SOIL CONTAMINATED WITH USED AND UNUSED PESTICIDES

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

APR 18 1987

K. Seiler
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
7272 Cleanwater Lane, LU-11
Olympia, Washington 98504-6811

Dear Ms. Seiler:

I recently received your letter of February 26, 1987, in which you request clarification as to whether excavated soils, contaminated with 2,4,5-T, Simazine, 2,4-D, Dicambia, and Bromacil, are F027 wastes. The site in question was county public works yard where a pesticide product was mixed with water as a carrier, prior to application on the county roadsides. Contamination occurred from spillage of both unused and used pesticide solutions.

The F027 listing designates, as acute hazardous waste (H), formulations containing tri-, tetra-, or pentachlorphenol or discarded unused formulations containing compounds derived from these chlorophenols. Whether the contaminated soil contains a listed hazardous waste is dependent on: (a) whether the 2,4,5-T got onto the soil through the use of the chemical or by being discarded, and (b) whether the 2,4,5-T was in fact a discarded formulation as stated in Sec. 261.31.

Soil, which is contaminated with unused 2,4,5-T, that had been discarded, would contain a listed hazardous waste, namely F027. This contaminated soil, which contains a hazardous waste, is therefore subject to the Subtitle C regulations.

Soils, which are contaminated with 2,4,5-T, as a function of its use, would not be considered to contain hazardous waste. These contaminated soils may, however, be hazardous if they are excavated to be discarded, and if they meet the hazardous waste

characteristics, i.e., if the EP leachate concentration exceeds the levels specified in Sec.261.24(b).

To my knowledge, there are currently no commercial treatment or disposal facilities permitted to accept listed dioxin wastes. You also questioned whether any treatment standards have been established for dioxin wastes. According to 40 CFR 264.343, incinerators burning hazardous wastes F020-F023, F026, and F027 must achieve a destruction and removal efficiency of 99.9999% for each principal organic hazardous constituent specified in its permit. Effective Nov. 8, 1988, these same wastes are restricted from land disposal if an extract of the waste or the treatment residual of the waste (using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)) is equal to or greater than 1 ppb of dioxin.

Please feel free to call Doreen Sterling, of my staff, at 202-475-6775, if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Original Document signed

Matthew Straus, Chief
Waste Characterization Branch

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