

Mercury Thermostat Collection Program

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Mercury Thermostat Collection Program

- EPR and Thermostats
- History
- Compliance
- Resolution



EPR and Thermostats

- Legacy Waste
- Financial and operation burden placed on manufacturers
- Government Removed



History of Regulating Mercury Thermostats

- Mercury Thermostats banned in 2006
 - Quicksilver Caucus
- Assembly Bill 2347: Mercury Thermostat Collection Act
 - Established in 2008
 - Manufacturer funded and operated
 - Submit annual report by April 1
 - Methodology to determine mercury thermostat waste generation
 - Required Department to adopt performance requirements



History of Regulating Mercury Thermostats

- Adoption of Collection Program Performance Requirements
 - Statute mandated manufacturers to estimate number becoming waste
 - California first and only state to establish collection requirement
 - Adopted July 2013



History of Collections

Collection Year	Total Collected
2009	7,542
2010	13,340
2011	18,697
2012	18,291



Collection Requirements

Year	Mercury Thermostats Becoming Waste	Performance Requirement as a percentage	Performance Requirement as a number
2013	217,000	30%	65,100
2014	212,000	45%	95,400
2015	207,000	55%	113,850
2016	202,000	65%	131,300
2017	197,000	75%	147,750
2018 and beyond		75%	



Compliance in 2013 and 2014

Collection Year	REQUIRED	ACTUAL
2013	32,550	23,017
2014	95,400	22,453



Enforcement

- Issued Summary of Violations for 2013 and 2014
- Department and the manufacturers entered into a Consent Order
 - Created a California Project Manager in TRC
 - Required manufacturers to hire a consultant
 - Submit 3 plans
 - Outreach
 - Pilot Projects
 - Program Modifications
- Reimbursed DTSC



Performance in 2015

REQUIRED	ACTUAL
113,850	18,260



DTSC Observations

- Proposed Program Modifications informed at yielding collections
- Limited investment in California
 - Incentives in Maine and Vermont
 - Limited personal presence
- Targeted audience is narrow



Lessons Learned

- Add focus to waste management
- Household Hazardous Waste network
- Urgency to meet requirements



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