

## Canada-Wide Standards (CWS) for Mercury Implementation Plan for Saskatchewan

### Mercury Containing Lamps

**General accountability:** Saskatchewan intends to promote the recycling of fluorescent lamps where the infrastructure and capacity are sufficient to make it relatively cost effective. Large facilities such as hospitals, office towers, etc. are examples where sufficient lamps are managed to make recycling cost-effective, however the dispersed nature of Saskatchewan's population may make this difficult in some areas.

**Milestones and deliverables:** Saskatchewan will evaluate lamp recycling and partner with SaskPower where appropriate to bring into place collection and recycling initiatives. This action may also serve as a form of responsible early mercury reduction action on the part of the coal-fired Electric Power Generation (EPG) sector in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan will not prepare a public accounting for progress on recycling, though major facility owners and corporations such as SaskPower may choose to do so individually.

**Public role:** Reductions in tube mercury content is to be pursued primarily via a federal tracking of industry commitments. Residents and corporations may choose to select low-mercury lamps and so contribute to the achievement of this CWS. Residents may also wish to recycle lamps at household hazardous waste sites or through sites established by power utilities which may be established as a means to take early actions on mercury reduction while research within the EPG sector is conducted.

**Access to information:** Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management will not directly track fluorescent lamp mercury content or recycling rates that could be accessed by the public, however this information may be made available indirectly through the agencies undertaking this work. At the present time, there are no lamp recycling companies within Saskatchewan and all such material must be shipped out of province for processing.

**Verifiable progress:** Efforts to promote recycling and early mercury reduction actions will be recorded and made available on a case-by-case basis only.

**Co-benefits:** Low mercury content, high efficiency tubes will reduce electricity use and therefore have the co-benefit of reduced mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants which serve the province. The multi-pollutant benefits of this CWS are limited - recycling does not necessarily reduce emissions of pollutants because of the transportation costs associated with shipping used tubes to the recycling centres. It is conceivable that recycling could reduce emissions from glass manufacture and aluminum smelting (vs disposal) as these are the recyclable components of the lamp; the mercury content is typically resold to be purified and used in new lamps or other applications.

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