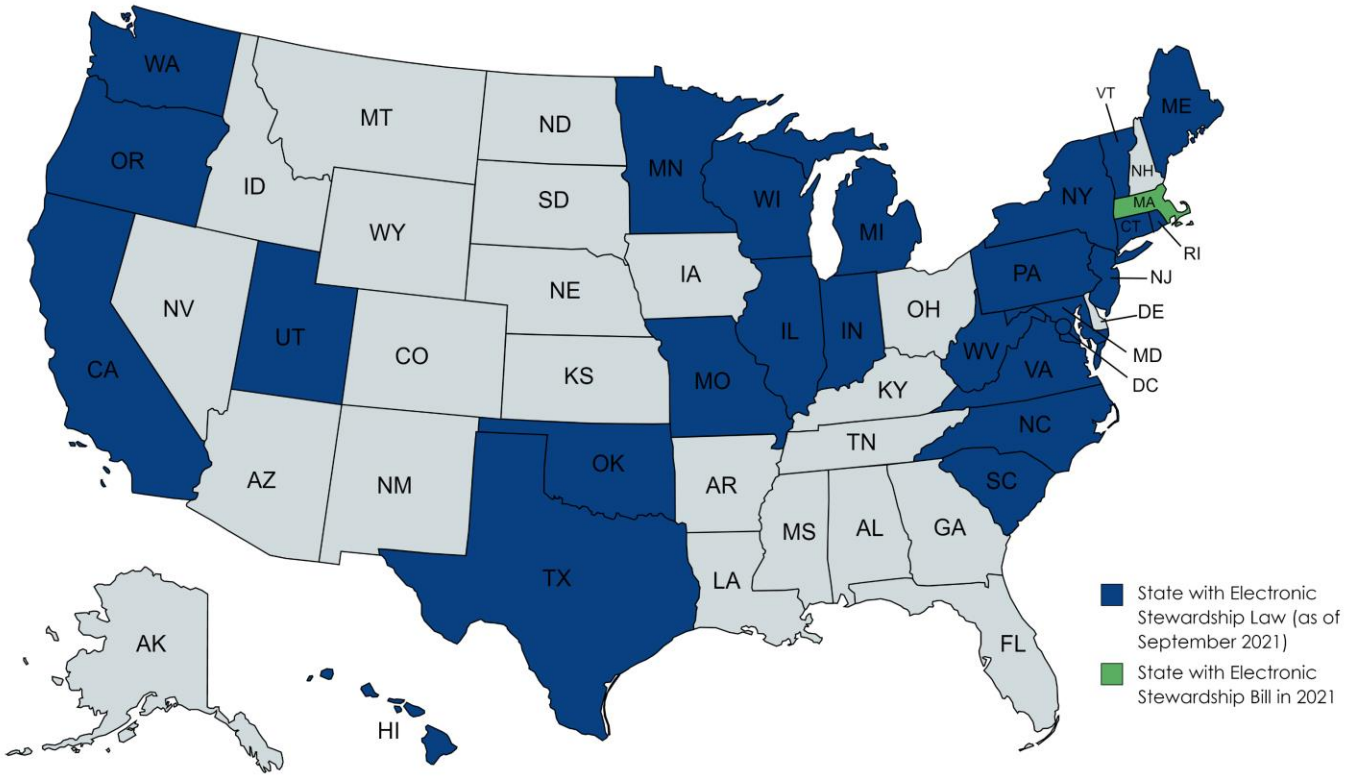
Electronic EPR Trends and Oregon E-Cycles

E-Cycles: Program History

- **OR E-Cycles is a First-Generation US Electronics EPR Program**
  - Created in 2007 by the Oregon Electronics Recycling Law, began operations in 2009.
  - Amended in 2011 to add printers and computer peripherals, collection of new materials began in 2015.
  - Potential loss of collection sites during 2021-2022.

Electronics Stewardship in the United States

26 Laws in
25 States + D.C.



Recent Electronics EPR Bills

- **IL, 2017** – Amendment to change current program. Supported by the CTA. Moved program to convenience-based program with a clearinghouse.
- **VT CTA Bill, 2021-** CTA sponsored an unsuccessful amendment to move towards the model in IL.
- **ME CTA Bill, 2021** – CTA sponsored an amendment to an unsuccessful amendment to move towards the model in IL. Some changes were made by ME in rulemaking.
- **SC, 2022** – Amendment to renew (sunset, 2023) and improve program. Some improvements were lost during the legislative secession.
- **AK, 2022-2023** – Upcoming bill, first EPR law to be considered in AK.

Trends in Electronics EPR

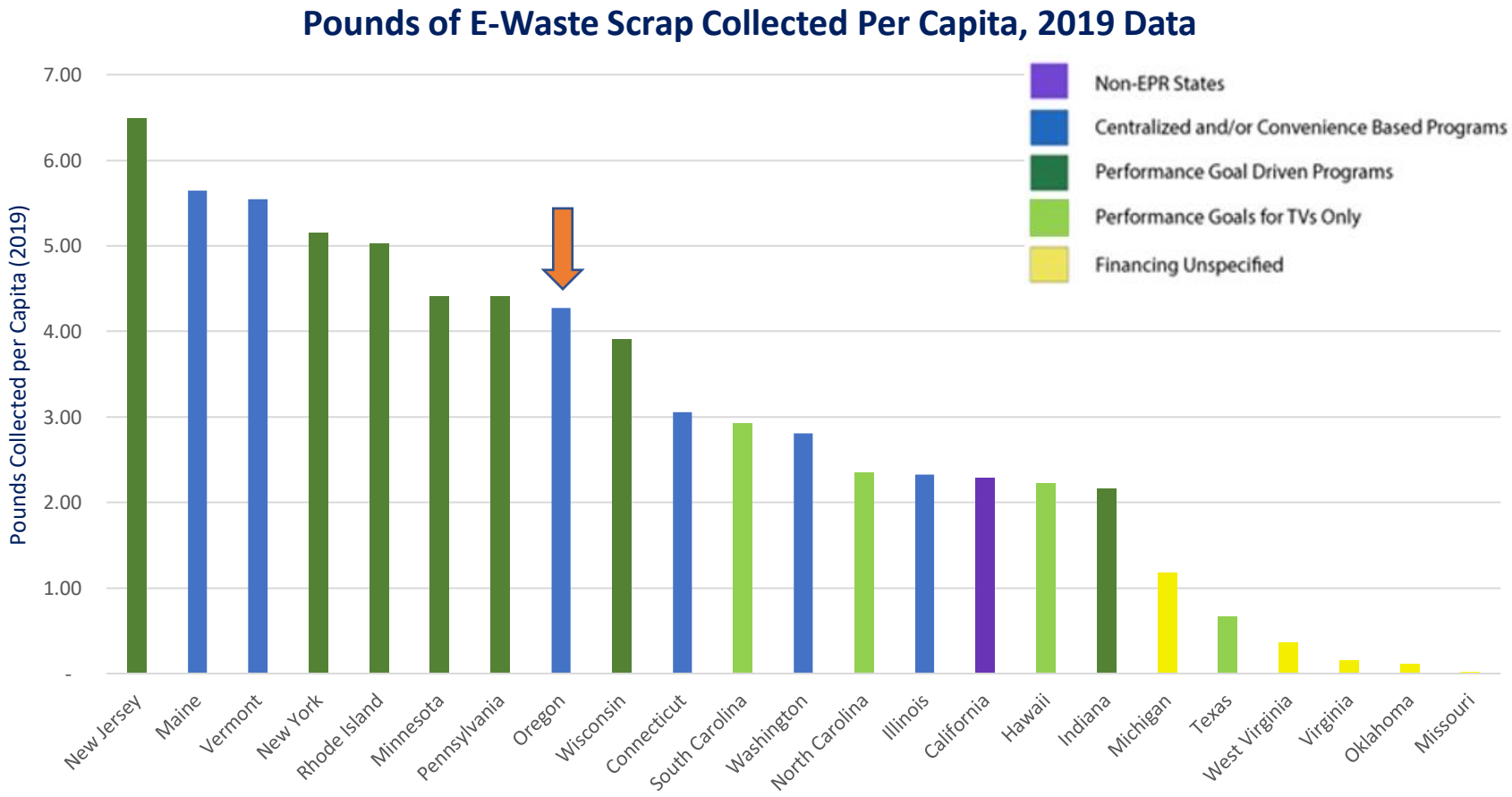
- **Covered Materials** – Electronics are becoming lighter, less durable, and more dependent on rechargeable/embedded batteries.
- **Convenience** – There is a growing focus on the convenience standard and not on weight-based performance goals.
- **Program Funding and Administration** – Less involvement from states in direct implementation of the program.

Oregon E-Cycles: What Works

- E-Cycles covers collection, transportation, and recycling cost.
- Convenient statewide collection service.
- Network of engaged collectors.
- Broad group of covered entities can use E-Cycles.
- E-Cycles has a high level of transparency for all stakeholders.
- High per capita rate of collection.

Oregon E-Cycles State Comparison

Data from ERCC, Chart by PSI



Oregon E-Cycles: Collection Convenience

- The current convenience standard sets a minimum of one site per county and one site for any city with a population greater than 10,000.
- The current minimum convenience standard would require approximately 58 sites in OR.
- There are currently 184 collection sites.
- Approximately **120 additional collection sites*** exist to meet the E-Cycles' annual weight-based performance goal.

*Based on feedback during the 7/13/22 Workshop PSI may update data concerning the number of required collection sites.

Why Weight Matters in OR E-Cycles

- Goal uses past year's collections to determine next year's goal.
  - Difficult to predict collection weight (Covid, consumer trends, changes in tech)
- As electronics get lighter: less weight = lower goal = less need for the additional **120 collection sites*** to meet the performance goal.
- Much of the current infrastructure dependent on the performance goal.
- **Less weight does not = less devices or less need for collection sites.**

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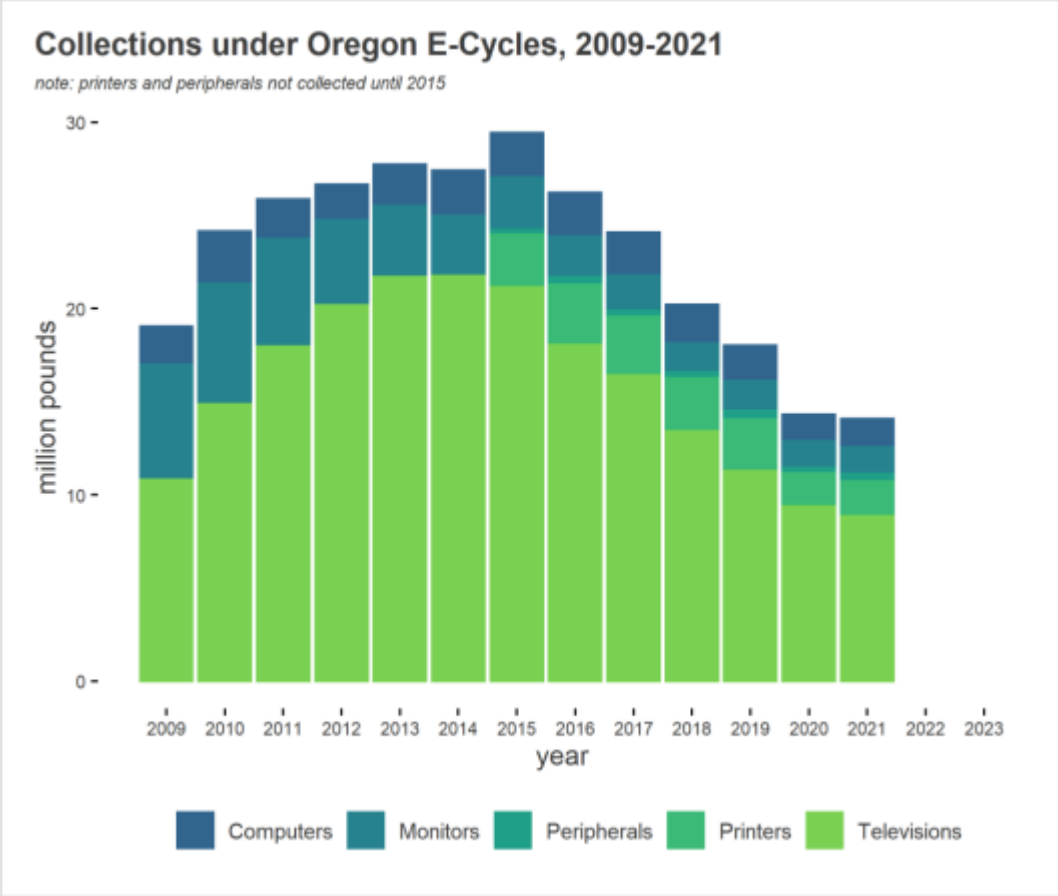
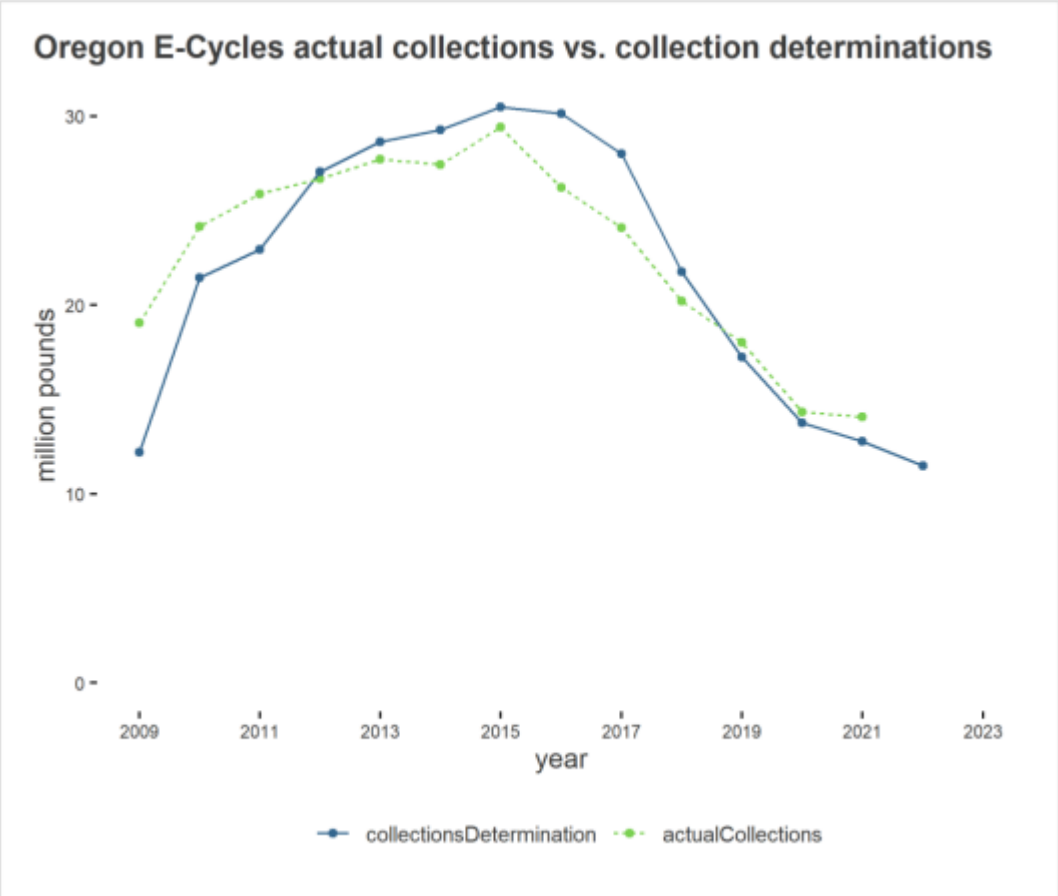
Oregon E-Cycles: Weight

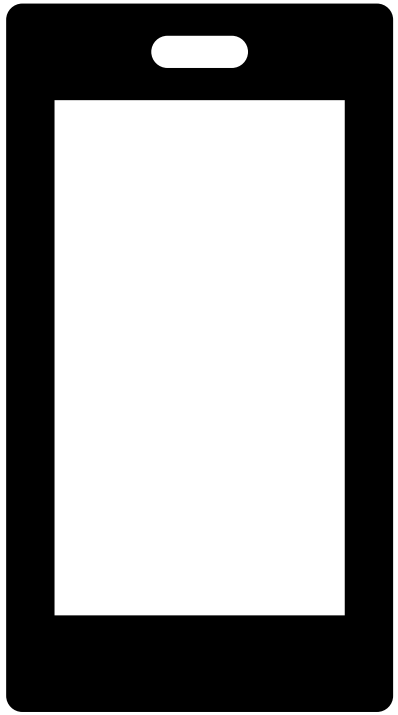




E-Cycles: Opportunities for Modernization

- Create a more robust and stable collection infrastructure.
- Expand scope of covered materials.
- Address limitations of relying heavily on performance goal.
- Reduce administrative burden for PROs and OR DEQ.

Questions?



Modernizing OR E-Cycles

Covered Materials

Current list of Covered Materials for OR E-Cycles reflects 1st generation e-waste bills: TVs, Monitors, Computers, Laptops, Peripherals, and Printers.

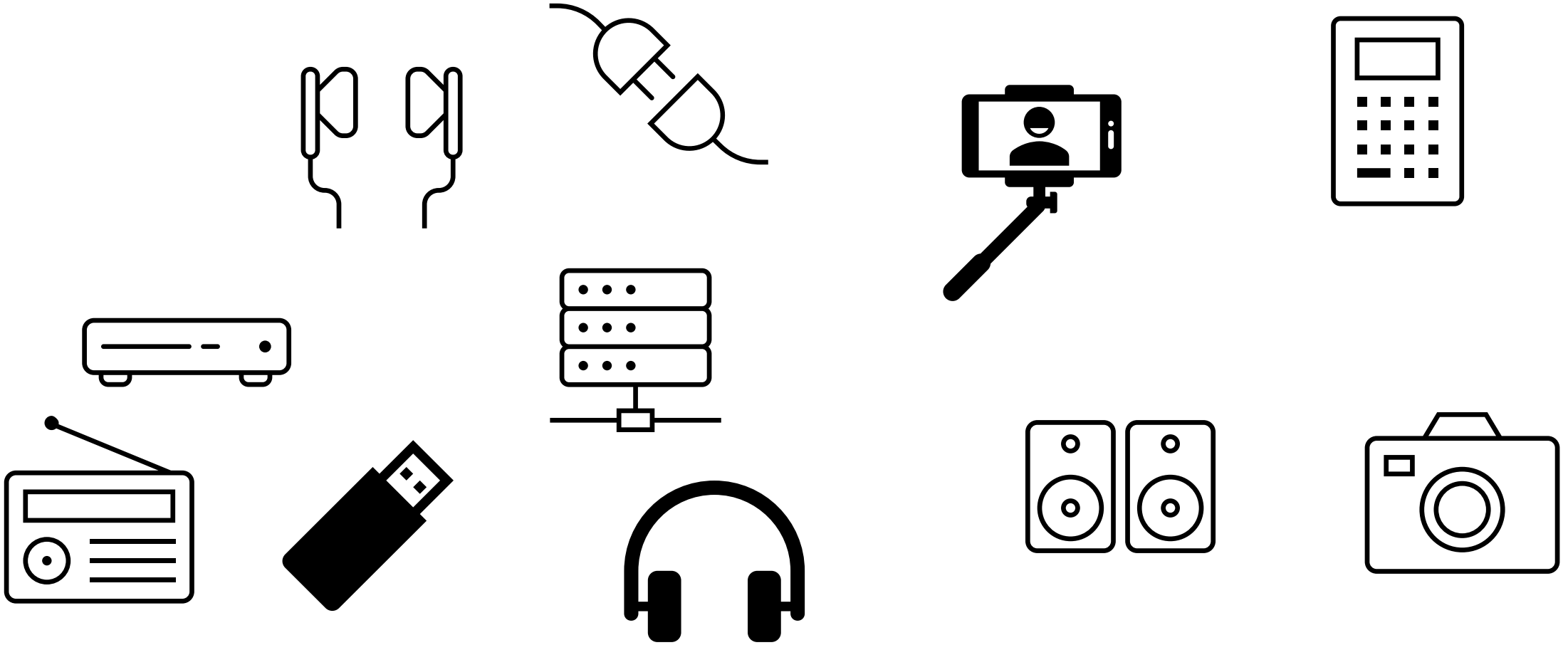
How could E-Cycles update its definition of a Covered Material?

- Add individual items to the List.
- Broader definition based on use of a cord or battery (WEEE).
- Definition based on the use of electronics in a device and its value.
- Expanded use of peripherals.
- Ability to regularly reevaluate and update Covered Materials.

Covered Materials List

Oregon	Illinois	British Columbia*	Prince Edward Island*
TVs **Computers** **Computer Monitors** **Laptops** **Computer Peripherals** **Printers**	TVs Computers Computer Monitors Laptops Computer Peripherals Printers Video Cassette Recorder Portable Digital Music Player Digital Video Disc Player Video Game Console Scanners Digital Converter Boxes Cable Receivers Satellite Receivers Digital Video Disc Recorders Small-scale Servers	**- Illinois + below** Vehicle Audio/Video Systems IT/Telecom Equipment Musical Instruments Medical Equipment Battery Powered Toys Cell Phones E-Bikes	**-Illinois + below** External Hard Drives GPS Devices Personal Care Appliances Clocks and Scales Air Treatment Appliances Vacuums Irons Countertop Appliances

What should be added?



Program Administration

DEQ is considering:

- Modifying State Contractor approach.
- Requiring PROs to set performance goals in the program plan.
- Eliminating manufacturer registration with DEQ.
- Changes would allow DEQ to focus on program oversight.
- **And maintaining program convenience and collection site network.**

Feedback

What are your thoughts on DEQ's proposed changes to program administration?

Convenience Standard Recap

- The current convenience standard sets a minimum of 1 site per county and 1 site for any city with a population greater than 10,000.
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Convenience Standard

How can OR E-Cycles provide a convenient and stable collection network?

- Create a higher minimum standard for convenience.
- Still room for a performance standard.

What is a robust Convenience Standard?

- **Maintains current infrastructure.**
- Expands opportunities for willing permitted solid waste facilities to become collection sites.
- Sets minimum requirements for being considered a site (hours, devices collected, storage, sorting, safety, etc.)
- Determines the number of site based on need (per population or per population density).
- Ensures underserved areas are covered: rural, low-income, urban areas that rely on transit, etc.
- Considers other approaches to determining convenience.

Feedback

What are your thoughts on how to create a robust convenience standard for E-Cycles?

What are we missing?

What other components of OR E-Cycles could benefit from updates and changes?

Next Steps

- **Review your input from today**
- **Next Stakeholder Meeting: August 10th**
- **Send your comments to:**

Lelande Rehard:
Leland@productstewardship.us
Michael Lee:
Michael.LEE@deq.Oregon.gov

Thank You!

Scott Cassel
CEO and Founder
Product Stewardship Institute
(617) 513-3954
scott@productstewardship.us

Lelande Rehard
Senior Associate for Policy and Programs
Product Stewardship Institute
(617) 904-4434
lelande@productstewardship.us

https://www.productstewardship.us/page/Electronics