PROCUREMENT
PROCUREMENT POLICIES IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Rationale

EPA bas not implemented the procurement requirements in the original 1976 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) nor subsequent amendments, Although some guidelines have been issued in the last year their deficient requirements will have minimal effect on stimulating greater levels of recycling. The National Recycling Coalition has sued EPA for non-compliance with the spirit and intent of RCRA as well as specific details that would make a significant difference in the effect of EPA guidelines.

Policy

Federal, state, and local governments should immediately institute recycled products procurement standards that specify minimum post-consumer recycled content and appropriate price preferences for a broad range of products. State recycling associations, local and state governments and interested businesses should join with the National Recycling Coalition in legal actions to ensure that the Congressional intent of increasing the demand for recyclables is met.

Local and state governments should review federal and state procurement requirements (e.g., those in RCRA) to determine what additional efforts, if any. are required of them to comply with laws requiring the use of recycled materials and products when using federal and state funding for projects within that government.

Cross-reference: Legislation and Regulation (RCRA Authorization)