

Asian Network Workshop 2020

Implementing Enhanced Waste Import and Export Control under the Plastic Waste Amendments

Environmental Protection Department
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of
the People's Republic of China



Content

- ▷ Introduction
- ▷ Waste Import / Export Control
- ▷ Waste Plastics Import / Export Control
- ▷ Closing Remarks



Introduction

Introduction

- ▷ Location
- ▷ Gateway to China
- ▷ Efficient harbour facilities
- ▷ A major transshipment port



Waste Import / Export Control

Basel Convention

- ▷ Applies to Hong Kong through China's ratification
- ▷ EPD designated as the Competent Authority (CA) for Hong Kong
- ▷ Requirements incorporated into the Waste Disposal Ordinance, Cap. 354, in Hong Kong



Waste Import / Export Control (1)

- ▷ **Waste** is –
 - any substance or article which is **discarded** or otherwise **dealt with as waste** shall be presumed to be waste until the contrary is proved
 - any substance or article once **given up by its original owners or users**, irrespective whether it is still functional or can be sold for a value



Waste Import / Export Control (2)

- ▶ Import or export of the following types of waste requires a permit
 - a type of waste specified in the 6th Schedule of the WDO, unless it is uncontaminated and is imported or exported for recycling
 - a type of waste specified in the 7th Schedule of the WDO (i.e. hazardous waste)
 - a type of waste not specified in the 6th Schedule of the WDO
 - e-waste



Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (1)



Waste printed circuit board assemblies

Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (2)



Waste monitors

Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (3)



Waste laptop and desktop computers

Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (4)



Waste toner cartridges

Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (5)



Waste mobile phone displays

Examples of Illegal Waste Intercepted (6)



All types of waste batteries

Waste Plastics Import / Export Control

Waste Plastics Import / Export Control

- ▷ Basel Convention's Plastic Waste Amendment
- ▷ Regulated waste plastics (Y48 of Annex II, A3210 of Annex VIII)
- ▷ Non-regulated waste plastics (B3011 of Annex IX)
- ▷ Details of control in Hong Kong -
https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide_ref/guide_wiec_tcs6.html

Waste Plastics Import / Export Control

	Import	Export	Re-export
Regulated waste plastics	Permit Required		Prior declaration to EPD
Non-regulated waste plastics		Prior declaration to EPD	



Non-regulated waste plastics (1)

- ▷ Types of waste plastics as specified in Plastic Waste Amendment
- ▷ **Uncontaminated** -
“**clean** and contain **no more than 0.5% impurities** by weight. Impurities include other types of waste plastics, waste paper, waste glass, etc.”
(National Standards of the People's Republic of China: GB16487.12-2017)

Non-regulated waste plastics (2)

- ▷ Recycling in **Environmentally Sound Manner**
 - Thermal treatment for production of recycled plastic pellets
 - Production of new plastic products
 - Chemical recycling
- ▷ Adequate pollution control



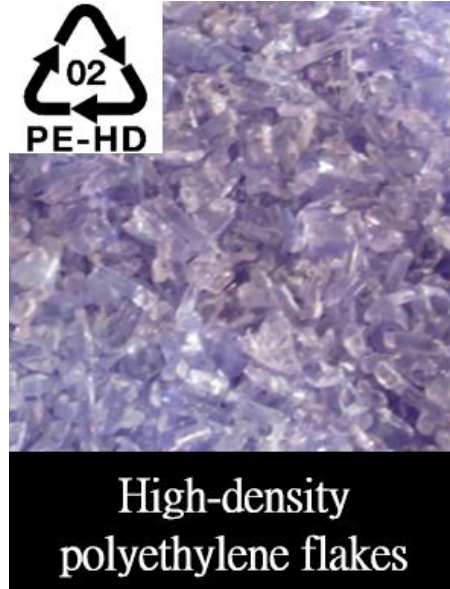
Non-regulated waste plastics (3)

- ▷ Prior declaration to EPD before shipment departs from the state of export
- ▷ Declaration form & supporting documents
 - Bill of Lading or equivalent
 - Photos
 - Information on the recycling facility
 - Contract documents confirming the recycling of the waste

Non-regulated waste plastics (4)

- ▷ Information and document received will be shared with states concerned
- ▷ Feedback from competent authorities to be passed to concerned importers / exporters
- ▷ Ensure legality and smooth passage of shipment

Non-regulated waste plastics (5)



Non-regulated waste plastics (6)



Regulated waste plastics (1)

- ▷ Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedures to be adopted for communication with overseas Competent Authorities
- ▷ Permit to be issued to importers / exporters if the shipments to be imported into or exported from Hong Kong fulfil WDO's requirements
- ▷ NO permit issued for re-export, but declaration is required

Regulated waste plastics (2)



Regulated waste plastics (3)



Polyvinyl chloride pipes

Closing Remarks

Call for additional guidelines from Basel Convention

- ▷ Types of polymers / resins (other than those stated in B3011 of Annex IX) to be grouped under Annex IX of the Basel Convention
- ▷ Clarifications on “almost exclusively” and “almost free from contamination”

Collaboration with Overseas Competent Authorities

- ▷ To strengthen communication with other Competent Authorities' control over plastic waste ensuring legitimacy and smooth operation of the transboundary movement of plastic waste
- ▷ To keep concerned trades in Hong Kong informed about other Competent Authorities' control
- ▷ To share intelligence as appropriate

Contact

For enquiry, please email us:

wasteimportandexport@epd.gov.hk

Thank you