



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary
Cal/EPA



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

June 28, 2004

Dr. David De Mulle'
Senior Analyst
OSS-Spectrum
7125 Foothill Blvd.
Tujunga, California 91042

Dear Dr. De Mulle':

Thank you for your recent letter to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requesting our opinion on illegal e-waste activities in your local area, as well as certification and listing of e-waste handlers and transporters with California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). Along with your letter, you submitted copies of two letters from OSS-Spectrum to Los Angeles County Sanitation District and Los Angeles County Supervisor, describing the alleged illegal activities occurring in Los Angeles county area.

On January 30, 2004, a complaint was filed with DTSC's complaint hotline by the Los Angeles County Sanitation District regarding illegal crushing of scrap monitors and televisions at Pasadena Salvation Army. The complaint provided similar information as in your attached letter to Los Angeles County Sanitation District. An inspection was performed by staff of DTSC's Statewide Compliance Division in March 2004, during which no violation was found, therefore no citation was issued by DTSC. As a result, this complaint case was considered completed and closed. For further information on this case, please contact Steve Korenstein at (818) 551-2173.

Copies of your letter and the attached letter to Los Angeles County Supervisor regarding the public auction of computer monitors by Los Angeles County Probation Office are being forwarded to DTSC's complaint unit in Glendale regional office for appropriate actions.

Dr. David De Mulle'

June 28, 2004

Page 2

Thank you for your interest and concern in the proper management of electronic wastes. If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Chau Nguyentat of my staff at (916) 324-1814.

Sincerely,



Karl Palmer, Chief
Regulatory Program Development Branch

cc: Mr. Kim Wilhelm, Chief
Statewide Compliance Division
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95826

Ms. Florence Gharibian, Chief
Glendale Branch
Statewide Compliance Division
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201-2205

Mr. Robert Kou, Unit Chief
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Mr. David Stuck
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Mr. Steve Korenstein
Statewide Compliance Division
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, California 91201-2205

Dr. David De Mulle'

June 28, 2004

Page 3

**cc: Mr. Charles Corcoran, Chief
Waste Identification and Recycling Section
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 11th Floor
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806**

**Ms. Chau Nguyentat
Waste Identification and Recycling Section
Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 "I" Street, 11th Floor
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806**



OSS-Spectrum
(818) 851-0043 (818) 446-0043 FAX

Department of Toxic Substances Control
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812
Attn: Mr. Charles Corcoran
26 January 2004

Hi Charles,

Here are copies of two letters I sent out regarding CRT dumping in my local area. Mr. Gomez was very candid in his comment to me when I asked "Aren't you concerned that the purchaser might dump the monitors that he doesn't want?" His answer was "no, we removed all our labels - it won't come back to us."

That's what we're dealing with.

I won't be able to attend the February meeting, but I was thinking more about getting handlers and transporters certified.

I had to have references certify that they knew that I was ethical and had experience in dealing with E-waste.. Why don't we do the same thing with people that want to be listed with CIWMB?

As this new industry gets larger, we have to have some sort of checks and balances to keep us legal. Also, I don't feel that Jeff is right in stating that CIWMB doesn't provide credibility to those listed on the website. Just being listed makes the public think that they are approved by the CIWMB.

Let me know what you think,


Dr. David De Mulle'
Senior Analyst



OSS-Spectrum
(818) 951-0043 (818) 448-0043 FAX

Los Angeles County Supervisor
Attn: Mr. Michael Antonovich
215 No. Marengo
Pasadena, CA

23 January 2004

COPY

Sir,

I wish to bring to your attention a potential problem you may have regarding the safe disposal of L.A. County E-Waste.

During the last weeks of December 2003, the L.A. County Probation Office, Resource Recovery Department, under the direction of Mr. Alex Gomez, sold at auction, four pallets (approx. 160) of computer monitors.

Under both Federal and State regulations, computer monitors are CRT devices and considered hazardous waste if they are not in working condition. Based on my continuing experiences with L.A. County, 80% of the monitors disposed of, are not in working condition.

Because this sale was a "public auction", selling items paid for with public funds, I requested under the Public Information Act, the names of the buyers of these monitors.

Mr. Gomez declined my request and suggested that I contact Ms. Mary Catt of L.A. Co. ISD. I faxed her a formal request for this information and followed up with two phone calls. Three weeks have now gone by, and I have not yet received a return call or a reply to my fax.

Since Senate Bill 20 specifically defines the attributes of "Generators", "Handlers" and "Recyclers", L.A. County is a generator, and must maintain records of safe handling and proper disposal of CRT devices such as those contained in computer monitors.

I feel that because Mr. Gomez did not check the qualifications of the purchasers of his auction lots, he lost control of how they were disposed of. This could be embarrassing to the L.A. County offices if they turn up in a local landfill or dumped in the desert.

For my own information, aren't public auctions public information? And isn't that information available to the public?

Please let me know what you are going to do about this matter.

Sincerely,



Dr. David DeMulle'
Senior Analyst

CC: DTSG-C.Corcoran





OSS-Spectrum
(818) 951-8843 (818) 448-8843 FAX

Los Angeles, Co. Sanitation District
Attn: Mr. John Gullledge
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601

23 January 2004

COPY

Sir,

I need to bring to your attention the fact that the Pasadena Salvation Army on Del Mar Street, is illegally crushing scrap monitors and televisions in their Hydraulic Waste crusher. This is mixed with old furniture, stoves and non-salable items from their daily salvage sales.

The contaminated waste is then delivered on Wednesday between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm to the Scholl Canyon Landfill in Eagle Rock.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to DTSC, Sacramento.

For further information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Dr. David De Mulle'
Project Director

CC: DTSC-C.Corcoran

