

# Solar Energy Recycling Netherlands Foundation

advocating on your behalf



If you sell solar panels in the Netherlands that you procure from abroad, or manufacture solar panels, you can count on the support of the Solar Energy Recycling Netherlands Foundation (ZRN).

We advocate on behalf of importers and producers in complying with their legal Producer Responsibility.

# Your Producer Responsibility and the OPEN Foundation

**As an importer or producer of solar panels in the Netherlands, you are required to comply with the Regeling Afgedankte Elektrische en Electronische Apparatuur (AEEA, in Dutch). The AEEA is the European Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) legislated at national level. In the Netherlands, it is on these grounds that you have to have a Producer Responsibility. It means that you are responsible for collecting and recycling the panels, and fulfilling all the associated obligations.**

On 1 March 2021, the Organization for Producer Responsibility for E-waste Netherlands Foundation (the OPEN Foundation) takes over the compliance for the Producer Responsibility from you. This is done through

a General Binding Statement that applies to all producers of solar panels and other electrical and electronic equipment (EEE). The OPEN Foundation takes care of all your EEE registrations and procures the collection and recycling of your solar panels as efficiently as it can. In exchange you are required to pay a waste management fee to the OPEN Foundation.

As you can see, the OPEN Foundation takes a lot of work out of your hands. Therefore it is run by a strong Board that represents all the different relevant sectors. Naturally, each of these sectors has its own interests. If you want to safeguard your interests, you can join the Solar Energy Recycling Netherlands Foundation (ZRN).



1) The WEEE directive views all manufacturers and importers as producers.



## ZRN: the advocate for the solar energy sector

**The ZRN was established in 2015 to support manufacturers and importers of solar panels in complying with their recycling obligations.**

From March 2021, ZRN does this by appointing a member to the OPEN Foundation's Board who advocates on behalf of the solar energy sector. As the Board Member is from the sector, he/she is fully aware of what is important to you and to other manufacturers.

ZRN's own Board acts as advisor to ZRN's appointee on the OPEN Foundation Board. The ZRN Board comprises representatives of the different sections of the solar energy sector. It is authorised to appoint that one member to the OPEN Foundation's Board, to issue advice and, if necessary, to dismiss him/her. The ZRN Board acts on behalf of ZRN's affiliates. As a manufacturer or importer of solar panels, you are very welcome to become an affiliate.



## Join ZRN free of charge

Joining ZRN means being involved in influencing the OPEN Foundation as affiliates have the following rights and benefits.

- You can exert influence over the appointment of ZRN's Board Members. Indirectly, this also gives you some influence over the selection of the ZRN appointee on the OPEN Foundation Board. You will thus be sure that you are represented by someone that you stand behind.
- Independently or jointly with other producers, you can issue advice to ZRN's management and suggest points for the agenda. This gives you some control over both the direction that ZRN takes and your interests in the OPEN Foundation.
- You will be kept abreast of the most important developments at the OPEN Foundation and the other WEEE issues that affect your company. ZRN will do this through newsletters and on its website [stichtingzrn.nl/en](https://stichtingzrn.nl/en).

Being a ZRN affiliate does not cost any money nor does it take time. All you need to do is register.



## How to register

- Go to [stichtingzrn.nl/en](https://stichtingzrn.nl/en) and click on 'register'.
- Download the Connection Agreement and fill it in.
- Sign the Agreement and send it to [info@stichtingzrn.nl](mailto:info@stichtingzrn.nl).
- If your registration is approved, we will inform you accordingly.

## More information

- More information about ZRN is available on [stichtingzrn.nl/en](https://stichtingzrn.nl/en).
- Contact us by email at [info@stichtingzrn.nl](mailto:info@stichtingzrn.nl) or phone us on 088-13 04 105.
- More information about the OPEN Foundation is available on [stichting-open.org/english](https://stichting-open.org/english).

