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WEEE Regulations : Mixing of WEEE collection streams

We have received a number of queries about the extent to which the 5 WEEE collection streams can be mixed, and whether WEEE stream A can be mixed with scrap metal. The following should help promote a clearer understanding of the way forward:

The default position is that all 5 WEEE streams should be separately collected, where there is space at the Designated Collection Facility to do so, and that these 5 streams should be kept separate from and unmixed with other waste, including scrap metal. Where space is limited at the site, the 5 streams can be mixed, in line with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Annex 1 of the WEEE Code of practice. Here again the WEEE should be kept separate from other waste, including scrap metal. If having mixed the WEEE streams, space still remains a problem, it is only then that consideration should be given to mixing category A with scrap metal. This arrangement will be conditional on the AATF having in place and applying a protocol to ensure that scrap metal is not used to distort the level of WEEE being handled. The AATF will need to ensure that the environment agencies are happy with the methodology and application of the protocol prior to its application.

Continuation 2

A copy of this letter will be available on the BERR website.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Kath Barker
WEEE Implementation Team

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