



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING STANDARD (ERS) 2025

The ERS standard is administered by EPRA and compliance to the standard is an operational requirement for all contracted recyclers. The standard solely applies to EPRA contracted recyclers.

**Version 6
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ELECTRONICS RECYCLING STANDARD (ERS)

All recyclers seeking to operate under an EPRA program must be reviewed and approved by the Recycler Qualification Office (RQO) under the Electronics Recycling Standard (ERS) prior to use.

Recycler requirements are determined based on the type of operations undertaken in alignment with the following three categories: Primary Processors; downstream recyclers of focus material; and downstream recyclers of non-focus materials.

All recyclers may be subject to annual review of the defined requirements as well as an on-site operational review.

1.0 PRIMARY PROCESSORS

R2 or eStewards certification is a prerequisite for RQO approval under ERS 2025. Primary Processors must also:

- 1.1 Demonstrate active material processing through established and sustainable processes certified under R2, or eStewards.
- 1.2 Maintain policies and practices to prohibit the use of child, prison or forced labour.
- 1.3 Possess workers' compensation coverage and a minimum of \$2M general liability insurance.
- 1.4 Maintain a documented procedure to provide notice of reportable incidents within 5 business days including: changes in name or ownership; fines or regulatory orders; spills; fires; or reportable injuries or changes in R2 or eSteward certification status.
- 1.5 Maintain closure plan financial assurance, based on the maximum material capacity as follows:
 - 1.5.1 Maximum capacity less than 50 MT = \$25k minimum;
 - 1.5.2 Maximum capacity of 50 to 149 MT = \$75k minimum;
 - 1.5.3 Maximum capacity of 150 to 499 MT = \$100k minimum;
 - 1.5.4 Maximum capacity of 500 MT or greater = \$125k minimum; or
 - 1.5.5 Where the facility is owned by the recycler, provide an approved Commitment and Waiver Letter accepting full responsibility and liability to cover all costs in the event of a closure.
- 1.6 Maintain evidence of compliance with Canadian federal import and export regulations.
- 1.7 Re-use of EEE is permitted as per the Program contract with the following conditions.
 - 1.7.1 Approval from appropriate provincial program
 - 1.7.2 Reuse activities are identified in Recycler's R2 / e-stewards scope of approval



- 1.8 Process all EPRA material in accordance with the RQO defined scope of approval and downstream flow.

2.0 DOWNSTREAM RECYCLERS OF FOCUS MATERIALS

- 2.1 Demonstrate active material processing through established and sustainable processes in conformance with a Focus Material Management Plan.
- 2.2 Maintain policies and practices to prohibit the use of child, prison or forced labour.
- 2.3 Possess adequate workers' compensation coverage and a minimum of \$1M general liability insurance.
- 2.4 Maintain a documented procedure to provide notice of reportable incidents within 30 business days including: changes in name or ownership; fines or regulatory orders; spills; fires; or reportable injuries, and if applicable changes to R2 or eSteward certification status.
- 2.5 Process all EPRA material in accordance with the RQO defined scope of approval and downstream flow.

3.0 DOWNSTREAM RECYCLERS OF NON-FOCUS MATERIALS

- 3.1 Define the scope of operations and demonstrate active material processing through permitted and sustainable processes.
- 3.2 Maintain policies and practices to prohibit the use of child, prison or forced labour.
- 3.3 Possess adequate workers' compensation coverage and a minimum of \$500K general liability insurance.

4.0 SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCE

- 4.1 The organization is responsible for completing the required ERS Application Form and submitting it to the RQO along with associated supporting documentation.
- 4.2 The RQO will determine if the application is complete and sufficient supporting evidence of conformance has been provided to initiate the on-site operational review.
 - 4.2.1 Incomplete applications will be rejected and the applicant notified.
 - 4.2.2 Applications considered complete will be assigned to an auditor to begin the verification process.



- 4.2.3 Failure to provide a complete application with supporting information may result in closure of the application.
- 4.2.4 Should it be determined that the recycler has provided false information or misrepresented any part of the organization, recycling operations or processes undertaken, the application will immediately be rejected and the verification process terminated. Depending on the nature of the false information or misrepresentation, RQO reserves the right to deem the applicant non-eligible for the ERS program and deny reapplication.
- 4.2.5 Organizational reputation, previous convictions and historical activities and interactions will be considered a determining factor in all applications and eligibility for the ERS program.

*****Provincial Programs may have specific requirements that apply to service providers beyond those of this standard.