

Fact sheet: E-waste ban

E-waste service provider overview

E-waste to landfill ban in Western Australia





























This fact sheet provides an overview of the responsibilities of e-waste service providers under the <u>Waste Avoidance</u> and <u>Resource Recovery (e-waste) Regulations 2024</u> (the Regulations). It should be read in conjunction with the Regulations, which set out the full responsibilities for e-waste service providers, and the Australian Standard <u>AS 5377:2022 Management of electrical and electronic equipment for re-use or recycling</u>.

An **e-waste service provider** means a person who conducts a business or undertaking that includes the collection or receipt of regulated e-waste for storage, management, aggregation, treatment, processing, sorting, recycling, transfer or disposal.

Please note, businesses or entities that manage their own regulated e-waste and do not collect or accept externally generated regulated e-waste (e.g. from customers or residents) are not considered e-waste service providers. For example, a mine site operator that manages its own regulated e-waste at its solid waste depot is not considered an e-waste service provider, as the mine site operator does not offer e-waste services externally.

E-waste service provider responsibilities

Under the Regulations, e-waste service providers must:

- not send regulated e-waste to, or leave regulated e-waste at, a landfill site (r.8(1))
- store regulated e-waste only for the purposes of management, aggregation, treatment, processing, sorting, recycling or transfer (r.9(1))
- not store regulated e-waste for more than 12 months after the month in which it is received (r.9(2))
- during the collection, storage or transportation of regulated e-waste by the provider, not do anything that would reduce the ability of the regulated e-waste to be treated, processed or recycled (r.9(3))
- to the extent that the provider undertakes the separation or recycling or regulated e-waste, maximise the recovery or processed materials and minimise the amount of residual waste from the regulated e-waste (r.9(4))
- separate regulated e-waste from other waste when the provider receives regulated e-waste that is mixed with other waste (r.10(1) and r.10(2)).

Australian Standard AS 5377:2022 Management of electrical and electronic equipment for re-use or recycling will be used to determine what constitutes reasonable steps for the above (r.9.(6)).

Recording and retention of data for e-waste service providers under the Regulations

E-waste service providers that hold, or are required to hold, a licence as defined in s.3(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) have additional recordkeeping and annual reporting requirements under r.11 of the Regulations if the premises are used for the purposes of storing, treating or processing e-waste.

Records must be retained for at least five years from the date on which it is created. (r.15(1)).

Information on annual reporting requirements is provided in <u>Fact sheet: E-waste ban – Reporting requirements of e-waste service providers</u>.

Compliance and enforcement

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) understands that some e-waste service providers will not be able to meet the requirements of the ban immediately and will need time to transition. In recognition of this, the department will take an education-focused approach as part of the introduction of these changes. The department expects e-waste service providers to demonstrate reasonable efforts to comply with the ban.

The department will take action in accordance with its Compliance and enforcement policy and the EP Act where there is evidence of activity that may cause harm to the environment or human health.

Access to Australian Standard AS 5377:2022

A copyright controlled hard copy of Australian Standard is available for viewing at Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 8 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup, free of charge, by appointment during business hours.

Should you need a copy, please contact Standards Australia www.standards.org.au to use the online enquiry form or telephone 1800 035 822 (free call) or 02 9237 6000 or post to GPO Box 476 Sydney NSW 2001. Note the Reader Room platform offers no-fee read-only access for non-commercial (personal, domestic, or household use) to Australian Standards' publications.

Further information

A series of fact sheets has been developed to provide further information for significant entities and e-waste service providers. Topics covered include the responsibilities of service providers and significant entities, reporting requirements and how to estimate the weight of e-waste.

Where can I get more support?

If you need further information about data reporting requirements under the Regulations, please contact the Waste Data team: waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au.

If you have questions about other aspects of the Regulations, email: ewaste@dwer.wa.gov.au Website: E-waste to landfill ban in WA



























