

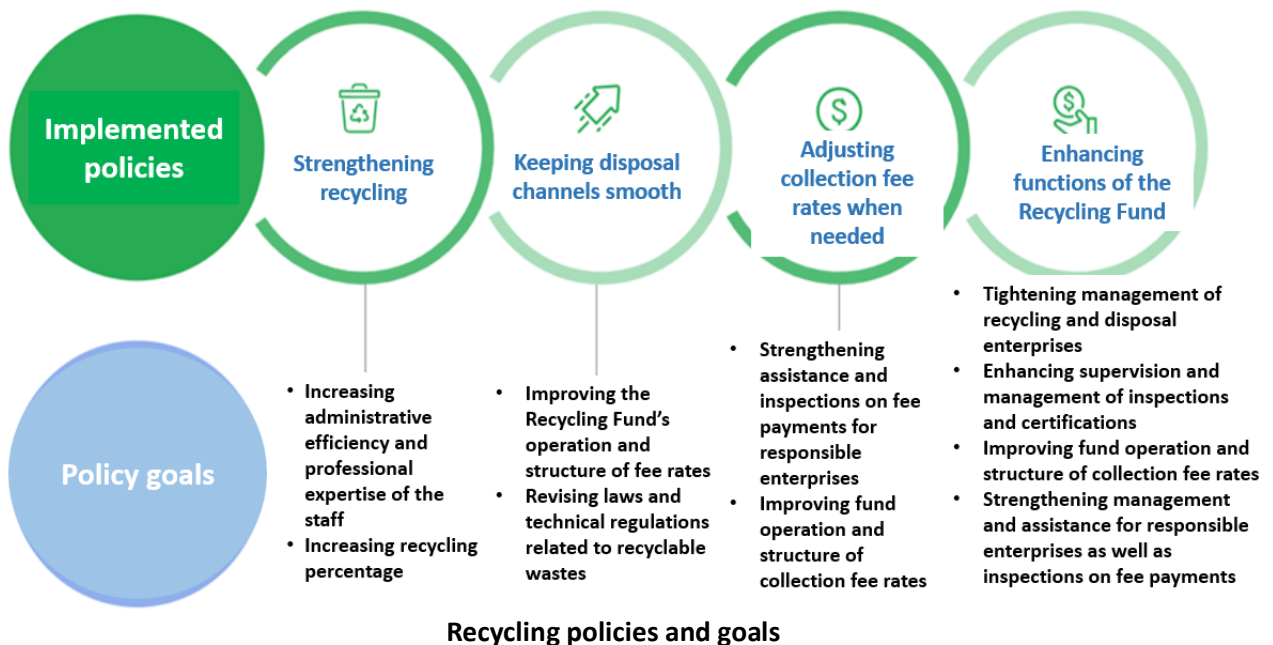
# Major Environmental Policies

June 2022

## 1. Enhancing and Utilizing the Recycling Fund to Its Full Effect

Taiwan's Four-In-One recycling system has been in place for years and always been well received. The current recycling policies focus on perfecting the management of the recycling and disposal industry, audits, and certification, as well as facilitating agencies and organizations to recycle. In the future, the EPA will keep promoting recycling and working on rebranding so that recyclers can become communities' green partners and more active in striving for thorough garbage sorting and zero waste. It is hoped that the vision of a circular society may ultimately be realized.

In recent years Taiwan has been highly praised in the international community for its systemized recycling policies adopted in waste disposal. Previously, the focus was mostly on incineration and landfills at the end of the disposal process. Now it has moved toward source reduction and recycling. Ever since the Recycling Fund Management Board (RFMB) combined community residents, recyclers, local governments' cleaning crews, and the Recycling Fund as participants jointly executing recycling, a positive recycling mechanism has been established. The current recycling policies cover four major areas:



The following are the focuses and results of relevant recycling policies:

### (1) Enhancing recycling

#### 1. Enhancing management and assistance for responsible enterprises

##### (1) Shortening registration and payment processes

Enterprises that are late with a large amount of overdue fees or habitually late in payments are the EPA's priority target to obtain what is owed. The overdue amount considered as large is now lowered from NT\$300,000 to NT\$100,000, and the urging period is shortened from 3

months to one month, all in hopes of speeding up the collection of overdue fees.

(2) Upholding the integrity of fee payments for responsible enterprises

Between January 2021 and February 2022, 2,814 enterprises were audited on their operational capacities and compulsory fees, which led to the discovery of unpaid recycling and disposal fees of NT\$147,777,000.

(3) Designing mandatory QR codes for paper utensil manufacturers

To stop evasion of registering the operating volume of paper utensils and paying the recycling and disposal fees, the EPA has been promoting affixing QR codes on paper utensils to show their manufacturers to help identify articles of responsibility. On 10 December 2021, draft revisions in Articles 4-1 and 18 of the *Responsible Enterprise Regulated Recyclable Waste Management Regulations* (應回收廢棄物責任業者管理辦法) were preannounced. A meeting was convened about the revisions on 24 February 2022.

## **2. Strengthening recycling and disposal channels**

(1) Replacing old recycling vehicles

A contract has been in place to jointly purchase recycling vehicles, details of which include replacing 118 old vehicles with new ones in 2021 and building a recycling vehicle with innovative design in the same year. The EPA collaborated with the cleaning crew in Chonghe, New Taipei City, to put this vehicle in operation for a month. The trial showed that it helped increase garbage sorting efficiency and lessened crew members' workload. In 2022, recycling vehicles that have been in operation for 16 years or more are the first for replacement, generating positive results with greater convenience in recycling for the public.

(2) Ensuring implementation of recycling at the local level

The EPA promotes recycling by integrating community residents, recyclers, local cleaning crews, and the Recycling Fund. In 2021, a recycling rate of 58.86% was achieved, surpassing the set goal of 54%.

(3) Optimizing construction of recycling plants and related facilities

Some subsidies can be applied for the construction and optimization of storage sites and sorting plants. A total of 81 applications were filed between January 2020 and February 2022, 50 of which had experts and scholars evaluate their construction design. In the end, NT\$546.32 million were appropriated to subsidize 32 projects, which will improve the facilities of storage sites with a total capacity of 16.8 metric tons. Over 4,300 cleaning crew members will enjoy better working environments, and storage sites for recycling can benefit from enhanced operational efficiency and better public image.

(4) Promoting recycling in communities and apartment complexes

To strengthen the Four-In-One Recycling Policies and create diverse recycling channels, the EPA began facilitating recycling in communities and apartment complexes in July 2021. By February 2022, a total of 150 recycling stations have been set up for demonstration across 1,620 communities and apartment complexes, putting compulsory sorting into practice and raising recycling results.

## **3. Care for individual recyclers**

(1) The deadline to apply for a maximum subsidy of NT\$5,000 per person for individual

recyclers is extended to 31 December 2022 to soften the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

(2) Micro-insurance

To prevent disadvantaged individual recyclers from falling into financial hardship after an accident, the EPA subsidizes individual recyclers, who qualify for micro-insurance, up to NT\$500/year for the premium of basic personal injury insurance with a maximum coverage of NT\$300,000.

(3) Providing clean-up services to individual recyclers

There are teams in place that visit individual recyclers to help clean up and sanitize work environments and also provide recycling opportunities. The aim is to improve the image of these recyclers by cleaning up dirty environments caused by hoarded recyclables.

(4) In 2021, the EPA assisted 22,012 individual recyclers that had recycled 11,567 metric tons of recyclables, a 5.1% increase for the number of recyclers and a 27.1% increase for the amount recycled as compared to 2020. Additionally, in January 2022, the EPA assisted 1,763 people who had recycled 955 metric tons of recyclables.

#### **4. Increasing recycling volume**

(1) Setting an action plan and organizing events to promote cellphone recycling

An action plan was formulated in April 2021 to promote the recycling of waste cellphones. The top ten cellphone brands, as well as all stores of the five major telecommunication companies, were invited to participate in helping set up recycling goals, provide incentives, assist in deleting personal data on the devices, take in waste or old cellphones, and track the recycled phones in the disposal stream. In October, which the EPA designated a recycling month, prize draws were conducted to encourage the recycling of cellphones. As many as 6,608 recycling stands were set up and took in 42,000 waste cellphones.

(2) Promoting recycling of batteries

A. Raising subsidization rates for recycling lithium batteries

Secondary lithium cells include lithium ferrous phosphate (LFP) batteries, ternary polymer lithium batteries, and other secondary lithium batteries. Subsidization rates have increased for the first two categories. All these adjustments have been in effect since 1 July 2021 to increase recycling incentives.

B. Outfitting additional battery-recycling containers on recycling vehicles

A total of 3,481 recycling vehicles were equipped with such containers in 2021.

C. A campaign to promote the recycling of waste cells was held from 8-21 September 2021 with additional rewards. A total of 4,476 metric tons of batteries were recycled in 2021, 403 metric tons (9.9%) more than the recycled amount in 2020.

(3) Adjusting subsidization rates for lighting sources to maintain the recycling system

Subsidization rates have been raised for recycling conventional and LED lighting sources, effective 1 July 2021, so as to maintain the overall lighting source disposal capacity and ensure the smooth operation of disposal channels. The average monthly capacity of recycling and disposing of lighting sources was 36 metric tons between January and June 2021 and grew to approximately 70 metric tons after July, an increase of 94%.

#### (4) Facilitating recycling of old clothes

The EPA endeavors to push recycling and reuse of old clothing items to extend their lifecycles. The *Guide for the Public to Recycle Used Clothing* was announced on 8 November 2021 and dispensed to local environmental bureaus for promotion. On 26 January 2022, the EPA put out a news release on its Facebook page about the Guide and instructions regarding recycling old clothing.

On 30 December 2021, the Taiwan Textile Research Institute (TTRI) was approved for subsidies to implement its project on the development and certification of quantitative testing technology and operation models for waste textiles. Under the project, the TTRI develops technologies that automatically screen old clothing materials as well as automatic sorting equipment. It also conducts R&D on end disposal technology, all to facilitate circulation of old clothes and increase the reuse rate.

### **5. Promoting the Marine Debris Recycled Product Label (MDRPL)**

#### (1) Assisting enterprises in applying for MDRPL

Since the *Operating Guidelines for the Promotion of the Marine Debris Recycled Product Label* (海洋廢棄物循環產品標章推動作業要點) was announced on 9 April 2021, the EPA has been actively helping enterprises gain certification and handling applications for the label.

#### (2) Organizing events to grant labels and demonstrate program results

A ceremony was held on 27 December 2021 to certify four enterprises with the Marine Debris Recycled Product Label on their 13 products. The transformation from marine wastes to material-grade plastic pellets and regular consumer products for daily use is a significant journey and a great example in environmental education. It plays a significant role in drawing attention to relevant industries.

### **(2) Caring for cleaning crews and optimizing work environments**

1. Following up on the president's directive to ensure occupational safety for cleaning crew members, the EPA announced a specific set of guidelines on 4 June 2020, involving a committee to promote occupational safety and sanitation for the nation's cleaning crews. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Institute of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health (both under the Minister of Labor), local environmental bureaus, and representatives from cleaning labor associations were invited to serve as committee members. Since 27 October 2020, a quarterly meeting has been held to discuss issues on enhancing occupational safety and sanitation for cleaning crew members.

2. A program has been carried out since 2021 to improve local environmental bureaus' inadequate occupational safety and sanitation management by providing needed help. Results include organizing 74 seminars on relevant issues and training 141 supervisors and management staff, which has led to all cleaning crews becoming more attentive to safety on the job. The EPA also conducted 25 onsite visits to provide needed assistance, with occupational safety experts coming along to help crew members with what can be improved. The program will continue in 2022 to ensure that local environmental authorities properly abide by the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* (職業安全衛生法).

## **Future Prospects**

Besides the smooth operation of the Recycling Fund and enhancement of recycling efficiency, future tasks will strengthen the management of enterprises responsible for recyclable wastes and source control. For recycling and disposal, the EPA will improve recycling enterprise management, audits, and certification, as well as expand recycling within agencies and organizations. As for the application of recyclables in construction, there will be trials on the reuse of waste glass and tires on asphalt road construction projects to display reutilization technologies and their benefits. Moreover, one of the areas the RFMB will focus on is the system in which vehicle owners are required to take their waste vehicles to legal recycling enterprises for recycling before terminating the vehicle registrations at the local Motor Vehicle Offices. This measure will effectively lower environmental and safety problems.

## **2. Revisions Preannounced for First Group of Emission Sources Required to Undergo Inspection and Registration**

**Aiming to expand and tighten controls on sources and amounts of greenhouse gas emissions, on 23 May 2022 the EPA preannounced amendments to the first group of emission sources required to undergo inspection and registration. In addition, targets have been added under the second group of emission sources. The regulations have been renamed *Enterprise Emission Sources and Registered Emission Amounts Required for Inspection* (事業應盤查登錄溫室氣體排放量之排放源). Moreover, the EPA held a meeting on the draft revision of the first group of emission sources on 29 June to hear from all sides.**

**Inspections of emission amounts is the key foundation in greenhouse gas reduction. Only through understanding sources, reasons, and total amounts of greenhouse gas emissions can further reductions be figured out.**

In 2016 the first group of sources required to undergo inspection and registration was announced by the EPA. Targets are industries such as power generation, steel manufacturing, oil refineries, cement, semiconductors, and thin film transistor liquid crystal display (TFT-LCD). They also include factories/plants that annually produce 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) from burning fossil fuels. Targets are mandated to complete inspection and registration of their total emissions of individual factories/plants for every year by 31 August every following year. Based on the statistics, a total of 287 sources in 2020 were required to register their emission amounts for inspection in 2021. In total they had emitted 223 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e, approximately 78% of Taiwan's total emissions.

The preannounced draft revisions include the addition of sources of the second group required to undergo inspection and registration (see table). New targets include manufacturers with factories/plants whose direct emissions from burning fossil fuels and indirect emissions from electricity usage, when combined, reach 25,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e or more. Mandates will take effect on 1 January 2023, in which sources under the second group are to register their total emissions in 2023 by 31 August the following year for inspection. They are required to register every year before the deadline.

**In the first part of the announced draft revisions for the first group of emission sources required to undergo registration and inspections, the qualifications of the second group**

were added as follows:

Group	Industries	Manufacturing procedures	Qualifications
Second (Newly added)	Manufacturers	Emission sources of all manufacturing procedures	Factories/plants whose annual direct emissions from burning fossil fuels and indirect emissions from electricity usage, when combined, reach 25,000 CO <sub>2</sub> e

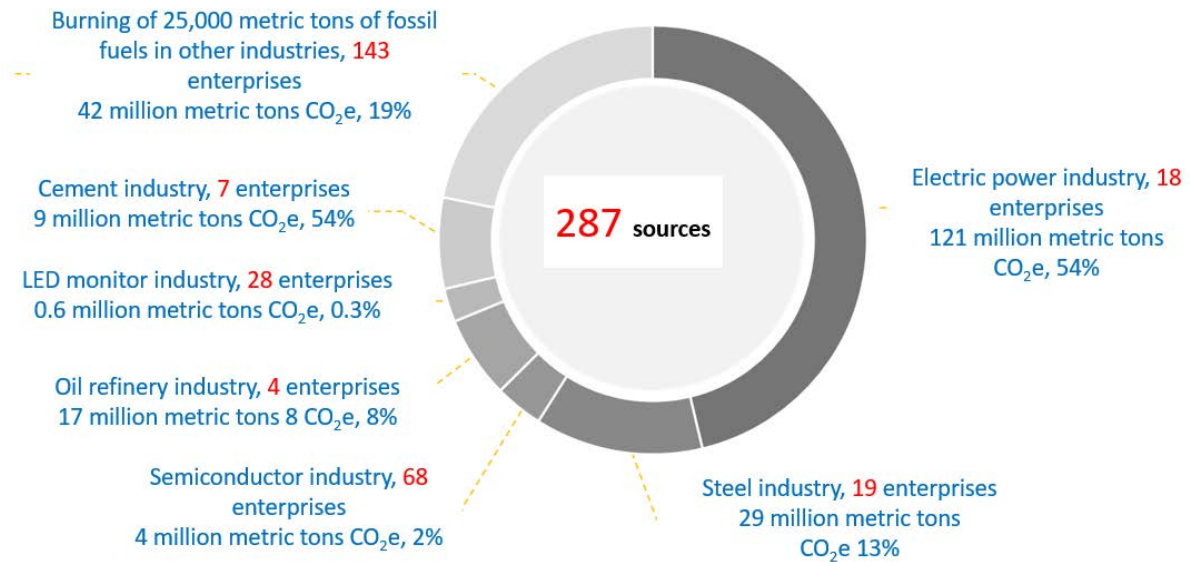


Figure: A total of 287 sources were required to register their emission amounts

### 3. Hsinchu County and Hsinchu Science Park First to Purchase Offset Credits as Platform Launched for Replacing Old Motorcycles with Electric Ones

Replacement of every old motorcycle with an electric one will result in an emission reduction of 2.3 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e. Thus, in 2022 the EPA began to provide practical rewards for such replacements. On 30 May, the EPA announced that Hsinchu Science Park Bureau (HSPB) and Hsinchu County Environmental Bureau became the first purchasers of offset credits. A proposal was then made to the EPA's Scrap Vehicle Platform on 10 June to match offers of offset credits.

The platform not only allows people to replace their old motorcycles with new electric ones all in one go but also provides opportunities to purchase reduction benefits as offset credits generated from these replacements. Those qualified to purchase are developers that have passed environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and proposed their own greenhouse gas offset procurement plans. It involves municipal, county, and city governments willing to offer credits to those within their jurisdictions who need to offset increased emissions from development activities.

The HSPB has planned to purchase offset credits based on replacing 100,000 old motorcycles over two years, paying NT\$1,500/motorcycle. Meanwhile, Hsinchu County Environmental Bureau has proposed to purchase credits for replacing 400 motorcycles, paying

NT\$2,000/motorcycle. The scheme is still restricted to newly purchased electric motorcycles whose registrations are in Hsinchu County. The combined procurement is equivalent to an emission reduction of 230,920 metric tons of carbon, and motorcycle owners who participate in the program receive additional incentives besides contributing to carbon reduction. Such a model is an example of collaboration between the private and public sectors, creating a win-win situation for all and also encouraging the public to adopt a low-carbon lifestyle via behavioral changes.

The EPA Deputy Minister Chih-Hsiu Shen pointed out that Taiwan's pledge to achieve 2050 Net-Zero Emissions, requires the participation of every citizen via lifestyle transformation. As transportation accounts for 13% of Taiwan's total carbon emissions, one of the critical moves to achieve zero emissions is to replace the 14 million fuel-burning motorcycles and 8 million fuel-burning cars with electric models. The first vehicles as the top replacement priority are the over 300 million old fuel-burning motorcycles on the roads. As for cars, the government is currently working on installing user-friendly charging facilities.

According to relevant regulations, replacing an old motorcycle with an electric one results in reducing emissions by 2.3 metric tons of CO<sub>2e</sub>, the credits from which can be transferred to developers or local governments to offset increased emissions. The Hsinchu Science Park has proposed its procurement plan specifically for the second expansion stage of the 2-nm chip factory of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC) in Baoshan, Hsinchu, and TSMC will foot the bill for all carbon credit purchases under the plan. Aside from being the first to join in to purchase reduction benefits from motorcycle replacements, the Hsinchu Science Park has been striving ahead in water and energy conservation, green energy, and green transportation.

Now that the EPA signed the contracts with the HSPB and the Hsinchu County Environmental Bureau, respectively, the two agencies are contractually obliged to wire the payments to an EPA-designated account. Afterwards, the scrap vehicle platform will officially launch its matching function. Other than applying to terminate old motorcycle registrations and for the recycling reward of \$2,300, qualified applicants can also choose to sell the reduction benefits from the replacement of their old motorcycles to the HSPB. Furthermore, if the new electric motorcycles are registered in Hsinchu County, owners can sell the benefits to the HSPB or the County Environmental Bureau. Once the platform confirms that all information is accurate, within one month motorcycle owners will receive NT\$1,500 or NT\$2,000 for making the replacements.

For people still using old motorcycles, the EPA again urges them to replace them by purchasing a new electric one by applying on the Scrap Vehicle Platform (<https://epamotor.epa.gov.tw/people/OneStepServiceIndex.aspx>). This will greatly contribute to environmental protection and achieve a reduction of both air pollution and carbon emissions.



EPA's Scrap Vehicle Platform launched on 10 June 2022

#### 4. “Only One Earth” as Theme of 2022 World Environment Day

The theme of 2022 World Environment Day was “Only One Earth,” which aimed to encourage every country to adopt policies that promote cleaner, greener, and more sustainable lifestyles in order to achieve harmony with nature. Taiwan has also caught up with the global trend, with the central and local governments all answering the call for a zero-emission, green lifestyle. EPA Minister Tzi-Chin Chang led directors of all 22 local environmental bureaus in the shooting of a promotion video series, “2022 World Environment Day – Green Lifestyle for All”. The videos invite all citizens to help create a future of zero carbon and green lifestyles and loudly voice love for everyone’s Only One Earth.

No one is an outsider in the task of environmental protection. As the authority in charge of this area, the EPA has rounded up all counties and cities to answer the global call for zero-carbon and a green lifestyle, an act that displays the central government’s resolve to cooperate with others. Made jointly by the central and local governments, the video series shows all counties and cities’ efforts, filled with unique local features, in the transformation toward green lifestyles through utilizing local advantages, conserving resources, and protecting environments. Every county and city has helped safeguard the Earth by actively promoting a green lifestyle and making changes in food, clothing, households, transportation, education, entertainment, and consumption.

The “2022 World Environment Day – Green Lifestyle for All” series includes a 90-second-long video and a three-minute-long one. Both were debuted on the EPA’s Facebook page on 3 June and concurrently launched by county and city environmental bureaus. The public is welcome to share these videos on social media to show one’s love for our Only One Earth.

Moreover, for public inquiry the EPA has added a page on its Green Life website (<https://greenlife.epa.gov.tw>) to showcase features and highlights of different counties and cities in their promotion of a green lifestyle. This is to help people understand concepts of zero carbon and a green lifestyle as well as the efforts of local governments.



The EPA has emphasized that there is only one Earth and one Taiwan for us all and that now with the pandemic it is ever more imperative to ponder the balance between the human race and the environment. Everybody is encouraged to work together on protecting the environment by making small changes in their daily lives in order to achieve net zero and a green lifestyle by 2050.

## **5. EPA Signs Memorandum of Cooperation on Net-Zero Vision with an NGO for the First Time**

**For the first time, the EPA and the Humanistic Culture and Education Foundation signed a memorandum of cooperation on "Net-Zero Vision and Green Action" at the Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum on 1 June 2022. The EPA and the museum jointly held the unveiling ceremony for "Net-Zero Green Living" presided over by EPA Minister Tzi-chin Chang, the representative of the foundation, the Abbot of Fo Guang Shan and other guests.**

Representatives of the EPA and the Humanistic Culture and Education Foundation at the unveiling ceremony for Net-Zero Green Living at Fo Guang Shan Buddha Museum, after signing a memorandum of cooperation on "Net-Zero Vision and Green Action".

To respond to climate change, countries have successively declared the vision of 2050 Net-Zero Emissions, and made changing people's behavior a key strategy. President Tsai has also stated that Taiwan will advance with the world towards net zero. However, initiating lifestyle transformation is not a responsibility of just a few industries, but a matter for all citizens. Therefore, during the promotion, it is necessary to excel in public communication and bring all citizens to a consensus, in order to gather forces from all sectors to jointly implement actions.

In his speech, Minister Chang mentioned that greenhouse gas reduction is not a responsibility of just the energy sector or enterprises. Changes in people's behavior are also critical to affect greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, everyone should start to take actions conforming to green living so that the vision of 2050 Net-Zero Emissions can be achieved.

This is the first time the EPA has signed a memorandum of cooperation on "Net-Zero Vision and Green Action" with a non-governmental organization. The EPA looks forward to cooperating with non-governmental organizations and schools on environmental education to advance towards net-zero green living. They are to jointly carry out "concept and education promotion", "promotion action plans", and "organization of forums" to raise public awareness and attention regarding green living and to have all citizens jointly embrace the transformation to net-zero emissions.



EPA Minister Tzi-chin Chang (left) and the Humanistic Culture and Education Foundation signed a memorandum of cooperation on "Net-Zero Vision and Green Action"

## 6. Drinking Water Quality Standards Revised to Respond to Climate Change

To respond to climate change, adapt to extreme climate events, and enhance the management of drinking water quality, the EPA amended and announced water quality items in the *Drinking Water Quality Standards* (飲用水水質標準) for substances that do not affect health, so as to increase the resilience and stability of the water supply while also ensuring the safety and quality of drinking water.

The *Drinking Water Quality Standards* were formulated and announced in 1998 by the EPA and have undergone six reviews and amendments since then. At present, there are a total of 68 control items in the Standards. The EPA has been reviewing the *Drinking Water Standards* in response to the need for adaptation to climate change, technological development and international trends in drinking water management. Natural disasters such as droughts, torrential rains and earthquakes often cause shortages of source water, unstable source water quality and other conditions that affect water treatment and hence drinking water quality. Thus, the EPA announced this amendment and the addition of standards for substances that do not affect health, so as to ensure the sufficiency and quality of drinking water supply during periods of natural disaster response.

1. The standard for free residual chlorine, when source water turbidity values exceed 1,500 NTU as a result of torrential rains or other natural disasters, was revised. When source water turbidity exceeds 1,500 NTU due to torrential rains or other natural disasters, the turbid water even after purification treatment will still have turbidity values slightly higher than normal. To avoid high-turbidity conditions, in which microorganisms in the water can

grow or hide in the pores of suspended particles, it is necessary to increase the amount of chlorine added to the effluent to ensure water quality safety through continuous disinfection. Therefore, to respond and adapt to extreme climate situations, the standard for free residual chlorine was revised to 0.2-3.0 (mg/L). The previous maximum limit was 2.0 (mg/L).

2. Drinking water quality standards were added for tap water supplied by water source zones affected during natural disaster response periods, including:
  - Limit range for free residual chlorine: 0.2-3.0 (mg/L)
  - Physical standards: the maximum limit for turbidity is 4 NTU and for color 10 Platinum-cobalt units
  - Contaminants that cause aesthetic, cosmetic, and technical effects: iron 0.5 (mg/L), manganese 0.1 (mg/L), total hardness as CaCO<sub>3</sub> 400 (mg/L).

## **7. Measures Announced to Streamline and Improve Regular Testing of Stationary Pollution Sources**

The EPA amended and announced the *Regulations Governing the Self-conducted or Commissioned Testing and Reporting of Stationary Pollution Sources* (固定污染源自行或委託檢測及申報管理辦法) on 6 June 2022 with three major focuses: small quantity, high quality and effective management. A “good student clause” was formulated to encourage businesses to improve self-management. The frequency of testing will be adequately adjusted as an incentive for businesses that reduce pollution emissions, cutting down the number of non-essential tests. For the few unscrupulous businesses that evade inspections, mandatory “functional regular testing” has been introduced as a tool for law enforcement authorities. Additionally, the “air pollutant emissions testing plans” of the permitting system have been incorporated to improve the quality of data from regular testing.

To improve the existing testing scheme of stationary sources, the air pollutant emission testing scheme that has been practiced effectively abroad has been incorporated in the revised regulations as the basis for public and private premises to follow during testing periods. Not only can this measure increase the representativeness of the testing data, it can also be used to construct a two-level testing management scheme with a different focus in each level. The first level is to strengthen the regulation on the current self-conducted testing of public and private premises to encourage them to improve self-maintenance and management. The second level is targeted at the public and private premises that may cause air

pollution or fail to implement self-management. Special municipality, county or city competent authorities may designate these premises to implement functional regular testing within a time limit to verify the effectiveness of their air pollution prevention measures and enhance their pollution source management along the way.

The EPA emphasized that the regulations promulgated on 19 February 2003 specified that the results from regular testing of stationary pollution sources shall be recorded, reported and filed along with other matters that shall be followed to implement regular testing of stationary sources. However, the regulations and the announced targets have not been amended since the promulgation over ten years ago. Although many regulations relevant to regular testing have been formulated successively over the years to strengthen the management of regular testing of stationary sources, comprehensive review of the effectiveness and problems of past implementation has shown that it is indeed necessary to amend the regulations to keep up with the times. Therefore, the EPA has conducted a comprehensive review and revision of the regulations by specifying alternatives and conditional exemptions from testing to reduce the number of non-essential tests and raise the quality of data from regular testing. The amendment also integrated the procedures of many current regulations relevant to testing management, while a list of the public and private premises that shall conduct regular testing and report test results of stationary pollution sources (公私場所應定期檢測及申報之固定污染源) was formulated and announced.

## **8. Public Discouraged from Selling Environmental Agents Online After Announcement of 2021 Inspections Results**

**In 2021, environmental agencies across the country carried out inspections on environmental agent advertisements and labels and conducted random inspections on the active ingredients of environmental agents. A total of 37,621 cases were inspected, with a passing rate of 98.7%. Among all cases, 10,242 cases were of environmental agent advertisements, with 233 cases determined to be illegal. Illegal advertisement cases largely comprised individuals advertising and selling environmental agents such as disinfectants and cockroach or ant killers on e-commerce sites.**

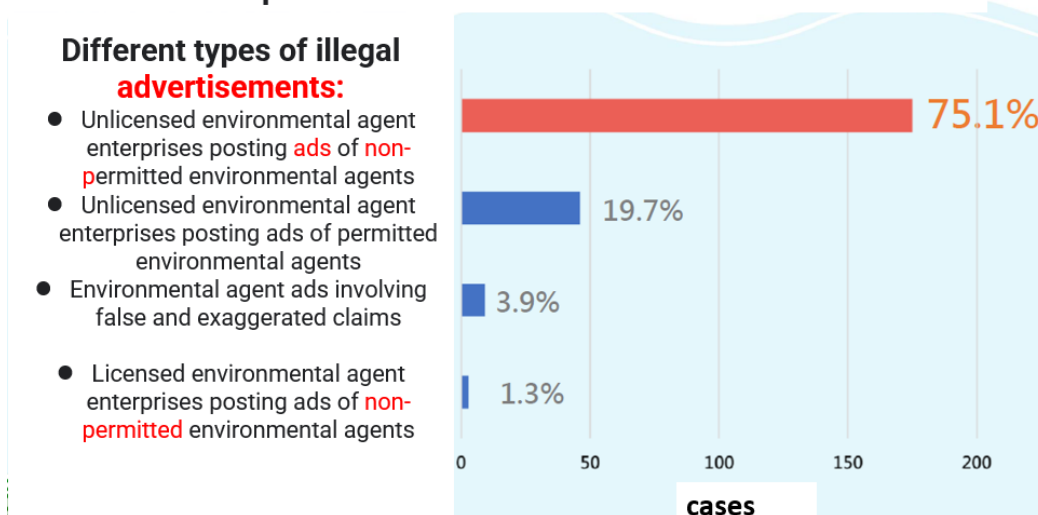
To ensure that consumers purchase legal and safe environmental agents, every year the EPA formulates an Environmental Agent Inspection Plan for local environmental protection bureaus to implement. This year, the bureaus carried out a total of 27,260 inspections on labels, finding 270 non-conforming cases, and performed 117 random inspections on the active ingredients of environmental agents, finding no non-conforming cases. They also discovered two cases of counterfeit environmental agents which were not approved and registered. Penalties have been issued in accordance with regulations for all the aforementioned non-conforming products, and violators were given deadlines to remove products from their shelves.

It is easy to buy and sell goods through online shopping platforms nowadays. However, the public is reminded not to advertise or sell environmental agents online if licenses for selling the environmental agents have not been obtained. Once caught, those who sell or advertise environmental agents online will be fined between NT\$60,000 to NT\$300,000. The EPA urged the public to uphold the ‘three nos’ principles concerning the advertisement of environmental agents. First, no posting – do not post ads and sell online without licenses. Second, no indiscriminate buying – do not buy environmental agents of unknown origin or those that do not have words showing they are approved by the EPA printed on them. Third, no recommending – do not claim the efficacy of environmental agents in killing or repelling insects in online advertisements.

If members of the public wish to know whether environmental agents are legally registered, they can go to the Environmental Agent Permit and Pest Control License Website (<https://mdc.epa.gov.tw/PublicInfo>), established by the Toxic and Chemical Substance Bureau of the EPA, to inquire by entering the product names and permit numbers. They can also search on the website for legal pest control operators or environmental agent sellers. To know more about the safe application of environmental agents or to search for more information on non-conforming environmental agent products, please refer to the Guidance for the Safe Application of Environmental Agents Website (<https://topic.epa.gov.tw/evsu/mp-8.html>).

## 2021 Inspection Results of Illegal Environmental Agent Advertisements

A total of **233** cases of illegal environmental agent advertisements found in 2021 inspection



## 9. Amendments to Management Regulations Governing Reuse of Incinerator Bottom Ash Announced

The amendments to the *Management Regulations Governing the Reuse of Incinerator Bottom Ash* (垃圾焚化廠焚化底渣再利用管理方式) was announced on 19 May 2022. Major amendments included the addition of the uses of recycled incineration aggregates and the environmental standards and quality specifications that must be met, the addition of

**restrictions on the use sites in non-urban land use zones, restricting the use sites of some recycled incineration aggregates, and the addition of stipulations concerning the documents that must be provided when applying for a project control number.**

The purpose of these amendments was to strengthen the management of the quality and flow destination of recycled incineration aggregates. The *Management Regulations Governing the Reuse of Incinerator Bottom Ash* was promulgated on 18 May 2020. The amendments were formulated to align with practical operations management, strengthen regulations on uses, and restrict the use sites of recycled incineration aggregates. The major amendments included:

- A. The amendments included more uses of recycled incineration aggregates, as well as restrictions on those uses, and the environmental standards that must be met. There are 11 uses of recycled incineration aggregates, with the first nine allowed to be carried out in public construction sites taking priority:
  - (1) Foundation filling
  - (2) Road and embankment filling
  - (3) Port area filling, used only in commercial ports, industrial ports, or industrial parks where land reclamation has been approved
  - (4) Road grade aggregate materials in road bases and sub-bases
  - (5) Controlled low strength filling materials
  - (6) Regenerated low-density pervious concrete, used only in road construction
  - (7) Asphalt concrete, used only in road construction
  - (8) Brick products
  - (9) Cement products used in Jersey barriers and curbs
  - (10) Cement raw meal, used only as cement raw materials in cement factories
  - (11) Construction materials for the parts of sanitary landfills that are not in contact with steel, and covering soil for sanitary landfills but not as the final cover
- B. The addition of restrictions on the use sites of recycled incineration aggregates
- C. The addition of stipulations that allow users to inquire about relevant information online, and the revision of reporting requirements regarding recycled incineration aggregates
- D. The addition of the quality specifications of recycled incineration aggregates that must be met, and the stipulations requiring non-governmental project operators to submit test reports when applying to be delisted from the control list
- E. The addition of stipulations concerning the documents that must be provided, the procedure, and the material-supplying entities when applying for a project control number for projects involving recycled incineration aggregates

## **10. Selection of Enterprises with Outstanding Performance in Resource Circulation Launched**

**The EPA continues to organize the Selection of Enterprises with Outstanding Performance in Resource Circulation, for which it accepted applications until 15 July 2022. Domestic enterprises that promote resource circulation are invited to participate in the selection. The winners will be publicly commended and awarded with trophies and merchandise vouchers. The value of all awards amounts to as much as NT\$500,000. Selection requirements can be downloaded at <https://reurl.cc/e6raWm>.**

In recent years, climate change issues have attracted great attention both at home and abroad. In March 2022, the government officially announced Taiwan's Pathway to Net-Zero Emissions and Strategies in 2050, which contains 12 key strategies. One of the key strategies is to achieve zero waste through resource circulation, which involves encouraging enterprises to design products that are easily recycled, converting waste into energy and resources, establishing resource circulation networks, investing in the research and development of resource recycling technologies, developing sustainable and circular business models, and improving resource circulation efficiencies.

The enterprises to be selected are divided into two groups: the Circulation Group, consisting of enterprises that promote material recycling and reuse and achieve actual results, and the Innovation Group, consisting of those that incorporate creative concepts into circular services or innovative products. To explain the selection application filling-in methods, contents and rules for enterprises, the EPA will organize three online briefing meetings for the selection, and will invite previous outstanding enterprises to share their experiences. For those who wish to participate in the meetings, please register online at <https://forms.gle/XjURczAfG9ek3RtM8>.

The EPA noted that the government's active promotion of resource circulation has led industries to adopt green designs, improve resource recycling technologies and increase resource circulation efficiencies. More and more enterprises are investing in the field of resource circulation and attaining outstanding results. The EPA has compiled an e-book of enterprises that have won awards for their outstanding performance in resource circulation to share how these award-winning companies have promoted resource circulation over the years. The public is welcome to download it at <https://online.fliphtml5.com/odjzp/vjzm/#p=1>.

**Major Environmental Policies  
R. O. C. (Taiwan)**

**Publisher**  
Tzi-Chin Chang, Minister

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Tsung-Yung Liu

**Executive Editors**  
Shiuan-Wu Chang; Miao-Ling Chen; Shao-Wen Chang;  
Ken Lee; Jason Hoy

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