

PCD/BASEL/19-01

20 August 2019

To: All Traders, Freight Forwarders,  
Cargo Agents and Carriers

Dear Sir / Mdm

## **REMINDER ON REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF WASTES**

Singapore is a Party to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (Basel Convention) in the control of export, import and transit of hazardous wastes. The Pollution Control Department (PCD) of the National Environment Agency (NEA) is the Competent Authority to implement Singapore's obligations under the Convention.

2 Traders, freight forwarders, cargo agents and carriers are to ensure that the materials intended for import and export do not contain or are not contaminated with other materials that will render them to be (a) within the definitions of hazardous wastes or other wastes under the Basel Convention or (b) classified as hazardous waste by importing or exporting countries. The transboundary movement of hazardous waste is subjected to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure under the Basel Convention where consent is required from the competent authorities of the importing country and transit countries before the export can take place. Detailed information is available from the official Basel Convention website at [www.basel.int](http://www.basel.int).

3 In addition, any person who wishes to import, export or transit hazardous waste must obtain a Basel permit from PCD under the Hazardous Waste (Control of Export, Import and Transit) Act. Any person who fails to do so is guilty of an offence under the Act and shall be liable on conviction: -

- a) in the case of a body corporate, to a fine not exceeding \$300,000; or
- b) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

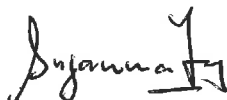
4 More information on the Basel permit applications and requirements can be obtained from NEA's website at <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/pollution-control/chemical-safety/multilateral-environmental-agreements/basel-convention>.

5 Traders, freight forwarders, cargo agents and carriers are reminded to comply with the requirements of the Basel Convention and Singapore's domestic requirements for the import and export of hazardous waste. Traders dealing with materials, such as e-waste, scrap metal, scrap plastics or paper waste, should take reasonable steps (such as engaging a surveyor to inspect each consignment of the material prior to the shipment) to ensure that they do not contain or are not contaminated with any hazardous materials that would render them as hazardous waste under the Basel Convention.

6 If you have any further queries, please contact the following NEA officers from PCD:

- a) Mr Mark Tan at [Mark\\_Tan@nea.gov.sg](mailto:Mark_Tan@nea.gov.sg) and
- b) Mr Goh Guo Wei at [Goh\\_Guo\\_Wei@nea.gov.sg](mailto:Goh_Guo_Wei@nea.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully,



SUZANNA YAP (Ms)  
for DIRECTOR  
POLLUTION CONTROL DEPARTMENT  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY