

California Product Stewardship Council Policy Priorities 2012

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is the preeminent California based organization dedicated to product stewardship research, education, and implementation. CPSC has the support of 35 counties, 96 cities, 36 local government associations, and 131 business partners representing virtually every Senate and Assembly district in California. CPSC takes pride in coordinating closely with others to ensure that California policies maintain the integrity of the [Principles of Product Stewardship](#).

Ongoing EPR Policy Implementation

CPSC co-sponsored with the Sierra Club the first “true” Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) bill in California in 2008 for **mercury thermostats** and has actively participated in the passage of laws to create product stewardship programs for **paint** and **carpet** in 2010. Early on, CPSC targeted paint as its number one priority due to its volume and cost. CPSC will continue to be a leader in the discussions on regulation development for these products, market development and California job creation for recovery processes, and on legislation for products we have already engaged in discussions.

Priority Products

CPSC is committed to building on our early success and will continue to focus on the following products:

- **Batteries**
- **Mercury Thermostats**
- **Carpet**
- **Paint**
- **Mercury Lamps**
- **Sharps**

These products continue to be priorities for one or more of the following reasons: banned from disposal, currently have very low recovery and recycling rates, the cost to manage, the environmental and public health impacts, and/or the lack of collection and management options. CPSC has prioritized hazardous wastes banned from disposal first.

To remain focused, CPSC has not prioritized at this time the following “problem” products, but will continue to monitor all EPR legislation and support EPR legislation if it meets the overall [Principles of Product Stewardship](#). CPSC will continue to develop strategies with stakeholders to address ongoing end of life issues for these products.

Pharmaceuticals: CPSC has made presentations to the State Water Board, studied the EPR program in [British Columbia](#), and met with stewardship organizations in Canada and France about their programs. CPSC supported [San Francisco in development of the EPR ordinance for Pharmaceuticals in 2010](#), and in 2011 worked with water groups [and Senator Emmerson’s office to amend out of SB 431 language that would have made pharmacy collection more difficult](#). CPSC will continue to conduct research and work with stakeholders who are interested in implementing pharmaceutical take back programs.

Packaging: CPSC has become educated on EPR for packaging and co-hosted an [EPR Workshop with UC Berkeley in 2010](#). CPSC’s Executive Director has presented to the international packaging EPR conference in Brussels, Belgium in 2010 representing the United States and completed site visits in Canada, Europe and Australia and participates in national discussions on EPR for packaging.

E-Waste: E-waste is a growing waste stream with valuable metals which could create jobs in recycling if the right policies to support recovery are in place. In 2010, CPSC facilitated an [e-waste EPR workshop with UC Berkeley](#), presented at the WEEE Forum in Zurich, and will continue to lead this discussion.