

Guidance to ISRI Staff on Critical Federal Legislative Elements for Used Electronics & Components (UEE&C) Exports
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Overview

Cong. Gene Green (D-TX) introduced a bill consecutively over a number of Congresses that would impose export controls on recyclable electronic equipment. The premises of the need for the bill, as stated by Cong. Green (and of his supporters), were faulty at best. The requirements the bill would impose would have caused significant harm to electronics recyclers. In response to Cong. Green, ISRI’s Electronics Division developed guidance to be used by ISRI’s staff that specified elements for acceptable electronics recycling legislation to be used as an alternative to Cong. Green’s bill, if necessary.

Guidance

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI), directs its staff to utilize the guidance below which, as an alternative to Cong. Green’s bill, if necessary, states the elements of a Federal electronics recycling bill that is acceptable to ISRI and its Electronics Division.

- Specification Grade Commodities----- No restrictions
- UEE&C for direct reuse----- No restrictions
- UEE&C with FMs for repair/refurbishment/recycling ----- Some trade restrictions as follows:
No geographic distinction (OECD and non-OECD)
 - (b) One time notification + register EPA website
 - (c) Due Diligence Requirements with compliance option for third party certification
- UEE&C for landfill or incineration for disposal ----- No Export

Scope of UEE&C: Computers and peripheral equipment – central processing units (CPU’s), monitors, printers, tablets, e-readers, keyboards, scanners, storage devices, servers, and networking systems; copiers; fax machines; imaging systems; printing systems; telephones; televisions; video cassette recorders; camcorders; digital cameras;

¹ As adopted by the ISRI Board of Directors on November 5, 2016.
² See ISRI Policy on the Exports of Used Electronics, as adopted by the ISRI Board of Directors on March 25, 2010.
³ Includes material that has been baled, shredded, sheared, chopped, crushed, flattened, cut, melted, or separated by type and fines, drosses and related materials which have been agglomerated. (See 40 CFR 261.1 (10)).
⁴ Includes UEE& C that has been effectively tested to confirm that key functions are working and that such equipment and components are not obsolete, a market exists for the used equipment, and effective testing methods and results are maintained.
⁵ Items containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); Items containing mercury; CRTs and CRT glass except for panel glass with lead content of less than 5ppm, clean of phosphors, CRT fines, coatings and frit; Batteries; Whole and shredded circuit boards, except for whole and shredded circuit boards that do not contain lead solder, and have undergone safe and effective mechanical processing, or manual dismantling, to remove mercury and batteries.



ISRI is the voice of the recycling industry, promoting safe, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible recycling through networking, advocacy and education.



control boxes; stereo systems; compact disc players; radios; cell phones; pagers; personal digital assistants (PDAs); calculators; organizers; and game systems and their accessories.

Does not include in list: Any motor vehicle or any part thereof; household appliances such as clothes washers, clothes dryers, refrigerators, freezers, microwave ovens, ovens, ranges or dishwashers; medical equipment; and equipment that is functionally or physically part of a larger piece of equipment intended for use in an industrial, research and development, or commercial setting.