

Hazardous Waste Regulation - Information Note Registration and Plans Requiring Approval

There have been recent changes to legislation and regulations related to managing hazardous waste in British Columbia. The *Environmental Management Act* was enacted, and the Special Waste Regulation was amended to the [Hazardous Waste Regulation](#).

As a result of these changes, permits are no longer required for the storage, treatment and recycling of hazardous waste. However, there is now a requirement for an operational plan. These plans include many of the provisions previously included in permits. Existing facilities, including those facilities with permits and those that were registered with a BCG number, must have an approved operational plan by January 31, 2007. The discharge of hazardous waste to a secure landfill still requires a permit.

Registration of generators storing more than specified quantities of hazardous waste (Schedule 6) continues to be required. Registration is also required for management facilities that are storing, treating, recycling or disposing of hazardous waste. The ministry will assign a Provincial identification number to the registration as either a BCG number for a generator or an RS number for a management facility. The Provincial identification number is to be used in any correspondence with the ministry and applied to the appropriate sections of manifests.

In completing the tables in sections B and C of the registration form, the name of the hazardous waste should be an appropriate name determined using the naming protocol of the [Transportation of Dangerous Goods \(TDG\) Regulations](#) if the waste is a TDG regulated substance, or the waste name for the non-TDG hazardous wastes as shown in Schedule 6 or Schedule 7 of the Hazardous Waste Regulation.

The quantity for each hazardous waste is the maximum quantity likely to be generated and/or stored at the facility, which would also reflect the design capacity of the facility to store the waste. The information in the table should be updated when there are additional kinds of hazardous waste planned to be generated and/or stored at the facility or when the facility may exceed the maximum quantity of any of the previously registered hazardous wastes. Also, the registration information should be updated to reflect a significant downsizing of the operation, such as when the facility will no longer be storing, treating, recycling or discharging hazardous waste.

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Although there have been some minor changes to the quantities in Schedule 6, specifically TDG Classes 3 and 9, most categories have the same triggers for registration. Class 3 and Class 9 wastes no longer have sub-categories and most now have a threshold limit of 500 L or kg before registration and plans are required. Waste oil that is not TDG regulated as Class 3 or Class 9 has a threshold limit of 5000 L. Note that Section 42.2(3) may apply for storage of household hazardous waste under 25,000 kg or litres.

The following plans may be required for approval by the Director for a facility storing, treating, recycling or discharging the quantity of hazardous waste requiring registration. Note that guidelines are available for the Section 4 plans, with links to the guidelines provided below.

- Plans and specifications of the facility (Section 4),
- Operational plan (Section 4),
- Contingency plan (Section 11), and
- Closure plan (Section 14).

Except for the operational plan, the above plans should have a statement signed by a qualified professional licensed to practice in British Columbia indicating that each of the plans fully complies with the Hazardous Waste Regulation. Approval of the plans will, to some extent, be based on this signed statement in order to expedite the approvals, with the qualified professional being held accountable through the registering association.

A [Plans and Specifications Guideline](#) and an [Operational Plan Guideline](#) are available on the Ministry website and from Ministry regional offices.

A generator, whose primary business is not waste management and if the hazardous waste facility is for on-site passive storage only, is exempt from the need to prepare and submit plans for approval unless required by the Director. However, these generators do need to prepare the plans and specifications for the facility and keep the plans at the facility.

Note that the Hazardous Waste Regulation contains a provision for the owner of a hazardous waste storage facility to provide financial security at the discretion of the Director. Financial security could be imposed which reflects the cost of disposing of the stored hazardous waste plus the cost of assessment to ensure no residual hazardous waste remains at the site. A [Financial Security Guideline](#) is available on the Ministry website and from Ministry regional offices.