

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Tom March

MSU Surplus and Recycling CTR

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06-18-2014

To whom it may concern,

In the past Michigan State University has allowed the resale of used laser products. In lue of recent events where MSU has been publicly accused of selling hazardous waste to the public, the question "Should MSU be selling used lasers" has come up. In researching this question, Laser Safety Officers at other institutions were contacted; most do not allow this practice. I then contacted several DOE institutions and they do not engage in this practice either. The issues are that selling lasers places the seller as a dealer or distributor and if the lasers have been modified, a manufacturer. Each of these has additional FDA regulations and legal implications above and beyond the ANSI standards according to Ben Edwards, Chair ANSI Z136 TSC5 and Vanderbilt University CLSO, 615/343-8220

MSU EHS management has confirmed that Michigan State University will no longer be engaging in the sale of unwanted lasers, especially class 3B, class 4 and modified lasers.

This pertains to research lasers that were built, bought or modified for research purposes. For now, over the counter equipment with low power embedded lasers are exempt from this. Please contact the MSU LSO for evaluation if unsure. It is the responsibility of the laser owner to properly dispose of surplus or unwanted lasers.

The options are to; 1. Donate/give the laser to another approved laser program, 2. Return the laser to the manufacturer for disposal or credit, and 3. Personal destruction of the laser. The MSU LSO can aid in accomplishing any of these.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Thank you,

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**MSU-EHS Laser Safety Officer**

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