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RCRA/SUPERFUND HOTLINE MONTHLY SUMMARY

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RCRA

1. Several colleges and universities have asked for clarification on the issues of filing for generator I.D. numbers and determination of eligibility as small quantity generators.

Several basic configurations exist for college campuses. The rural or suburban campus might have several buildings on one contiguous piece of property. This would be considered a single or individual generation site even though one or more hazardous wastes are generated from one or more sources. One EPA I.D. number would be assigned, and small quantity generator status would be determined by looking at the total hazardous waste generated or accumulated on the sit.

Many university campuses are divided by public roads or other rights-of-way which they do not control. Metropolitan campuses are frequently constructed on a number of adjoining city blocks where the various campus buildings are separated by city streets but the buildings may be connected by tunnels or overhead walkways. Even in these cases, each generation site (i.e., each city block or each half of a campus bisected by a public road) would be a generator (or small quantity generator) and assigned its own EPA I.D. number.

Hazardous wastes being shipped from one campus building (i.e., generator) to another building (i.e., TSDf) where the sites are divided by a highway would need a manifest while on the highway. The one exception is when the waste is shipped directly across the road. In this case, the receiving building is considered "on-site," as defined in 40CFR 260.10 even though both sites are required to have separate EPA I.D. numbers. (NOTE: The definition of "on-site" is intended to be used only in determining whether or not a generator should initiate a manifest. It does not define two buildings owned and/or operated by the same person but divided by a highway as one generator site). The Agency's philosophy is to identify each shipment of hazardous waste as being from a specific location. EPA needs to identify who

is responsible for the waste (i.e., who created the waste, determined it to be hazardous, and is liable for its proper management). This may cause some or all of the waste from a university to be subject to the reduced requirements of the small quantity generator.

The Agency is contemplating lowering the small quantity generator exclusion limit which should then capture these wastes.

Source: Lee Deneker and Rolf Hill