



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Subject: **Important** – National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recycling Program

Dear Auto and Scrap Recycler:

I am writing to inform you of some good news regarding the recycling of auto and truck mercury switches.

NEW PROGRAM:

The exciting news is that we will now be making a transition from the old Wisconsin Mercury Switch Program to the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recycling Program (NVMSRP) that was negotiated on August 2006, between USEPA, American Iron & Steel Institute, Automotive Recycler's Association, Ecology Center, Environmental Council of States, Environmental Defense, End of Life Vehicle Solutions, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, and the Steel Manufacturers Association on a national program.

NOTE: Because of this effort we will no longer be accepting auto and truck mercury switches at our current collection sites.

As part of the new program and agreement, the auto and steel industry, through ELVS, will provide educational materials, and handle all costs associated with the collection, and recycling of automotive mercury switches. You will be paid **\$1 per mercury switch (\$3.00 for ABS component)** received by End of Life Vehicles Solutions Corporation (ELVS). This money will be paid from a \$4 million fund that has been established to reward dismantlers/recyclers on a first-come, first-served basis for their efforts.

Transition and Participation Made Easy

- 1.) Immediately fill out the accompanying post card indicating that you wish to participate by selecting the size of bucket you need (1 gallon or 3.5 gallon) and how many you need at this time. (1 gallon will easily hold 450 bullets, and the 3.5 gallon will hold 120 to 130 of the whole assembly). (**Do not exceed 450 bullets per bucket**).
- 2.) Mail the card (Stamp required).
- 3.) Upon receipt, End of Life Vehicle Solutions (ELVS), through its Environmental Quality contractor (EQ), will ship you a bucket(s) and all information you need along with proper placards and prepaid shipping labels to return the filled buckets. **IMPORTANT NOTE: Retain the box that the buckets come in as this is the box used for return shipping.**
- 4.) Follow the instructions carefully (inside the bucket). Please do not put anything but auto and truck mercury switches into the bucket and do not exceed 450 total switch bullets/per bucket. (This equals approximately 1 pound of mercury and is allowable shipping for UPS under Universal Waste Rules). You do not have to remove the bullet from the assembly.
- 5.) Once bucket is full you can contact (contact information enclosed in bucket) EQ at anytime to obtain more buckets. You also have the option of contacting EQ to send a new bucket before

- you ship the filled bucket. Again, EQ will only accept switches, pellets, and ABS switches. No ball bearing switches please.
- 6.) Once the buckets are full, you can contact UPS for shipping. EQ has contracted with UPS for this purpose. .

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those that participated in the Wisconsin Mercury Switch Collection Program over the past several years. Your efforts helped keep the mercury from over **100,000** switches (**1,311 pounds** including additional mercury containing devices) from polluting Wisconsin's environment. Health studies have shown that the accumulation of mercury in our environment has resulted in negative impacts on both humans, resulting in consumption advisories for the fish in Wisconsin and most other states. We look forward to your continued support in this new program and, for those that are just starting, know that you will be a part of a successful, voluntary environmental initiative.

Your efforts as a responsible business owner go a long way in helping to protect Wisconsin's environment. You will be able to access the progress of Wisconsin's efforts and other states at the ELVS web site. (www.elvsolutions.org and click on Mercury Collection Data....) If you have further questions on this project please contact (Terri Lancaster (ELVS) toll free at (877) 225-3587 or info@elvsolutions.org) and/or Mark Harings (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - 715) 831-3263 or Mark.Harings@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Mark Harings

Mark Harings
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Auto and Scrap Recycling Sector Specialist