

NEA'S RESPONSE TO COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON RESTRICTION OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (ROHS) IN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (EEE) IN SINGAPORE

1 The National Environment Agency (NEA) has concluded the public consultation exercise on the proposed restriction of hazardous substances (RoHS) in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE). The four week long consultation exercise ended on 24 February 2015.

2. Prior to the public consultation, the NEA had also gathered feedback from 6 rounds of industry consultation. With the feedback gathered from the industry, the NEA drafted the proposed implementation framework for public consultation via the REACH portal. In all, four companies and a member of the public provided their feedback using the REACH portal. The respondents to the consultation paper were generally supportive of the proposed draft Implementation Framework for SG-RoHS and suggested further refinements, including the request for self-declaration form to be retained by companies and be submitted upon request.

3 The NEA has considered and reviewed each submission on the proposed amendments, and has examined the key issues identified. Our responses to the key comments received are reflected in the table below. In this regard, NEA will consider incorporating some of the suggestions in the proposed Regulations.

Key Issues Identified	NEA's Response
Clarification required on whether batteries and accumulators would be exempted.	The NEA notes that the EU-RoHS does not apply to batteries and accumulators in EEE as they are regulated under the Batteries Directive. Batteries and accumulators would not be regulated under Singapore RoHS in the first instance.
Suggestions for Singapore RoHS (SG – RoHS) to adopt the full list of EU RoHS exemptions and to ensure exemptions under SG-ROHS stay relevant to the latest exemptions under the EU RoHS.	The NEA would harmonise the full list of EU-RoHS exemptions with the list under SG-RoHS. The NEA is aware that the list of exemptions under the EU-RoHS is updated frequently and would ensure that the list of exemptions under SG – RoHS stay up to date with the list of exemptions under the EU-RoHS.
Clarification on declaration requirements for products that are manufactured in Singapore	Before the sale of the product in Singapore, each local manufacturer would be required to submit a declaration of conformity for the controlled EEE. When NEA carries out its checks, the manufactured date of the product would be the date that the NEA would reference to determine if the product is placed on the shelf before or after the effective date of SG RoHS. If the company manufactures RoHS non-compliant products, these products would not be allowed for local sale. The company would have to apply for a hazardous substance licence from NEA to export these products.
Suggestion for self-declaration of	The NEA notes that the proposed approach to

Key Issues Identified	NEA's Response
<p>conformity (DoC) to be retained by companies and be submitted upon request by the NEA instead of submitting it at import stage, so as to reduce administrative burden to the industry.</p>	<p>submit a declaration form at import stage differs from the practice in the EU where companies would prepare and retain the self-declaration form to be presented upon request by the authority.</p> <p>The EU controls all EEE and therefore, it may be challenging for companies to submit declaration at import stage. However, in Singapore RoHS context, the scope of controlled EEE is limited. NEA would work closely with the industry to implement the requirement for DoC submission at import stage.</p>
<p>Suggestion for NEA to make reference to EU- RoHS as Directive 2011/65/EU when it is first referred to.</p>	<p>The NEA agrees with the suggestion.</p>

4 The NEA is heartened to have received constructive feedback and comments from individuals and organisations which have contributed to the decision making process. We would like to thank all stakeholders and members of the public who has participated in the consultation exercises for the proposed RoHS in EEE and would like to encourage the public to actively participate in future calls for comments.