



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

November 8, 2010

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

The Honorable Martha N. Johnson
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Jackson and Administrator Johnson:

Under Executive Order (E.O.) 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance, the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is authorized to establish interagency working groups to provide recommendations for areas of Federal agency operational and managerial improvement associated with the goals of the order. The purpose of this letter is to request that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the General Services Administration (GSA) join CEQ in co-chairing an interagency task force to prepare a national strategy for electronics stewardship.

Section 2(j) of E.O. 13514 establishes electronics stewardship goals. An overall goal of E.O. 13514 is "to establish an integrated strategy towards sustainability in the Federal Government." In the spirit of E.O. 13514, we will lead by example in this effort by ensuring that the departments and agencies of the Federal Government, some of the largest consumers of electronics in the country, are also the most responsible consumers.

CEQ will coordinate the initial convening of the Task Force and provide any necessary policy direction to guide the process. Within 180 days from the date of this memorandum, the Task Force shall deliver to CEQ a national framework that includes:

1. An action plan directing Federal agencies to exercise all appropriate authorities to achieve the electronic stewardship goals, consistent with domestic and international law;
2. Recommendations for a system-based approach to the long-term design, management and disposal of Federal used electronics;
3. Recommendations for information gathering and tracking, regulatory options, and best management practices for used electronics that can be used by the Federal agencies and leveraged to the private sector;
4. A plan to build partnerships in the public and private sector for sustainable electronics management nationwide; and
5. A plan to reduce exports of used electronics to developing countries that lack capacity to properly manage them, and assess how Federal agencies can improve their ability to deter these exports. The plan will include a strategy to build capacity within and share best practices with developing countries, so they can improve their ability to safely handle used electronics, while promoting economic development.



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The Task Force shall be composed of senior-level policy officials from CEQ, EPA, GSA, U.S. Department of State (State), the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), and other agencies as appropriate. This Task Force will build upon and integrate existing structures and programs, including the Federal Electronics Stewardship Working Group and the Federal Electronics Challenge.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your agency's contribution to the achievement of this important element of E.O. 13514. Should you have any questions, please contact Nikki Buffa, CEQ Associate Director for Communities, Environmental Protection & Green Jobs, at 202-456-5710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy H. Sutley", is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Nancy H. Sutley
Chair