

FACTSHEET ON EXTENSION OF MANDATORY WASTE REPORTING TO LARGE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND CONVENTIONS AND EXHIBITION CENTRES

- The aim of the mandatory waste reporting scheme is to promote greater awareness of the potential for reducing waste generation through better waste management.
- In large industrial developments, and convention and exhibition centres, large amounts of waste, which are homogeneous and recyclable, are generated.
- The owners, occupiers or lessees of such premises will be required to track the amount of waste they generate from 2020 onwards and submit their first reports to NEA in 2021.

Background

1 The Environmental Public Health Act (EPHA) was amended on 1 April 2014 to mandate the reporting of waste data and development of waste reduction plans, including setting of targets, by owners and occupiers of large commercial premises. This includes hotels with more than 200 rooms and shopping malls with net lettable areas of more than 4,600 square metres. This was to draw greater attention to the amount of waste produced at these premises and help build greater awareness of the potential for improving the management of waste in order to reduce the amount of waste generated. Between 2014 and 2017, waste reports submitted have shown an increase in recycling rates of affected premises, with more than 90 percent of premises now implementing recycling programmes.

2 Large amounts of waste are also generated at industrial developments, and convention and exhibition centres. Most of such waste is homogeneous and recyclable. There is potential for the owners and occupiers of these premises to reduce their waste generation and segregate their waste for recycling. Therefore, from 2020, the National Environment Agency (NEA) will be extending the mandatory waste reporting scheme to these premises. The owners and occupiers of such premises will start collecting their waste data from 2020 onwards, for reporting in 2021.

3 The reporting requirement will apply to factories with gross floor areas of more than 20,000 square metres, warehouses with gross floor areas of more than 50,000 square metres and convention and exhibition centres with gross floor areas of more than 8,000 square metres.

Support for the Industry

4 As part of the effort to promote waste reduction, NEA will work with the industry to share best practices. NEA has also published an online 3R guidebook for Industrial Developments, and a 3R Toolkit for the MICE Industry, to facilitate the implementation of 3R programmes. These can be downloaded from the links below:

- The 3R Guidebook for Industrial Developments
<https://www.nea.gov.sg/docs/default-source/resource/3r-guidebook-for-industrial-developments.pdf>
- The 3R Toolkit for the MICE Industry
<https://www.nea.gov.sg/docs/default-source/default-document-library/mice-3r-toolkit.pdf>

5 Owners and occupiers of affected premises can also tap on NEA's 3R Fund to co-fund qualified projects which minimise or recycle waste generated in their premises.

6 The extension of the mandatory waste reporting scheme will help reduce waste and contribute towards Singapore's vision of a zero waste nation by reducing waste generation and disposal and prolonging the lifespan of Semakau Landfill.

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