Purpose of Advisory

Although print cartridges are not a Focus Material (FM), they do require special management under Provision 5 of the R2 standard. The processing of print cartridges is an important part of the electronics recycling chain.

Print cartridge remanufacturers and recyclers that only process print cartridges may be eligible for the FM Processor Allowance so long as no other electronics are accepted or controlled by the facility. For example, the facility cannot hold community electronics collection events, broker electronics, collect cell phones, etc.

Print cartridge processing alone is not enough to satisfy all 13 Provisions as required to be R2 Certified. The FM Processor allowance removes the requirements of Provisions 6 and 8. These would not be applicable to a facility that only processes print cartridges. Provision 5 would be met through the requirements of Provision 5.h.

A facility that only collects print cartridges, but performs no remanufacturing or recycling is not eligible for R2 Certification with the FM Processor Allowance.

If the FM Processor Allowance is applicable, the scope statement should reflect the limited scope and must document the allowance using “Focus Materials (FM)
Processor Allowance” on the R2 Certificate in accordance with Section V.C.6.e of the R2 Code of Practices.