**Turn Your Computer Green –
Become a State Electronics Challenge Partner**

What Is the Challenge?

The State Electronics Challenge (SEC) is a voluntary program that provides free support to state, tribal, regional, and local governments, including public and private schools, colleges, universities, and other public entities to:

➢ Purchase greener computer equipment,
➢ Conserve energy and paper, and
➢ Manage obsolete computers in an environmentally safe way.

Government agencies and tribal government participate as "Partners" in the program. The SEC provides Partners with free resources and technical assistance for improving computer equipment management, annual sustainability reports, and annual recognition to Partners that have achieved program goals.

Almost 100 government and tribal entities in 35 states—representing 145,000 employees—have signed on as SEC Partners, making a commitment to improve the environmental footprint of their computer assets. For the current list of Partners, visit http://stateelectronicschallenge.net/current_partners.html.

Why Should Government & Tribal Entities Get Involved?

Collectively, state, tribal, and local governments purchase more than $35 billion worth of technology equipment annually; providing an opportunity to influence the design of products and demonstrate leadership in the environmentally sound management of computer equipment. The SEC helps state, tribal, local, and regional governments, schools and agencies save money when equipment is in use, and reduce the risk and environmental impact of equipment disposal. For schools, it's a great opportunity to get teachers and students involved in environmental action.

Why Computers?

Computer products contain a variety of hazardous constituents. Cathode ray tubes, circuit boards, batteries, and other electronic components often contain toxic materials such as lead, cadmium, and brominated flame retardants. Reducing hazardous substances in computers reaps environmental benefits from mining through production and equipment disposition. There are also tremendous opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gases through computer power management, and to save both energy and material resources through equipment reuse and recycling.

These continuously evolving products and growing waste stream present new challenges and responsibilities for government, schools, colleges, and universities, who can positively

influence the design, operation, and disposition of these products to reduce environmental impacts.

Why Become an SEC Partner? By becoming a Partner, you receive free support and assistance to implement change, demonstrating environmental leadership in your state, region, and the nation. And, your actions as a Partner will have significant environmental impacts. For example, for every 1,000 "green" computers you purchase, power manage, and recycle after 5 years in use, you:

> ➢ Decrease energy usage by the amount of electricity needed to power 100 households annually;
> ➢ Lower greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equivalent to removing 177 cars from the road per year;
> ➢ Avoid the amount of solid waste generated by 24 households annually;
> ➢ Decrease hazardous waste entering the waste stream by 14 metric tons, equivalent to the weight of 112 refrigerators; and
> ➢ Avoid the use of 193 pounds of toxic materials, including lead and mercury in an amount equivalent to 23 mercury fever thermometers.[1]

Sustainability Reports. The SEC annually provides Partners with individualized sustainability reports. These demonstrate the impact of your actions, as well as provide an opportunity to promote your achievements.

Annual Recognition. Partners have the opportunity to obtain annual recognition and awards for their accomplishments.

Partner-only Resources. The State Electronics Challenge provides free support to help you implement the management practices that you choose.

> ➢ **Implementation Tools** provide Partners with resources to implement program goals for procurement, energy conservation, equipment reuse and donations, and recycling.

> ➢ **Free Technical Assistance** to Partners on such issues as program requirements, available resources, mentor organizations, and completion of data collection forms.

> ➢ **Partner-only Webinars** provide focused presentations on selected topics.

Visit the website at www.StateElectronicsChallenge.net to sign-up, or for more information contact info@stateelectronicschallenge.net.
And, it's easy and free to become a Partner. Online registration is simple – it won't take more than 2 or 3 minutes for you to join.

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[1] Based on the purchase of 1,000 EPEAT® Gold registered CPUs with LCD monitors, enabling their power management features and using them for 5 years, and recycling 1,000 CPUs with CRT monitors. Estimates were calculated using the U.S. EPA Electronics Environmental Benefits Calculator (v3.1, dated 7-24-12).