

RCRA Burden Reduction Initiative  
Notice of Data Availability  
68 FR 61662  
October 29, 2003

What is this Federal Register About?

U.S. EPA is requesting additional information and comment regarding certain changes they are considering to the hazardous waste rules. EPA is proposing changes to the hazardous waste rules to reduce the burden of the rules on states, the public and the regulated community. Burden is defined as the time an entity spends generating and reporting information to EPA and keeping records. Therefore, the focus of the changes is to remove nonessential paperwork contained in the hazardous waste recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

The rule changes that U.S. EPA is requesting comment on are:

1. Changing SQG tanks and tank ancillary equipment inspection frequencies from daily to weekly;
2. Reducing the frequency of tank, container and containment building inspections for Performance Track Facilities on a casebycase basis;
3. Allowing facilities to choose which emergency response training requirement they want to follow, either RCRA or OSHA;
4. Allowing hazardous waste unit certifications to be performed by professionals (other than professional engineers) certified by an organization meeting ASTM standards;
5. Changing the record retention requirement for incinerator monitoring data from life to three years;
6. Changing groundwater monitoring requirements for TSDs; and
7. Allowing TSDs to use Class 1 permit modifications to implement all burden reduction changes.

Will we comment on these proposed changes?

Yes. Karen Hale is the comment coordinator for this proposed rulemaking. Please send your comments regarding the changes to Karen. She must receive your comments by November 14, 2003. Also, your comments need to reflect the position of your district and be approved by your supervisor.

We encourage you to review the rule changes U.S. EPA is proposing. The *Federal Register* preamble is an easy read.

In developing your comments, please tell us:

1. The specific rule citation or rule change you are commenting on;

2. Why you believe the rule change is inappropriate or appropriate; and

3. A suggestion(s) as to how the rule should be fixed or data/information to support your position.

- What does this mean to the regulated community?

The proposed changes are intended to reduce the time a regulated entity spends developing records and reporting to EPA and to lower the costs associated with implementing the hazardous waste rules. Primarily, owners/operators of permitted and interim facilities will be affected by this rule. However, SQGs who operate certain hazardous waste storage tanks will also be affected.

What does this mean to DHWM and/or Ohio EPA?

These rule changes are less stringent than the current hazardous waste rules. Therefore, since we have an authorized RCRA program, we are not required to adopt the changes.

If we decide to adopt these rule changes, we do not anticipate that additional resources will be necessary in order for DHWM to implement this rule. This is because the universe of regulated entities will not increase, inspectors will not need special training to learn and enforce these rule changes.

When would the regulatory changes be effective in Ohio?

The rule changes would be effective in Ohio when Ohio EPA adopts them. EPA cannot implement and enforce these rules prior to us adopting and being authorized for the changes. This is because all of these rule changes are less stringent than the current hazardous waste rules.

When will Ohio EPA adopt the state version of this rule?

This will be determined after U.S. EPA adopts the final rule changes.

Federal Register Link:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/data/burdenreduction/noda10-03.pdf>

Federal Guidance

Document: <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/data/burdenreduction/>