

PV Module Stewardship and Takeback Program Update



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Current Status

- The statewide collection program is not currently operational.
- No sites (that I've heard of) in WA recycling PV modules.
- Recycling locations in:
 - Idaho
 - Ohio
 - Wisconsin
- Program collection begins January 2021.
- Creating guidance plan for manufacturers.

What Does the Law Say?

- SB 5939 passed in 2017
 - Primarily a tax incentive bill.
- Created Chapter 70.355 RCW, Photovoltaic Module Stewardship and Takeback Program
 - PV module manufacturers responsible for financing the takeback and recycling system.

Examples Covered in Program



Examples NOT Covered in Program



Ecology's Role

- Create guidance document that manufacturers will follow when:
 - Creating stewardship (recycling) plan.
 - Preparing annual report.
 - Listing downstream vendors.
 - Creating collection network.

Stakeholder Advisory Group

Bill Angel — Whatcom County Health	Evan Bush — Itek Energy
David Thompson — Panasonic Corporation of North America	Kirk Haffner — South Sound Solar
Dean Van Vleet — Solar Washington	Matthew Garamone — First Solar, Inc.
Evelyn Butler — Solar Energy Industries Association	Rick Matheson — Silicon 2 Solar
Garvin Heath — National Renewable Energy Laboratory	Rod Whittaker — Washington Refuse and Recycling Association
Heather Trim — Zero Waste Washington	Sego Jackson — Seattle Public Utilities
Jake Walters — CED Greentech	



Timeline

- **July 2019** – Final guidance document published.
- **January 2020** – Initial plans submitted to Ecology.
- **January 2021** – Plans are implemented and collection operational.
- **January 2021** – Only manufacturers participating in a plan can sell in or into Washington.

Next Steps

- Fourth of four meetings scheduled for November 9th.
- Review comments and suggestions from advisory group.
- Publish final guidelines that include requirements for approved recycling plans.
- Updates can be found at <https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Reducing-recycling-waste/Solar-panels>.

Thank You

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