

Australian Customs Notice No. 2020/52

Implementation of the Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020

With effect from 1 January 2021, Australia will regulate the exportation of waste glass under the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020* (the Act) and the Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export-Waste Glass) Rules 2020 (the Glass Rules). These measures will require exporters to hold a waste export licence and declare each export consignment of waste glass to the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment (DAWE).

DAWE will administer licences to export waste glass, which will be valid for up to three years and will be subject to conditions. Exporters will need to meet the requirements of the Act and the Glass Rules in order for the Minister for Environment to consider granting a waste export licence.

The commencement of the Act and the Glass Rules ensures that Australia will only export waste glass that has been processed and meets certain requirements. The intent of the measure is to prevent unprocessed materials from being dumped overseas – which can cause harm to the environment and human health.

Australia will introduce Rules for waste plastics, tyres and paper in later stages. Exporters of these materials will need a licence to export by the required regulation date. Rules for plastics are expected to come into effect on 1 July 2021 (stage 1) and 1 July 2022 (stage 2); tyres on 1 December 2021; and paper and cardboard on 1 July 2024.

For further information on the new export regulation of waste products, please visit the <u>DAWE</u> website or send your queries to <u>exportwaste@awe.gov.au</u>

[Signed]

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