

Major Environmental Policies

January 2022

1. Interdepartmental Meeting Held to Evaluate Food Safety Controls

On 24 December, the Executive Yuan's Office of Food Safety (OFS) held a video conference to evaluate food safety policies to improve Taiwan's food safety controls. There were approximately 160 participants, including those from relevant government agencies such as the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW), Ministry of Education (MOE), Council of Agriculture (COA), and EPA. Others were the OFS committee members, scholars, experts, and civil and industrial organization representatives. Ideas and opinions were gathered to improve various relevant measures for food safety controls.



At the meeting, the MOHW discussed the results of sanitation and safety controls for can factories and food products. Policies are reviewed on a rolling basis with strengthened audits and inspections to ensure enterprises engage actively in self-management. All policies reflect the government's resolve to uphold food safety in order to ultimately achieve and maintain health and dietary safety of the public.

Looking back at past incidents involving eggs and egg products, the COA reviewed its collaboration with the Executive Yuan on the interdepartmental improvement plan for the egg and liquid egg industry. Via communication and consensus with the industry, the industry has been assisted to gradually improve source tracking, formulate egg printing measures, and build protocols for cleaned and sorted eggs and non-cleaned-and-sorted ones to be carried out in stages. It was preannounced on 18 June 2021 and then announced on 17 September that cleaned and sorted fresh eggs are listed as produce mandated to be registered to trace their origins. The announced content, with a complete set of data required for registration and labeling, will take effect on 1 January 2022.

The MOE works to ensure that elementary and middle school students are provided with a steady supply of diverse, local produce that is clearly sourced, high quality, and secure. Another aim is to help schools in remote regions obtain needed food ingredients. Therefore, the efforts focus on solving these schools' problems like low budgets for food by helping them set up central kitchens or joint procurement networks with other schools and subsidizing costs for food, needed kitchen staff, and shipping. It has also resulted in lighter administration burdens for school staff in charge of lunch. Furthermore, the MOE actively joins hands with relevant agencies to enhance the quality of school lunch in schools in remote regions. The COA will keep assisting farmers to produce quality and traceable agricultural, fish, livestock, and poultry products and properly implement source controls. Its collaboration with the MOE will continue to jointly

solve problems by matching suppliers with schools and improving and optimizing collection, storage, and shipping facilities.

To ensure food safety from the start, the EPA works with other agencies in joint sampling and response measures to trace to the source. Chemical substances with potential risks to food safety are listed as concerned substances after assessment. Since 2017, over 3,000 visits have been conducted every year to enterprises manufacturing or selling chemical substances. The EPA also first screens out those manufacturing or selling chemical substances with high risks to food safety that are also sold as food additives and then conducts joint audits. The results have yet to find evidence of toxic chemical substances entering the food industry, showing that current efforts effectively strengthen source controls on these substances and ensure the safety of production environments and food products.

Participants all appreciated the chance to exchange ideas during the review, providing various suggestions concerning food safety policies as references for the government's future policies. Key points of these suggestions and opinions are as follows:

1. The MOHW's suggestions involved improvement on control measures for canned food, implementation of random inspections on school lunch, and food poisoning prevention. Besides the continual improvement of food safety controls and strengthened assistance for enterprises, the MOHW will ensure that all measures are implemented properly via interdepartmental collaboration in order to protect consumers' dietary safety.

2. The COA promotes the practice of egg printing as it provides consumers with complete information and options during purchase and helps source tracing and food safety controls. Scholars and experts suggested that egg cleaning and sorting follow regulations and guidelines set by the COA and the MOHW, and that eggs not cleaned and sorted be ink-printed as soon as possible. There will be continuous efforts to assist enterprises in cleaning and sorting and facilitate communication across the industry in hopes of bringing clean, safe quality egg products to consumers.


3. The MOE will look through experts' suggestions on food supply and transportation for school lunches, central kitchens, and relevant inspections and collaborate with the COA and MOHW. The aim is to keep enhancing lunch quality in rural schools, ensuring a steady and safe food supply so that kids in remote areas have equal access to excellent diets. And in line with the MOE's school lunch policy, food in the supply chain for rural schools is certified with the CAS Labels (Taiwan Premium Agricultural Products), Traceable Agricultural Products Label (TAPs), and Taiwan Organic Labels, and assigned with QR Codes for origin tracing. Other measures include matching local produce with qualified suppliers, enhancing food quality at the production end, and helping solve problems encountered by remote schools.

4. After its establishment, the EPA's Toxic and Chemical Substances Bureau (TCSB) has since 2017 listed 27 substances with potential risks to food safety, such as maleic anhydride and rhodamine B, as Class 4 Toxic Chemical Substances. Enterprises are mandated to have their products registered and labeled with safety data prepared for use. It is necessary to acquire approval documents, and products are prohibited to be transferred or sold on online platforms. On the experts' reminder of the possible occurrence of the toxic starch (maleic anhydride) incidents in the future, the TCSB will keep working with the MOHW to prevent the chemical from systematically entering the food production chain by tightening inspections during holidays.

The sanitation and safety management chain for food products requires collaboration among different government agencies and across professional fields. All involved departments will continue to work together to establish a perfect management system to ensure food safety and create a win-win-win for the government, enterprises, and consumers.

2. New Measures Effective Starting January 2022

The new measures that came into effect on 1 January 2022 include: controlling cooking smoke from restaurants, setting up a registration system for kitchen waste cooking facilities, tightening controls for labeling of chlorpyrifos, building an integrated waste vehicle recycling platform, and recyclers care program.

Items	Descriptions
Measures controlling cooking smoke from restaurants effective January	Newly opened restaurants up to a specific scale must install cooking smoke control equipment and conduct proper operations and maintenance. Moreover, restaurants in New Taipei City and Taipei City are subject to stricter regulations and therefore are to comply accordingly to safeguard the health of the public and staff.
A registration system set up for kitchen waste cooking facilities	<p>The EPA has finished setting up a registration system for kitchen waste cooking facilities. Pig farms using kitchen wastes as feeds, more than 400 in total, are required to upload all essential information and kitchen waste cooking status up to the EPA's cloud system. It used to be that all data had to be entered manually. Starting 2022, enterprises can upload by just scanning the specific QR Code of each, checking boxes on whether to cook or not, and then clicking "send." It is no longer needed to manually type or install relevant software, streamlining the whole process with fewer typing errors.</p>  <p>The diagram illustrates the registration process. On the left, a map of Taiwan is labeled '411 pig farms'. A red arrow points from the map to a smartphone held by a hand, with the text 'Required to upload all essential information and kitchen waste cooking status up to the EPA's cloud'. Above the smartphone is a building icon labeled 'Local EPBs' and 'Building remote control and checking system'. Below the smartphone is a box labeled 'Registration system for kitchen waste cooking facilities'. At the bottom left, a box says 'Upload by just scanning the specific QR Code' with a QR code icon. At the bottom right, a box says 'EPBs Monitoring via online system' with a computer monitor icon. On the right side of the diagram is a screenshot of a web portal for '高檢總局中環系統' (High Prosecution Bureau Central Environmental System) with fields for '請卡機及卡片' (Please insert card reader and card), 'InfoThink IT-500U Reader ID 卡號' (InfoThink IT-500U Reader ID card number), '請刷機卡片' (Please scan card), and '請插卡片密碼' (Please insert card password). Below the screenshot is a note: '禁止將此卡安裝元件，請移轉電腦中的HICOS卡片管理工具，並至內政部環境管理中心下載並安裝最新版HICOS卡片管理工具。HICOS卡片管理工具下載網址: 內政部環境管理中心 http://moenv.nat.gov.tw/download_1.html'.</p>
Controls tightened for labeling of chlorpyrifos, an environmental agent	<p>In line with gradually limiting the use of chlorpyrifos globally, controls are strengthened for its use as an environmental agent in sprays. Warnings on labels are put in place to limit its use in outdoor environments only to lower indoor exposure and risks.</p> <p>For products (including manufactured and imported) that are environmental agents containing chlorpyrifos, produced after 1 January 2022, warnings that prohibit use in households and indoor environments are to be put on labels of regular environmental agents. Warnings that allow use in outdoor environments only are to be put on labels of</p>

Items	Descriptions
	special agents. All aim to remind consumers to use environmental agents with caution.
The integrated waste vehicle recycling platform	From 1 January 2022, the EPA is working with the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC) and the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to promote recycling waste vehicles. With one click on the keyboard, people are now accessing the system that integrates five services, including recycling vehicles.
Recyclers care program	<p>In 2022, individual recyclers listed by local environmental bureaus are offered higher-than-market purchasing prices per unit as an incentive. For example, the price is raised to NT18/kg to purchase waste paper containers. Onsite collection at individual storage sites is also available to recyclers in need of assistance. A total budget of NT\$126.26 million has been appropriated in 2022 for the program with monthly maximum subsidy of NT\$5,000/person.</p> <p>A one-year microinsurance, with a maximum premium of NT\$500, is provided to each recycler eligible for the care program. It is to prevent financial downfalls of their families, should accidents occur to recyclers during their work.</p>  <p>Onsite collection at individual storage sites is available to recyclers in need of assistance.</p>

3. First Label Issued to Certify Products Using Marine Debris as Government and Corporations Work to Maintain a Clean Ocean

On 27 December 2021, the EPA issued the Marine Debris Circular Product Label to certify 13 products developed by four enterprises, including Horng En Plastics, BoReTech, NICE Enterprise, and Taijei Precision Co. This first batch of the issued Marine Debris Circular Product Label marks its beginning and displays local enterprises' environmental efforts. Furthermore, it shows the resolve of both the government and enterprises to keep the ocean clean.

In 2021, the EPA opened a new chapter in Taiwan's endeavor toward reusing marine debris with the launch of a new clothing series, in which 96% of the contents are waste plastic bottles collected from the ocean. It

successfully demonstrated the joint efforts of industries, government, academia and researchers, and international certification organizations on promoting the circular use of marine debris and a certifying mechanism for tracking sources. Afterward, a set of guidelines to promote the product label were announced in stages after 9 April 2021 as references for enterprises in their application and the EPA's evaluation and management. On 3 June, the design of the label's logo was approved by the Intellectual Property Office and then registered. The whole process is to encourage corporations to actively participate in marine environmental protection, reduce waste and resource consumption, and consider the possibilities of reusing marine debris to make products.

First ever to have been certified with the Label, the four enterprises come from both the upstream and downstream of the industry. Horng En Plastics, the recycling company, utilizes bottle caps, buoys, fishing nets, and plastic barrels and boxes. BoReTech Reusable Technology produces reutilized materials with waste plastic bottles. NICE Enterprise, the leading household product manufacturer, uses recycled marine debris to make containers as the packaging of its popular products. And lastly, Taijei Precision Co., a new enterprise, manufactures floors and wooden materials with mixtures of marine debris, agricultural wastes, and fishing wastes.

EPA Deputy Minister Hung-Teh Tsai noted that the 13 products from the four corporations are the first ever in the nation to be certified with the Label. Since 2021, the EPA began finalizing each and every detail in the certification process, hoping to ensure Taiwan's reutilized products that use marine debris aligned with the world. With the certification regulations in place, enterprises in Taiwan that passed the strict certification process will be able to put their products on the global market. Likewise, similar foreign products can enter Taiwan once obtaining the Label. The Label helps increase consumers' willingness to purchase a product and ultimately expands the business opportunities for reuse products and their usage.

Deputy Minister Tsai elaborated that the enterprises certified this time are those that have been developing products with recycled marine debris long-term and therefore are highly supported by consumers. Moreover, products of other multiple manufacturers are currently undergoing the certification process, which when approved will be issued the Label by the EPA. Manufacturers in the relevant industry can also form a strategic alliance among themselves, helping enterprises achieve technological breakthroughs by learning about others' needs and brainstorming. This way, applications of reutilized materials can be expanded.

The verification procedures for the first products certified with the Label were conducted by TÜV Rheinland and the Metal Industries Research and Development Centre, which also produced certification statements and reports to ensure fairness and objectivity of the entire process. Participation of certifying institutions, both foreign and local, further displays how serious all fields have taken in the first year of the Label's launch.

4. Smuggled Coolants Destroyed to Protect the Ozone Layer

To protect the ozone layer and deter unscrupulous enterprises from smuggling illegal coolants, the EPA has since 2001 commissioned the MOF's Customs Administration (CA) to destroy all the confiscated smuggled coolants. Annual subsidies are provided to the CA for all costs needed for the destruction. On 21 December 2021, the CA completed the bidding process to commission qualified disposal enterprises in the destruction operations, which are expected to destroy another 75 metric tons by the end of 2022.

Coolant ingredients like hydrochlorofluorocarbon, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), HALONs, and other fully halogenated CFCs all damage the ozone layer, and are listed for control by the Montreal Protocol. They are not easily combustible, but with a stable and toxin-free chemical characteristic, they're usually stored in steel containers. Confiscated ones are normally placed in the customs' warehouse. In recent years, the EPA and the CA have had multiple discussions on the operations and also together taken inventory in the

warehouse, listing coolants in containers that are in poor status as the first batch to be destroyed. On 25 January 2021, a statement was issued based on the Montreal Protocol to announce that rotating kilns, cement kilns, and electric arc furnaces were to be used to destroy smuggled coolants. Currently, there are four industrial waste disposal enterprises that meet the operation standards.

Coolants have different physical characteristics than wastes. Most of them are in gas form, so regular incinerators need to be outfitted with special equipment to destroy them. Before 2004, Renwu Plant of Formosa Plastic Co., which manufactured coolants itself, was commissioned to destroy smuggled ones. The operation ceased after the plant sold its furnace. In the following years, the EPA sought help from disposal enterprises abroad and gave up because they charged NT\$1 million per metric ton. And enterprises in Taiwan were unwilling to be commissioned, considering the major technical requirements and difficulty in facility renovations. The operation was put on hold as there was a small amount of smuggled coolants stored.

To build up domestic disposal capacity, the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) has since 2011 been commissioned to develop the technology needed. Trial burns to destroy coolants were subsequently conducted with rotating kilns, arc furnaces, and cement kilns, with all processes compliant with the air pollution control regulations. The EPA will keep collaborating with the CA and coordinating with relevant institutes as well as qualified disposal enterprises to destroy smuggled coolants. Meanwhile, efforts are ongoing in the development and transfer of necessary technology, with assistance for the CA in regular inventory and inspections on how proper and safe the steel containers are in the warehouse. The goal is to speed up the destruction of confiscated coolants.



Tons of refrigerant cylinders

5. Three District Centers Established to Promote Regional Environmental Management

In response to the central government's organizational restructuring and promote regional environmental management, the EPA formally established three District Environmental Management Centers on 1 January 2022. Under the existing organizational structure of the Northern, Central, and Southern Branches of the Bureau of Environmental Inspection, regional environmental governance, supervision of environmental tasks of local environmental agencies, and environmental crime investigation and law enforcement that were the original tasks of the Branches have been incorporated as the core tasks of the Northern, Central and Southern District Environmental Management Centers

with the leaders of the branches assuming the roles as directors of the respective centers.



The EPA stated that following the establishment of the Resource Circulation and the Climate Change Office on 1 July 2021, the tasks of managing general waste and environmental sanitation were transferred to the Bureau of Environmental Inspection to unify authority and improve administrative efficiency. In addition, starting from 1 January 2022, the tasks of implementing "Salute to the Ocean -- Coastal Cleanliness Maintenance Plan" and of acting as the contacts for "Natural Disaster Response" and "Epidemic and Disaster Prevention" will also be transferred to the Bureau of Environmental Inspection.

To strengthen organizational functions in line with the central government's organization restructuring and to satisfy the needs of regional environmental management, the EPA has set up the Northern, Central, and Southern District Environmental Management Centers under the Bureau of Environmental Inspection. Under each center are five working groups: integrated planning, administrative inspectorate, crime detection, regional environmental facilities, and regional environmental management. In addition, a Disaster Prevention and Response Section has been created under the Northern Environmental Management Center to be responsible for the EPA's integrated operations in response to natural disasters.

The EPA pointed out that in the future, in addition to handling environmental crime investigation and law enforcement and administrative supervision, which are the existing tasks of the three branches of the Bureau of Environmental Inspection, the three regional environmental management centers will also be responsible for the management of garbage disposal facilities, environmental sanitation management and other coordinating tasks previously handled by the Bureau. The Northern Environmental Management Center will also act as the contact for natural disaster response and epidemic and disaster prevention in order to gain greater flexibility in the deployment of manpower and service through personnel adjustment and mutual support. As a result, the organizational efficiency and core functions are enhanced since major or cross-district environmental inspections, waste management, and garbage disposal can now be conducted routinely. Still, a swift response can also be delivered in the event of a major environmental incident or natural disaster.

6. A NT\$1,000 Incentive for Replacing Old Motorcycles with Electric Ones

To accelerate the phasing out of old motorcycles, the EPA has drafted relevant incentive measures to encourage people to apply to replace their old motorcycles with electric ones. Applications approved by the central competent authority will be rewarded NT\$1,000 per electric motorcycle. The incentive period will be from now until 31 December next year for a period of two years.

The replacement of old motorcycles with their electric counterparts reduces greenhouse gases. In order to

accelerate the replacement of gasoline-powered vehicles with electric ones and to promote the reduction of greenhouse gases in the transportation sector, the *Regulations Governing Incentives for Replacing Old Motorcycles with Electric Motorcycles to Reduce Greenhouse Gas* (the “*Regulations*”) has been drafted to encourage the public to replace old motorcycles with electric ones.

Concerning the rewarding conditions and the greenhouse gas reduction benefits, Article 4 of the draft *Regulations* stipulates:

1. Complete the scrappage registration and the recycling of the old motorcycles within the incentive period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023. The newly purchased electric motorcycles are to be used within the country.
2. Agree to have the greenhouse gas reduction benefits of 2.3 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per motorcycle from completing the scrappage registration and recycling of the old motorcycles and the purchase of electric motorcycles vested in the central competent authority.

7. Dongda River Water Environment Improvement Project Serves as Model for Public-Private Cooperation

A new attraction has been added to Taichung City’s “blue ribbon”! The city's Dongda River Water Environment and Neighboring Area Environmental Improvement Project, subsidized by the EPA, has been completed and opened under the joint witness of EPA Deputy Minister Hung-Teh Tsai, Taichung City Deputy Mayor Jung Da Linghu, Tunghai University President Mao-Jiun Wang, National Taiwan University Professor Hong-Yuan Lee and the participating public, creating a new landscape for the Dongda riverside.

Dongda River flows through the Tunghai Night Market commercial district and Taichung Industrial Park. As economic development along the river grew, the water quality and the river environment gradually deteriorated over the years. In an attempt to restore the river’s ecosystem, Taichung City Government reviewed the overall environmental planning of Fazi River and its surrounding areas and collaborated with the EPA to implement the first phase of the Dongda River remediation project in 2015. And with the resources from the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program, Taichung City continued to work with the EPA to implement the second phase of the Dongda River improvement project with the objective to solve the wastewater problem in the night market commercial district located upstream of Dongda River.

The project invested \$300 million to establish a new on-site gravel contact oxidation treatment facility with a daily capacity of 8,000 metric tons and simultaneously upgrade the existing on-site water purification facilities (2,000 metric tons per day). In addition, to handle the high grease content of the night market wastewater, the degreasing function of the pre-treatment facilities was strengthened. Now the influent wastewater is directed to the underground gravel contact oxidation treatment facility for purification after screening, desilting, and grease removal and discharged back to Dongda River to supplement the base flow and be used for environmental landscaping in the surrounding areas. The river pollution index is expected to move from “seriously polluted” to “lightly polluted.”

The project covered the campus of Tunghai University and was strongly supported by the university, which actively participated from the planning and design stage and worked together with the government to create a high-quality water environment for education. It is a model of public-private cooperation and has won the Excellence Award for Facility Engineering at the 21st Public Works Golden Quality Awards in 2021 as well as many other awards.



8. Plans to Establish Environmental Analysis Fund and Designated Analysis Organizations Preannounced

With the purpose of improving the quality and credibility of environmental testing data, the EPA is planning to establish an Environmental Testing and Analysis Fund and a Designated Testing and Analysis Organizations scheme by formulating the *Environmental Testing and Analysis Act* (the "Act") to create a fair, independent and high-quality environmental analysis system.

The EPA pointed out that in comparison with the first draft, "designated" testing and analysis organizations, review and announcement of testing and analysis fee rates have been removed from the content of the (2nd) draft preannouncement, while the following has been added: The assigned person with the obligation to submit analysis must sign a standard contract with a designated testing and analysis organization, a category-based management system of testing and analysis organizations, and the analysis laboratories of local environmental agencies must acquire a license. The following were also added: If testing and analysis organizations commit forgeries in their analysis, the penalty can be aggravated to revoke all types of licenses, and trust protection shall be given for a certain period to the testing and analysis organizations that have acquired licenses, the employees and the environmental testing equipment that have been used following the promulgation of the Act.

In March and April 2020, the EPA conducted nine consultation sessions to discuss the bill with various sectors. The general concern reflected by the industry was that the selection of designated analysis organizations through the analysis management platform in the first draft preannouncement, and the review and the announcement of testing and analysis fee rates would affect the freedom of commerce and that the impact on the existing testing system would be too great. Having consulted and consolidated the opinions from the sectors, the EPA adjusted the content of the draft Act and delivered the second draft preannouncement.

The draft Act was preannounced for the first time on 25 January 2021. Its main items were the inclusion of both the industry and the testing and analysis organizations to be regulated by the Act, the plan to announce the formation of an Environmental Testing and Analysis Fund through the collection of testing and analysis fees from assigned persons with the obligation to submit an analysis, the establishment of an impartial and third-party testing and analysis management platform through which proper testing and analysis organizations are selected by the competent authority as designated testing and analysis

organizations to conduct tests for assigned persons with the obligation to submit analysis and review and announce the testing and analysis fee rates, that assigned persons with the obligation to submit analysis must make the payment in advance, to ensure the impartiality of the testing and analysis organizations. In addition, the issuance of licenses to testing and analysis organizations was optimized, and mechanisms to certify testing and analysis personnel and equipment were established to ensure the quality of testing data, the professionalism in testing procedures and the accuracy of data. Other mechanisms, such as whistleblower clauses, rewards for reporting violations, confiscation of illegal gains and rewards from violation cases were also included in the draft.

Framework of Environmental Testing and Analysis Act (Draft)



9. First Taiwan-Thailand Soil and Groundwater Environmental Technology Cooperation Forum Marks Commencement of Net Zero Cooperation

The EPA invited the Pollution Control Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand to co-host the 2021 Taiwan-Thailand Soil and Groundwater Environmental Technology Cooperation Forum on 24 December 2021. Held both physically and virtually, the forum saw hundreds of experts and scholars from both sides enthusiastically exchange on the experience of soil and groundwater policy, investigation, and regulation, laying a good foundation for future cooperation. EPA Minister Tzi-Chin Chang, acting representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Thailand Wei-Min Hsu, and acting representative of Thailand Trade and Economic Office Sunh Arunrugstichai were specially invited to give remarks.

In the opening address, Minister Chang stressed that soil and groundwater protection would be an important task for Taiwan and Thailand in the future since this issue was closely related to sustainable development and food supply. As to the soil and water pollution caused by industrial development, Taiwan has gradually accomplished the improvement of polluted sites and agricultural lands through the implementation of the *Soil and Groundwater Pollution Remediation Act* and the completion of relevant administrative regulations. The interaction between Taiwan and Thailand in the area of environmental protection was interrupted due to the pandemic, and the forum marked the commencement of the cooperation between the two sides through video conferencing for the first time, laying the foundation for the development of future technological exchanges and strengthening further cooperation.

The EPA stated that 2021 marked the 20th anniversary of the establishment of its Soil and Groundwater Remediation Fund Management Board. And through international soil and groundwater technological and

academic exchanges, it would continue to promote international accreditations to share capacities with its Thai partners and face climate change issues together for sustainable development. Deputy Director-General of the Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand Preeyaporn Suwanaged stated that the topic of soil and groundwater protection is essential in current global exchanges, and the laws and ideas of both sides could be shared through this forum.

Acting representative Wei-Min Hsu said that environmental protection and sustainability are of great importance for Taiwan and Thailand. Taiwan possesses comprehensive regulations, technical excellence, and ample experience in soil and groundwater protection. With the world facing the challenges of climate change, Taiwan can share its experience and technical know-how with other countries worldwide. Acting representative Sunh Arunrugstichai said that the two parties could exchange experience and sustainable development technology and seek further cooperation through this forum.

10. Regulations Governing the Certification and Management of Environmental Education Personnel Revised

To encourage citizens to obtain environmental education personnel certifications, promote environmental education, and ensure that environmental education training meet actual training needs, the EPA has revised the *Regulations Governing the Certification and Management of Environmental Education Personnel* (“the *Regulations*”) with the required hours for professional training adjusted to 40 hours and the total training hours adjusted to 100 hours.

Given that many years of *Environmental Education Act* implementation and environmental education personnel certification have shown that 100 hours of training is adequate to meet the requirement for certification in practice, the EPA has revised Article 9, paragraph 2 of the *Regulations*, adjusting the required total training hours from more than 120 hours to more than 100 hours so as to encourage the public to obtain environmental education personnel certifications. In addition, considering the rich, diversified and unique professional fields in which environmental education personnel may develop and to give the training courses a better focus, Article 9, paragraphs 4 and 5 of the *Regulations* have also been revised. Those who have applied for and been certified as an environmental education teaching personnel but would like to add another professional field, the required training hours for adding a professional field has been revised from more than 60 hours to more than 40 hours.

11. Revisions to the Regulations Governing Management of Industrial Waste Reuse Preannounced

To improve management of waste reuse and ensure the entire recycling process is tracked, the EPA is planning to revise the relevant regulations so that products produced by recycling facilities are classified into those for direct use and those requiring specific intermediates to undergo processing before they can be used. Since specific intermediates are considered industrial waste regulated by the *Waste Disposal Act*, they shall be transported to reprocessing facilities by vehicles equipped with GPS and shall be tracked all the way to end-users. In addition, the quality and purpose of all categories of reuse products will be specified.

One focus of public concern is whether or not aggregate-type intermediate products produced from industrial waste from recycling facilities, which need to be further processed before they can be used by end-users, can be properly reused to make end products. To meet public expectations, the EPA conducted a comprehensive review of the flow management and whole-process tracking of recycled products. The EPA will also designate materials produced by recycling facilities as special intermediate components for making low-grade backfill materials, bricks, concrete aggregates and concrete Jersey barriers and curbs. The

revision will also allow the intermediate products to be sold only to recycling enterprises that possess the proper processing capacity. These and other measures will more strictly regulate the quality standards and transportation methods for intermediate materials.

The revision will also add quality standards and restrict locations for reused products used for common purposes such as aggregates, industrial material feedstocks, fertilizer, animal feed, or energy sources. The revision will also enhance flow tracking and quality management of products containing reused materials. It is hoped that through cooperation with other ministries and commissions, a win-win situation for the environment and industrial development can be generated.

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