



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

September 26, 2006

Dear Automobile Recycler:

As a Michigan recycling/dismantling business, I would like to cordially invite you to participate in a new national voluntary program to remove and recycle mercury switches from cars and light trucks, before they are crushed and shredded for recycling.

Pellet-sized mercury switches can be found in convenience lights in trunk and hood compartments and in anti-lock brakes of some vehicles built as late as the 2002 model year. Aside from protecting Michigan's natural environment from the release of mercury (a toxic pollutant), participation in this 'new' program will also provide certain advantages in positioning your company to effectively meet potential future regulatory challenges.

The National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (national program) was formed as a result of an agreement reached in August 2006, by automobile manufacturers, the Automotive Recyclers Association, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), automotive steel and scrap industries, environmental groups, and a national group representing state government environmental agency officials. Some of you may have heard of and/or participated in our Michigan Mercury Switch Sweep Program (M2S2). In Michigan thus far, the combined efforts of our pilot programs and the M2S2 switch recovery efforts have managed to recover nearly 70,000 mercury switches; yet nationally U.S. EPA estimates some 67 million switches are still out there. Clearly, much more remains to be done. The voluntary national program is now in place to lead the way.

End of Life Vehicle Solutions (ELVS), a not for profit corporation formed by the automobile manufacturers, will provide educational materials, as well as the collection and recycling of automotive switches. To join the national program, simply contact ELVS at the number listed below and you will receive a new 3.5 gallon collection bucket, updated educational materials regarding mercury switch removal, a list of vehicles with the potential to contain mercury switches, and a detailed instruction sheet for shipping the ELVS buckets. ELVS has subcontracted the actual collection and transportation costs of the bucket to the Environmental Quality Company (EQ). When you are ready to return full buckets of switches, the EQ will provide you with additional/or replacement buckets, as requested and at no cost to you.

We hope that you will join this important initiative and work cooperatively to protect Michigan's environment. For additional information on the ELVS Program, please contact ELVS at, 877-225-ELVS (3587), or visit ELVS' Web site at [www.elvsolutions.org](http://www.elvsolutions.org). For

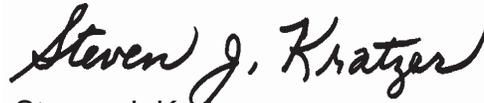
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information on buckets, shipping, and etc., please contact Ms. Judie Zaborowski, EQ Industrial Services at 734-547-2511. Should you have questions regarding the Department of Environmental Quality or state laws regarding mercury, please contact me at 517-373-0939, or by e-mail at [kratzers@michigan.gov](mailto:kratzers@michigan.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven J. Kratzer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steven J. Kratzer

Mercury Pollution Prevention and Policy Specialist  
Pollution Prevention and Compliance Assistance Section  
Environmental Science and Services Division

cc: Ms. Barbara Utter, Automotive Recyclers of Michigan  
Ms. Mary J. Bills, ELVS