



# Golden State Goes Green with EPEAT



Department of  
**General Services**  
BUILDING GREEN · BUYING GREEN · WORKING GREEN

California was one of the earliest – and largest – states to adopt EPEAT, thanks to the leadership of the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) and the Procurement Division of the California Department of General Services (DGS).

## State Guidelines Pave the Way

California’s e-waste legislation – SB20 – required the state to develop purchasing guidelines to buy greener electronic products. To do so, the CIWMB convened a multi-stakeholder group that unanimously recommended the State adopt EPEAT as its default standard. In June 2005, the Integrated Waste Management Board officially adopted their recommendation. Since then, CIWMB has worked closely with DGS – as part of the state’s Green Action Team - to incorporate the guidelines into upcoming contract revisions, expected in late 2007. Not satisfied with waiting for the new contract, DGS urged current vendors to register their products with EPEAT. As a result, at least one vendor added more than 25 products to the EPEAT registry.

**Reaping big benefits** Between July 2006 and May 2007, the State has purchased 3,756 EPEAT-bronze desktop computers, 3,318 Bronze and Silver laptop computers, and 1,629 EPEAT silver monitors. Many of these products were not registered until December 2006, so this represents only 6 months of purchases. The table below summarizes the environmental benefits associated with these purchases.

### CA Environmental Results from EPEAT

| <b>Measure:</b>            | <b>How much?</b> | <b>Equivalent to:</b>                                   |
|----------------------------|------------------|---|
| Energy usage reduced       | 1,732,792 kWh    | the electricity needed to power 153 households per year |
| Greenhouse gases avoided   | 136 MTCE         | removing 108 cars from the road /year                   |
| Hazardous waste avoided    | 10 metric tons   |   |
| Toxic material use reduced | 559 pounds       |   |
| Money saved                | \$150,233        |   |

EPEAT is helping California meet its ambitious environmental goals, showing other states how they too can “buy green and work green.”

**“Not only does EPEAT provide a clear, multi-tiered standard that is broadly accepted and encourages vendor competition, they also track, quantify and report the positive environmental impact of purchasing green electronic products.”**

*Adrian Farley, Interim Deputy Director, Procurement Division, Department of General Services, State of California*