

# **SOLID / HAZARDOUS WASTES**

**Environmental Regulation No.: EN/008**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Edition July 2010**

**ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

**ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS) DIVISION**

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## 1.0 General

There are no facilities for solid / hazardous waste disposal in the Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation (PCFC). The Dubai Municipality operates two disposal sites at Jebel Ali, one for domestic and non-hazardous types of industrial waste and one for hazardous wastes, and the municipality has to be consulted about disposal of each type of waste, which originates from the Free Zone. The Municipality will only accept solid waste for landfill after every effort has been made to minimize the generation of such waste, and to practice recycling and pretreatment as much as possible. When submitting an application for establishing works in the Free Zone, the applicant must give details about the quantities and qualities of solid. Hazardous wastes for disposal, so that they can be considered on their merits to establish whether they are disposable on the Municipality's hazardous materials dump, require prior treatment by the company before disposal or the safe export in some other country where facilities are available. All wastes transport to follow Authority / DM requirements. Hazardous wastes management and disposal including medical and radioactive wastes to be conducted as per DM requirements.

## 2.0 Hazardous Wastes Management

DM is responsible for the overall management of hazardous waste generated within Authority, as no local facility is available in the PCFC.

The premises handling hazardous wastes must do so in accordance with good control practice and any directions written or verbal given by an officer of the Authority or DM.

The premises handling hazardous wastes shall do so in accordance with any conditions for the handling of that waste specified by DM / Authority.

Authority may direct any facility to conduct a waste audit and to prepare a waste minimization plan, for any hazardous wastes under that person's control.

Authority may order any facility to obtain a full analysis of any hazardous waste or wastes suspected of being hazardous under that person's control and submit the results of that analysis within a specified period.

The premises handling hazardous waste must keep records of hazardous waste generation, transport and disposal and to submit these records as and when required by Authority.

The Authority may direct any facility handling hazardous waste to transport that waste to a secure storage, treatment or disposal facility at that person's expense and then the Authority may dispose of that waste at that person's expense, if he failed to do so within a specified period.

The Authority may at any time classify a waste as a difficult industrial waste and prescribe by written notice the requirements for the management of that waste.

Waste generators must apply using on-line application to DM through Authority and receive approval before transporting any hazardous waste from its points of generation for off-site disposal or storage elsewhere.

An approval granted above, by Authority/DM, may specify any special handling or treatment requirements considered necessary.

DM may grant an approval to any facility for the disposal of a specified annual quantity of any hazardous waste in accordance with procedures adopted.

An annual approval referred above may:

- a. Specify limits on components of the waste.
- b. Specify any treatment requirements.
- c. Specify the names of approved transporters.
- d. Require a regular analysis of the waste.
- e. Specify the amount of waste permitted for disposal in any year.
- f. Require the generator to maintain records as specified by DM and submit an annual report on waste volumes.
- g. Specify the disposal or storage facility.

The premises shall not place or discharge any hazardous waste at a site other than that specified by DM for that waste.

The premises handling hazardous waste which is not generated at those premises shall hold a permit issued by DM specifying the conditions considered necessary by them for the proper handling of hazardous wastes.

The premises generating medical wastes must disposal of those wastes through a facility approved by DM.

No entity shall import any radioactive waste as the same is prohibited by law.

The premises responsible for a radioactive source or waste which is used or generated in FZ must have a permit from the Authority.

The export of radioactive wastes from PCFC must be arranged in accordance with IAEA Guidelines and with the approval of a relevant authority like DM as per Federal Law.

A permit issued in accordance with the above shall specify the permitted quantities of radioactive substances, their handling requirements, the approved means of disposal and the necessary verification procedures. Refer to related guideline.

### 3.0 Waste Control

The premise which generates any solid waste shall employ good control practice as a minimum requirement to control the activities at that premises.

The waste generator shall have a duty of care to ensure that all wastes approved for disposal are securely packaged and loaded and reach the designated disposal facilities without alteration or loss.

The premises handling wastes at any site, where these waste were not generated by operations under that person's control at that site, must hold a permit from DM specifying:

- a. The type of waste permitted to be handled.
- b. The quantity which may be handled.
- c. How the waste must be handled.
- d. The information, which, must be collected and reported.

The premises generating any waste must conduct an analysis of those wastes and report on the quantity and quality of those wastes, if directed by Authority or DM.

All industrial premises in PCFC shall conduct their activities in such a way as to minimize the quantities of waste produced to the maximum extent practically achievable based on accepted cleaner production standards for that industry.

The Authority may require the occupier of any premises to prepare a waste audit and waste reduction plan to implement item above.

The Authority may refuse any application for a new industrial or trade premises where it can be demonstrated that discharges or wastes from the project exceed the industry benchmark or an alternative low waste technology is capable of achieving comparable output and product quality, unless the proponent modifies the proposed process.

Following basic management controls will apply:

- a. That wastes to be stored on-site in leak proof drums/containers;
- b. That wastes are stored in a "Waste Handling / Storage Facility" as a designated and marked location;
- c. That there is no soil contamination hence an impermeable surface;
- d. That wastes are not windblown beyond the storage area;
- e. The runoff wastes are controlled if they are likely to be contaminated; and that they are disposed of regularly and are not allowed to accumulate.

#### 4.0 Basel Convention Protocol

The Authority follows Basel Convention Protocol requirements, as UAE is a signatory to the same. The Basel Convention was set up to control the transboundary transport of hazardous wastes for disposal in other countries especially to developing countries where controls are minimal and dangers could develop. The Convention defines categories of wastes to be controlled, divided into waste streams and waste containing certain constituents. The Federal Environmental law bans import and transit of hazardous wastes because the UAE is a party to the Basel Convention of Transboundary Movements on Hazardous Wastes. Export for recycling purposes with Federal Environmental Agency's (FEA) approval to Basel Convention members only is allowed.

#### 5.0 Reference

Dubai Municipality Technical Guidelines