

## Statistics on Environmental, Financial, and Economic Impacts of EPR Programs for Connecticut, March 2012

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Each year, CT residents generate an estimated:

- 40,400 tons of waste-electronics
- 868,000 gallons of leftover paint
- 350,000 mattresses ready for end-of-life management and
- 497.6 tons of plastic, paper fiber, glass and metal packaging

By diverting 100% of these materials, CT could:

- Keep 842 tons of lead from polluting the ground
- Capture \$5.6M of rare earth metals from discarded cell phones
- Save the equivalent of at least \$809M of electricity (the CT electricity equivalent of recycling 1 million laptops)

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

By diverting 100% of just these materials through EPR programs, CT could:

- Save \$84M on recycling costs
  - Electronics \$7.6M
  - Paint \$7.0M
  - Mattresses \$3.5M
  - Packaging \$65.7M
- And spur \$56M in scrap sales

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

The Scrap Recycling Industry currently has a \$725M economic impact on the State of Connecticut, which includes **3,540 jobs** (Source: ISRI Economic of Recycling Industry, 2010) providing

- 1,640 Direct Jobs
- \$99.7M in Direct wages and
- \$319.79M Direct Economic Impact
- An additional 1,900 supplier and induced jobs, \$138.9M in supplier and induced wages, and \$405.8M economic impact

If CT recycled all mattresses, paint, electronics and packaging currently generated annually, they could add 12,300 jobs (Source: Jobs data per 1000 tons recycled by product from "More Jobs, Less Pollution" Tellus Institute, 2011; material quantities disposed from CT 2009 Waste Characterization Study, Cascadia Consulting, 2010)

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