

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

To: Anita Cummings, NLFWWI Coordinator

From: *(Name of Entity signing the 'Letter of Intent')*

Subject: Intent to Participate in National Lead-Free Wheel Weight Initiative

Intent

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the party submitting this letter of intent share a desire to source reduce the use of lead in wheel weights, thereby reducing the release of lead into the environment. This letter outlines how the signer intends to structure and implement this voluntary agreement to transition away from the manufacture, sale and/or use of lead wheel weights. It does not impose any legally binding obligations on U.S. EPA, nor is U.S. EPA imposing through this agreement, any legally binding obligations on any of the parties.

Background:

Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), and according to the Priority and Toxic Chemical Reduction goals of U.S. EPA's Office of Solid Waste, the U.S. EPA is required to address high-volume uses of persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic chemicals either by reducing their use in commerce or containing the chemical in a closed loop recycling system. Lead wheel weights used to balance car and light truck tires represent an opportunity for U.S. EPA to meet this requirement. Approximately 50 million pounds of lead goes into lead tire weight manufacturing in the United States annually. This is a significant volume relative to all unregulated sources of lead.

As an indicator of the importance of this issue, the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) passed Resolution 08-9 "Phasing Out the Sale and Installation of Lead Wheel Weights" on April 15, 2008 (see attached). By participating in this Initiative, parties are taking one step toward achieving the phase-out of the sale and installation of lead wheel weights. U.S. EPA encourages the pursuit of additional activities designed to achieve an accelerated transition away from the use of lead wheel weights.

Statement of Intent:

Through submission of this letter of intent, the signing party agrees to participate voluntarily in the National Lead-Free Wheel Weight Initiative (NLFWWI) by:

1. Reducing, to the greatest extent feasible, the use of lead for wheel weights by December 31, 2011 through ... *(signing party should describe actions to be taken and the nature of the role(s) the intending entity plays: government procurement practices, purchase for retail and wholesale distribution, manufacturing or other);*

2. Eliminating approximately (*% reduction and estimated pounds/tons*) of the signing party's manufacture, sale, and/or use of lead wheel weights between the date of submission of this letter and December 31, 2011;
3. Taking responsibility for providing information, education, and outreach to the public, regarding the benefits of using lead-free wheel weights;
4. Properly collecting and recycling used lead wheel weights that the signing entity might possess or acquire through normal business operations (e.g., lead wheel weights removed from vehicles); and
5. Publicly endorsing the NLFWWI and encouraging the use of non-lead wheel weights by others.

In keeping with the intent of this Initiative, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency agrees to communicate the importance of this Initiative to affected entities, in partnership with States, other Federal parties and private businesses, and to explore opportunities to provide recognition for performance.

Review of Letter of Intent and Public Recognition Event

U.S. EPA requests recipient responses to the 'Letter of Intent' in our office by close of business on June 27, 2008. Submittals will be made via e-mail, with the signature line being typed. This typed signature should read exactly as it should appear on the formal signing document and the 'signing ceremony' (see reference below). U.S. EPA will review the signed letter of intent and determine whether the information provided is sufficiently clear and of significant magnitude to merit recognition in this Initiative. Submitting parties will be notified of U.S. EPA's determination within 15 business days of submission.

A signing ceremony is being planned for August at which time those entities accepted into the Initiative will be recognized. The U.S. EPA Administrator has been asked to participate in this event.

Limitations

This letter of intent does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity against U.S. EPA or the parties, their officers or employees, or any other person. It does not apply to any person outside the signatory parties and U.S. EPA. The parties acknowledge that U.S. EPA may not endorse the purchase or sale of commercial products or services provided by the parties to this agreed intention.

Signed by: _____

Representative of organization participating in the National Lead-Free Wheel Weight Initiative (e.g., President, CEO, responsible party)