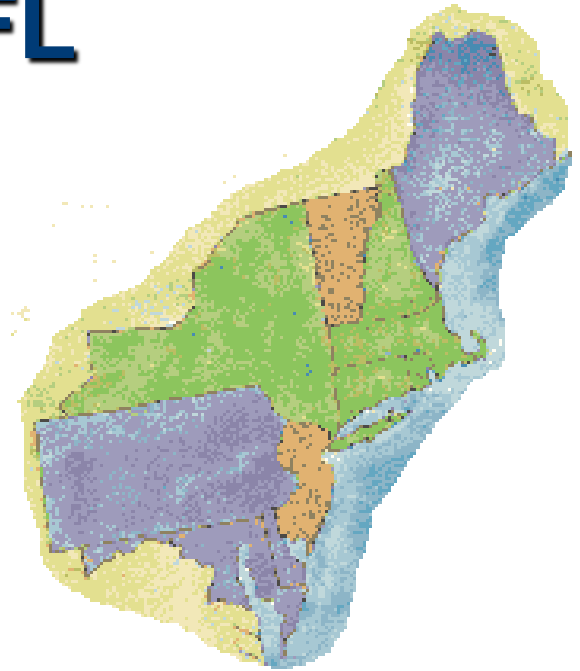


Current Activities in CFL Recycling/Disposal

Presented by:
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For the:

ENERGY STAR Lighting Partner
Meeting Session
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Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships, Inc.



NEEP Overview

“Facilitating partnerships to advance energy efficiency”

- Regional non-profit organization since 1996
- Serving New England, New York, Mid-Atlantic

Primary Audiences Served:

- State Policy Makers
- Efficiency Program Administrators

Approach:

- Strategic regional collaboration to overcome barriers to efficiency – public policies and efficiency programs.

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Why is NEEP interested in the CFL recycling issue?

- CFLs and recycling meet at the intersection of Policy and Efficiency Programming
- Due to success of CFL programs, sheer volume of CFLs presents a disposal issue
- State Offices and efficiency programs concerned with:
 - Mercury pollution
 - Potential consumer backlash
- NEEP's Conclusion- To maintain effectiveness of CFLs as an energy saving measure, recycling/disposal solutions are necessary!

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Regulatory backdrop

- CFLs currently exempt under federal disposal regulations
- State CFL disposal bans (active/in process)
 - Minnesota
 - Wisconsin
 - California
 - Maine
 - New Hampshire
 - Massachusetts
- Compliance very low

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Important players

- Municipalities-
 - Most offer recycling, but charge
- State Environmental Offices-
 - Mix of regulations/programs
- Efficiency Programs-
 - Demonstrating support for program development but mandate to use funding exclusively for energy savings is a challenge
- Industry (Retailers/Manufacturers)-
 - Apprehensive in general but recognize the corporate responsibility angle and potential increase in foot traffic

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Existing Programs Addressing CFL Disposal

- Northeast
 - Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts
- Midwest
 - Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin
- West Coast
 - California, Oregon, Washington
- National Retailers
 - The Home Depot, IKEA

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Program models

- Municipal waste collection
- Retailer-based collection
 - Free to customer
 - Charge to customer
- Mail-based collection

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Municipal Waste Collection

- Pros
 - Existing infrastructure
- Cons
 - Inconvenient (hours, lack of locations)
 - High cost to consumer/municipality

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Retailer-based Collection Design (free to customer)

- Examples; Maine, Illinois
- Pros
 - Convenient hours/locations
 - Affordable
 - Drives foot traffic for retailer
- Cons
 - Expensive to supporting state agency/program or retailer.
 - Liability issues for retailer

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Retailer-based Collection Design (charge to customer)

- Examples; Washington, Minnesota
- Pros
 - Convenient (hours/locations)
 - Self sustaining system
- Cons
 - **Disincentive (cost) to customer**

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Mail Based Collection Design

- Example; US Postal Service Pilots
- Pros
 - Very Convenient
- Cons
 - Very Expensive

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Conclusion

- All existing models present some deficiencies
- Retailer-based Collection system has promising track record of success.
Sustainability of funding remains key issue.

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Recommendations

- In order to improve this model, address deficiencies.
- **Spread Recycling Costs** by:
 - Leveraging existing lighting programs
 - Leveraging existing relationships
 - Engaging regional and national dialogues

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Proposed Strategy

- Collaborative effort between efficiency program sponsors, state governments and local/regional waste management organizations.
- Pursuing a cooperative strategy leveraging the resources of these parties with those of industry, represents the formula for a sustainable, effective and highly utilized CFL disposal/recycling strategy.

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For full Report;

www.neep.org/initiatives/9.10.08.cflreport.pdf

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