Modernizing Oregon E-cycles Workshop 2 Summary
August 10th, 2022

<u>Proposals for Opportunities to Modernize Oregon E-Cycles</u>

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) presented the workshop attendees with draft proposals for accomplishing the Opportunities for Modernization that were discussed during the first workshop. DEQ was clear that these proposals are not set in stone and that they are willing and wishing to work with stakeholders on exact approaches and language for improving the program. DEQ is committed to core needs for modernizing E-Cycles: expanding Covered Electronic Devices (CEDs), creating, and relying on a Convenience Standard to support a reliable and robust collection network, and reducing/modernizing the administration of the program including the likely elimination of the State Contractor Program.

<u>Covered Electronic Devices</u>

Proposal: Expand list of the CEDs to include items in the Illinois program and a larger list of items that includes peripherals for computers, TVs, and gaming consoles.

- Attendees expressed support for the list as presented with some caveats for certain peripherals (3-D Printers) and higher value devices (gaming consoles).
- Collectors expressed that the phase-in of CEDs will need to consider the need for collection sites to evaluate how they will handle the in-take of more devices.
- Solid Waste Service Providers asked if additional CEDs would be added to the landfill ban. DEQ expressed interest in working with the industry to determine which if any of the added CEDs should be phased into the landfill ban.
- Solid Waste Service Providers and Consumer Technology Association (CTA) supported the need for a study to better understand the impact of batteries on E-Cycles and the role embedded batteries may play in the program.

<u>Convenience Standard</u>

Proposal: One site per County, one site per city with a population of 4,000 or more, one additional site per 20,000 residents in a city, collection services or cities under 4,000 population and unincorporated areas, and flexibility to work with DEQ in meeting the standard.

- Understanding that a more robust convenience standard is needed to maintain the current collection network.
- Some attendees expressed concern that the 4,000-population limit in the proposed convenience standard is too low and may create unneeded/inefficient collection sites.
- Interest in pursuing other approaches that capture the current collector network as a baseline for the program's convenience.

<u>Collection Site Criteria</u>

Proposal: Fair compensation for collection cost. Agreement between the producer responsibility organizations (PROs) and sites willing to do reuse/resale. PROs required to consult with local governments when selecting sties. basic operation standards for sites.

- Support from collectors for better defining fair compensation for collection sites.

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- Discussion among the group regarding additional criteria for collection site selection/operations: required hours of operation and safe ingress and egress for trucks.
- The CTA expressed that there may need to be some flexibility in who enters into agreements with collection sites willing to do resale (manufacturer and/or recycler instead of PRO).

Performance Goals

Proposal: PRO must develop goal for evaluating program. PRO must incentivize continuous improvement. PRO must achieve a high level of public awareness. Program goals must be enforceable. Regular performance evaluation of the program.

- There was general understanding and support for the proposal.
- The CTA has some concerns that making the program plan goals enforceable could have the same effect on the program the Cost Determination process did.

Administrative Changes (State Contractor Program)

Proposal: Phase out the State Contractor Program, require PROs to register manufacturers, and create a de minis exemption and/or flat fee for small manufacturers. Proposed changes would leave to implementation of the program to any PROs willing to meet the convenience standard on their own or by agreeing to work with other PROs to meet the convenience standard together.

- CTA expressed support for considering using a Clearinghouse model to allow multiple PROs to be coordinated to meet the convenience standard.
- A point was raised that there are other approaches to providing a default program for manufacturers (RI, WA, VT).

Reuse and Repair

Proposal: Allow processors to repair and resell CEDs. Consider ability to repair and resell CEDs in criteria for selecting collection sites. Require program plan to include goals for reuse.

- CTA wants to reconnect with its members on this issue. It has been a long time since they discussed it.
- Attendees discussed what if anything is needed to boost reuse in the existing program.
- Attendees discussed how reuse/resale could be allowed/incentivized among processors while ensuring CEDs are still managed properly if they are not resold.