

CWQA Press Release

For more information contact k.wong@cwqa.com

Update on the Electrical Safety Authority's Manufacturer Registration Program

Ontario's Product Safety regulation O.Reg 438, authorized the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) to protect the public against unsafe electrical products in the marketplace by:

- Responding to consumer or industry based reports of unsafe electrical products;
- Investigating and removing unsafe, counterfeit and unapproved products from the marketplace;
- Requiring manufacturers to notify the public of unsafe products; and
- Implementing prevention-based and proactive detection/investigation activities.

One of the initiatives to achieve this mandate was a mandatory registration requirement for manufacturers of electrical products being sold into the Province of Ontario.

The Ontario government and ESA had heard and acknowledged industry's concerns about the proposed registration system. The ESA continues to advise electrical product manufacturers and other industry stakeholders of the decision to postpone the deadline for the registration program.

As a reminder, in October of 2009, the Electrical Safety Authority advised all electrical product manufacturers and other industry stakeholders of the decision to postpone the original August 30, 2009 deadline for the registration program till further notice.

ESA is currently working with the Ontario government to address all the comments and concerns. Due to changes in the government over the last 7 months the progress has been slowed. Once decisions have been made, ESA and the Ontario government will announce outcomes to stakeholders and information to manufacturers will be circulated.

What does this mean to manufacturers that have already registered to the program?

- ESA thanks them for their early participation;
- The funds collected are being held, while decisions are being made. ESA will process a refund if requested;
- Those already registered will not have to re-register again;
- ESA will extend the duration of registration as appropriate;
- If there are any changes in details these can be sent to ESA via email at any time.

Take note that despite the delay in the funding process, all the requirements of the regulation remain in force, including the reporting requirements so manufacturers should continue to familiarize themselves with these requirements.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact ESA directly via email to ESA's Product Safety Group – product.safety@electricalsafety.on.ca, or by calling Norm Breton, ESA's General Manager, Product Safety, at (905) 712-7813.

The Canadian Water Quality Association is a not-for-profit trade association. Chartered in 1960, the association is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 150 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, distributors, dealers and allied companies who manufacture and distribute drinking water treatment products.