



PSI FLUORESCENT LIGHTING FUNDING PROSPECTUS

What is the Problem and What is the Solution?

The Problem: Fluorescent lamps are an environmental paradox: they use a fraction of the energy and last longer than incandescent lamps, but they also contain a small amount of mercury. This harmful neurotoxin should not be disposed of in landfills or incinerators. A fast-growing number of fluorescent bulbs are in use due to effective marketing of their environmental benefits and cost savings. More than half a billion fluorescent lamps are now sold annually, and large numbers of spent lamps are entering the waste stream.

The Solution: Fluorescent lamps should be recycled at the end of their life to prevent the release of mercury into the environment. The key elements of increasing lamp recycling include financing of an adequate collection and recycling infrastructure, education, and enforcement of disposal bans.

Who is Involved?

PSI has identified over 200 stakeholders interested in fluorescent lamps. We share information with these stakeholders and invite them to participate in PSI's National Dialogue on Fluorescent Lamps. Dialogue participants have included:

Government

- ⇒ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency & Energy Star
- ⇒ State agencies from California, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, Utah, Washington, Vermont
- ⇒ Local governments: King County, WA; Snohomish County, WA; Middlesex, NJ; Metro Oregon; Salt Lake Valley, UT; Dane County, WI

Manufacturers & Recyclers

- ⇒ Lighting companies, including GE, OSRAM SYLVANIA, Philips, and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association
- ⇒ Mercury recyclers, including EcoLights Northwest, Waste Management/Lamp Tracker, Veolia Environmental Services, and the Association for Lighting and Mercury Recyclers

Environmental & Public Health Groups

- ⇒ Mercury Policy Project, Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association, Sierra Club, Washington Citizens for Resource Conservation

Energy Efficiency Advocates and Electrical Utilities

- ⇒ Avista Utility; Efficiency Vermont; Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership; Northwest Energy Coalition; Puget Sound Energy; Portland Energy Conservation, Inc.

Project Goal

The overall goal of this fluorescent lighting initiative is to promote the use of energy efficient lighting while eliminating or reducing the amount of mercury and other toxins entering the environment during the lifecycle of fluorescent lamps. Specific goals include reducing the environmental impact of the manufacture of fluorescent lighting, increasing the manufacture and procurement of environmentally preferable lighting, and maximizing the safe collection and recycling of spent lamps from households and businesses through the development of a nationally-coordinated system that is financially sustainable.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Product stewardship directs all participants in the lifecycle of a product to take responsibility for reducing the impacts to the environment and human health caused by the production, use, and end-of-life management of that product.

PSI

The Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) is a national environmental institute with membership from 45 states, over 100 local governments, and over 50 businesses, environmental groups, and organizations that establishes cooperative agreements to reduce the health and environmental impacts from consumer products. We work with state and local government agencies to partner with waste firms, manufacturers, retailers, environmental groups, federal agencies, and other key stakeholders. The mission of PSI is to pursue initiatives to ensure that all those involved in the lifecycle of a product share responsibility for reducing its health and environmental impacts, with producers bearing responsibility for financing collection and recycling, or safe disposal.

What is the Process for the National Dialogue on Fluorescent Lamps?

Action Plan Development	Action Plan	PSI developed a Product Stewardship Action Plan for Fluorescent Lighting as background for participants heading into the dialogue. It is based on interviews, research, and direct input from a wide range of stakeholders. The Action Plan describes the problems, key issues, and potential solutions to manage fluorescent lamps. It served to set the stage for a series of multi-stakeholder meetings that explore collaborative strategies for fully addressing the priority issues.
Dialogue Phase 1: April - June 2008	Meeting #1 May 21-22 Boston, MA Workgroups: ⇒ Financing ⇒ Infrastructure ⇒ Bans & Enforcement	Over 50 stakeholders participated in the first dialogue meeting in Salt Lake City, UT in April 2008. Presentations addressed the mercury content of fluorescent lamps (including trends and variations), collection infrastructure needs for a consumer lamp recycling program, green procurement options, and the role of disposal bans and their enforcement in promoting recycling for the commercial sector. Following the meeting, the Infrastructure Workgroup explored lamp breakage issues, particularly among retailers. The Financing Workgroup identified applicable financing systems, including legislated and voluntary programs funded by manufacturers and energy utilities or efficiency programs. The Bans & Enforcement Workgroup identified strategies to increase the use of disposal bans and promote compliance and enforcement. This phase was funded primarily by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 8.
Dialogue Phases 2 & 3: July 2008—present	Meeting #2 July 15-16, Seattle, WA Meeting #3 November 6-7 Seattle, WA Workgroups: ⇒ Financing ⇒ Infrastructure ⇒ Bans & Enforcement	<p>Following the third meeting, participants agreed that fluorescent lamps should be promoted for their energy efficiency benefits (until a viable, less toxic alternative exists) and should be recycled. Consensus was not reached on who should ultimately pay for a sustainable collection and recycling system for consumer fluorescent lamps. The group also agreed on the following with regard to a financing system:</p> <p>Household Lamp Recycling: There should be some type of financing system developed that allows consumers to recycle their lamps without an end-of-life fee. State and local governments should not manage or pay for this system. Household lamp recycling should also be promoted by the passage and enforcement of disposal bans/recycling requirements, but only when convenient recycling opportunities are available.</p> <p>Commercial Lamp Recycling: There is already a financing system and infrastructure in place for lamp recycling in the commercial sector in the form of contractual relationships between “large” consumers and recyclers or lighting service providers. The recycling of these lamps should be required and enforced.</p> <p>PSI developed a guidance document for state and local agencies considering lamp disposal bans, a fact sheet for retailers interested in collecting fluorescent lamps for recycling, an overview of financing options for consumer sector lamp recycling, and a press release to raise awareness among large generators about the importance of recycling mercury-containing lamps. Primary funding for this portion of the dialogue was provided by the Washington Department of Ecology.</p>
Dialogue Phase 4: TBD	TBD	Funding for this phase has been secured from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—Region 5. The meeting will be scheduled and agenda developed following the 2009 state legislative sessions.
Subsequent Phases	TBD	Subsequent phases to develop, implement, and evaluate an agreement will be considered as needed.

Funding Needs

PSI seeks funding to: (1) Develop model state legislation based on producer responsibility that will level the playing field for manufacturers, harmonize state programs, and put in place mechanisms that will ensure increased recycling, including performance goals and data reporting by manufacturers; (2) Advocate for fluorescent lamp legislation in key states; and (3) Consider federal legislation once a model has been established in a sufficient number of states. If you are able to assist PSI in achieving these goals, please contact:

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