



Australian Government



Lighting Council
AUSTRALIA



FluoroCycle

FLUOROCYCLE

What is FluoroCycle?

FluoroCycle is a scheme that aims to increase the recycling of lamps that contain mercury and reduce the amount of mercury entering the environment.

To achieve this, FluoroCycle provides a national, voluntary scheme which businesses, government agencies and other organisations can join as Signatories. The scheme gives public recognition to Signatories for their commitment to recycling.

What are the target groups?

FluoroCycle targets commercial and public lighting which accounts for approximately 90 per cent of all lighting waste. Commercial and public lighting includes:

- streets, roads and parks
- commercial and government buildings such as office blocks and shopping malls
- industrial operations such as mines, industrial facilities and warehouses, and
- institutions such as universities, hospitals, schools and sports venues.

A national scheme for recycling of household lamps containing mercury, eg compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), may be considered in the future.

Why does Australia need FluoroCycle?

In Australia, an estimated 95 per cent of lamps that contain mercury¹ end up in landfill each year. They are the largest single category of consumer products that contain mercury, and their disposal contributes to Australia's total annual emissions of mercury. FluoroCycle addresses this situation and, on 21 July 2010, the Minister for Environment Protection Heritage and the Arts, the Hon Peter Garrett, AM MP, announced that the scheme had started operating.

Who can sign up to the scheme?

Signatories to the scheme are businesses and organisations that make a commitment to adhere to the FluoroCycle Guidelines 2010. There are two groups of Signatories - 'Commercial Users' and 'Facilitators'. A Signatory can be both a Commercial User and a Facilitator.

There is no fee for joining the scheme.

¹ Some examples of lights that contain mercury are: compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) used mostly in homes and hotels; high intensity discharge (HID) lamps used for street lighting; and linear fluorescent tubes used in homes and in most commercial and public buildings.

What are Commercial Users and Facilitators?

Commercial Users are businesses or organisations responsible for managing mercury-containing lamps in public lighting, commercial and government buildings, industrial operations and institutions.

Facilitators take steps to encourage Commercial Users to recycle their waste mercury-containing lights. Facilitators belong to one or more of the following categories: collectors; (electrical) contractors; government; media partners; peak bodies; recycling companies; suppliers (ie manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers); and trainers.

What are the Signatory commitments?

Commitments apply to all Signatories and are set out in the FluoroCycle Guidelines 2010.

To become a Signatory as a Commercial User, a business or organisation needs to be either recycling all of its waste mercury-containing lamps — or to be putting appropriate arrangements in place. The different categories of Facilitators have different commitments.

All Signatories are required to cooperate with audits carried out by the Administrator.

What are the benefits of becoming a Signatory?

The key benefit is keeping mercury out of the environment, thereby enhancing the Signatory's reputation for being environmentally responsible.

A Signatory receives public recognition through:

- listing on the FluoroCycle website, including links to homepages
- a certificate acknowledging Signatory status, and
- use of the FluoroCycle logo and publications.

Will capacity to recycle be increased?

Australia has sufficient capacity to recycle all of its waste lamps that contain mercury. The FluoroCycle Outreach Strategy will help to build networks and capacity in the supply and disposal chains. The strategy is supported by communication tools designed to:

- raise awareness of the FluoroCycle scheme and its objectives
- provide practical advice on how to recycle waste mercury-containing lamps, and
- provide ready access to the service providers to make appropriate arrangements for collection and recycling of waste.

How do I apply to be a Signatory?

As a first step, you need to familiarise yourself with the FluoroCycle Guidelines 2010, the Signatory Guide to FluoroCycle Branding and the Signatory Manual.

The application form is available on the FluoroCycle website and in the FluoroCycle Guidelines 2010. You can apply online or by email or mail.

The FluoroCycle publications and the application forms are available on the scheme's website (www.fluorocycle.org.au).

Alternatively, you can request the publications and application forms by sending an email to administrator@fluorocycle.org.au or writing to the FluoroCycle Administrator, c/- Lighting Council Australia, PO Box 7077, Yarralumla ACT 2600.