

Appendix: 2027 Fee developments for electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) and lamps

In 2027, the fees for the collection, sorting and processing of electrical and electronic equipment and lamps will increase in certain cases. The main reasons for these increases are:

- The growing volume of electrical equipment and lamps collected and the associated collection costs;
- Higher costs for collection, transport, sorting and processing, partly due to developments in energy prices and depreciation costs for safe collection equipment;
- The accumulation of financial reserves to cover future collection, sorting and processing costs.

Increased collection of electrical equipment and lamps

In 2027, Stichting OPEN will continue its efforts to maximise the collection of discarded electrical equipment and lamps, with collection volumes expected to increase further.

To increase collection volumes and achieve the statutory collection target, Stichting OPEN has developed an action plan for electrical equipment and lamps. The main measures include business collection services through Wecycle for businesses and the incentive scheme.

The incentive scheme encourages market participants to deliver waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) to CENELEC-certified recyclers, helping to prevent waste from being diverted outside the official collection system. Under this incentive scheme, Stichting OPEN provides financial compensation for large equipment, small equipment and ICT equipment, in addition to the material value that participants negotiate directly with the recycler.

In 2027, efforts will also focus on improving the registration of equipment exported for reuse. Communication campaigns and targeted action plans will help achieve the statutory collection target.

Higher collection volumes inevitably lead to higher overall costs.

Rising costs for collection, transport, sorting and processing

In addition to the higher total costs resulting from increased collection volumes, operational costs per kilogram for collection, transport, sorting and processing are also rising. This is partly due to energy prices and higher labour, transport and processing costs.

The rollout of safe collection equipment, which began in 2026, will be completed in 2027. The associated depreciation costs are included in the operational costs for 2027. This equipment is necessary to ensure the safe collection, storage and transport of electrical equipment suspected of containing batteries throughout the waste management chain.

Building financial reserves for future collection, sorting and processing costs

The financial system for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for electrical equipment and lamps currently operates on a pay-as-you-go basis: the costs of collecting and processing discarded products in a given year are covered by fees paid for products placed on the market in that same year.

However, this system carries financial risks. If collection and processing costs increase in the future while sales decline or even cease entirely, the fee per kilogram or per unit would rise significantly. In an extreme scenario, the last product sold could be subject to an exceptionally high fee.

This risk can be mitigated through a fully funded system, in which fees paid for products placed on the market today are used to build reserves for their future collection and processing.

In 2027, a fully funded system will be introduced for a small proportion of electrical equipment and lamps, allowing reserves to be built up to cover future collection and processing costs.

Developments by Sector

White Goods

In 2027, fees will increase for several product categories. These increases are almost entirely attributable to higher collection, sorting and processing costs.

The main cost drivers are rising transport costs due to diesel surcharges and the truck toll introduced on 1 July 2026, higher costs for collection equipment to meet safety requirements, and increasing labour costs.

For some product categories, the fee increases are significant. The main reasons are:

- **Higher collection volumes**, resulting in increased total operational costs, particularly for product categories E4/04, E5/01 and E5/02.
- **Recovery of deficits accumulated in previous years.** For several product categories, particularly E1/03, E4/04, E4/05, E4/06, E4/07, E4/11, E5/02 and E5/04, the fees charged in recent years have been insufficient to cover costs. The accumulated deficits will be eliminated over a five-year period, resulting in higher fees. The sector began reducing these deficits in 2026, with full recovery expected by 2030 at the latest.

Audio/Video

In 2026, separate fees were introduced for televisions (category E2/01) and audio/video equipment (categories E4/23 and E5/16). On 1 July 2026, the fee for category E5/16 was increased further.

The Audio/Video sector has accumulated a deficit within Stichting OPEN over recent years. The interim fee increase for E5/16 was necessary to prevent this deficit from growing further. The accumulated deficit must be reduced to €0.00 within the next three years.

The fees for E2/01 and E4/23 will remain unchanged in 2027. The current fee levels are sufficient to cover costs, further reduce accumulated deficits and finance the 5% reserve contribution under the fully funded system for products placed on the market.

The fee for E5/16 will increase to **€1.25 in 2027**. This increase is necessary to further reduce the accumulated deficit for this category.

Other categories

Fees for products in the Other Categories sector will generally increase in 2027. These increases are primarily driven by the factors outlined at the beginning of this appendix.

Fee increases have been capped at a maximum of 200%. The 2027 fees have been determined in accordance with the principles that fees must cover costs, accumulated deficits must be reduced and financial reserves must be built up for 5% of products placed on the market (Put on Market, PoM).

Stichting OPEN's complete Action Plan 2025–2030 is available on the website of Stichting Metalektro Recycling, the sector's producer foundation.

ICT

In 2027, the fee for professional ICT equipment will increase.

The incentive scheme for the delivery and registration of discarded electrical equipment has proven effective and contributes significantly to the reported collection volume of professional ICT equipment.

The financial incentives provided under this scheme form part of the Action Plan 2025–2030, which aims to increase collection volumes and achieve the statutory collection target.

The fees for consumer ICT equipment and monitors can remain unchanged, as higher revenues from recovered materials, particularly precious metals, offset the increase in operational costs.

Tools

In 2027, fees for tools will remain unchanged compared with 2026.

The number of new products placed on the market has increased in recent years, resulting in accumulated surpluses. These surpluses have made it possible to maintain the current fee levels in 2027.

Lamps and luminaires

The fees for LED lamps and luminaires weighing less than 750 grams and more than 750 grams will remain unchanged in 2027.

In 2026, fees were increased to finance the rising long-term costs of collection and recycling.

The costs of collection, sorting and processing continue to increase. Part of these additional costs can be offset by surpluses accumulated in previous years and financial support from Stichting LightRec, using provisions established for conventional lamps.

Solar panels

On 1 January 2026, the fee for solar panels was increased to **€0.065 per kilogram** due to rising processing costs, the growing number of solar panels reaching the end of their service life, and declining sales volumes, which result in higher costs per product.

The intention was to maintain this fee level for the following five years. The fee of €0.065 per kilogram is based on a forecast of the volume of solar panels expected to be discarded over that five-year period.

This approach has made it possible to keep the waste management fee unchanged in 2027.