

# FluoroCycle & Product Stewardship

Australian Legal Sector Alliance  
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FluoroCycle



PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP  
Australian Government Accredited



Lighting Council  
AUSTRALIA

## Lighting Council Australia



Lighting Council Australia is the peak body for Australia's lighting industry  
For more information visit, [www.lightingcouncil.com.au](http://www.lightingcouncil.com.au)

- Over 90 member companies.
- Code of Conduct binding on members with an emphasis on the supply of energy efficient, safe products that conform to Australia's regulatory requirements.
- Bryan Douglas, CEO, Lighting Council Australia was recently appointed the Secretary General, of the Global Lighting Association. [www.globallightingassociation.org](http://www.globallightingassociation.org)



## Background to the scheme



- FluoroCycle is part of the National Waste Policy.
- FluoroCycle was initially funded by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Standing Council on Environment and Water.
- FluoroCycle transitioned to Lighting Council Australia in July 2013.
- FluoroCycle is now fully funded and operated by Lighting Council Australia.
- One of the drivers for establishing the FluoroCycle scheme was the Australian Government's international obligations through the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

## International drivers - Minamata Convention



- In February 2009, the Governing Council of UNEP agreed on the need to develop a global legally binding instrument on mercury, the Minamata Convention.
- It is anticipated that the Australian Government will agree to ratify this agreement.

## National Waste Policy & The Product Stewardship Act

Less waste, more resources



- The *Product Stewardship Act 2011* came into effect on **8 August 2011**.
- The *Product Stewardship Act 2011* provides the framework to effectively manage the environmental, health and safety impacts of products and in particular those impacts associated with the disposal of products.
- The framework includes **voluntary, co-regulatory and mandatory** product stewardship initiatives.

## What is FluoroCycle?



**FluoroCycle**



- FluoroCycle is a voluntary product stewardship scheme designed to increase the recycling rate of waste mercury-containing lamps.
- 90% of lamps that contain mercury end up in landfill.
- 90% of this waste is generated by commercial & public lighting.

## Australian Government Accreditation



- The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for the Environment, officially announced the accreditation of the FluoroCycle scheme on 12 September 2014.
- Accredited voluntary product stewardship arrangements are authorised to use the Australian Government's Product Stewardship logo.
- FluoroCycle's use of the logo signals to business and the community that the scheme represents best practice for an Australian product stewardship initiative.



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## Which lamps contain mercury?



### Compact Fluorescent Lamps

generally contain between 1 and 5 milligrams (mg) of mercury\*



### Fluorescent U-Tubes

from 3 to 12 mg

### Linear Fluorescent Lamps

from 1.2 to 15 mg\*

### Mercury Vapour Lamps

content varies considerably with wattage  
from 25 mg in a 75 watt lamp  
to 200 mg in a 1500 watt lamp

### Metal Halide Lamps

from 20 mg (35 watt lamp)  
to 145 mg (1000 watt lamp)

### High Pressure Sodium/Ceramic Arc

From 10 to 100mg  
in a (20 to 1,000 watt lamp)

\* As required by mandatory Australian Standards

## All the elements in lamps can be recycled

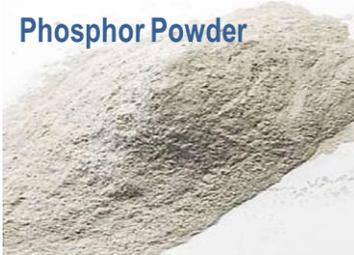
Mercury (Hg)



Glass



Phosphor Powder



Aluminium



## The Recycling Process

- It is essential that waste lamps are not broken while being transported to the recyclers or collectors.
- Once a lamp is broken the mercury may be released.
- At the end of a lamp's life the majority of the mercury remains in the phosphor powder.
- The lamps are crushed to extract the phosphor powder.
- The phosphor powder is then placed in a mercury retort to recover the elemental mercury.

## Different Lamp Recycling Options



- Stillage Bins.
- Prepaid Boxes.
- Boxes on site.
- Electrical contractors collect waste lamps during scheduled re-lamping.
- Collected during scheduled waste collection and passed on to a recycler.



## Recyclers and collectors



## The benefits of Signatory status?



- Signatories are listed on the [FluoroCycle website](#)
- Signatories may display the FluoroCycle logo with the Australian Government Product Stewardship logo on their communication material such as annual reports and websites.
- Signatories may be included in media releases, case studies, articles and public recognition events.
- There is no fee to apply for Signatory status.

## How can we apply to be a Signatory?



**FluoroCycle**

Organisations can apply online at:

[www.fluorocycle.org.au](http://www.fluorocycle.org.au)

# Over 250 Signatories across Australia

