

1. Air Emissions from Electroplating Operations;

RCRA hazardous waste code F006 applies to sludges resulting from the treatment of electroplating wastewaters (261.31(a)). Filters used to remove contaminants from electroplating wastewaters fit the definition of sludge under 260.10 and are F006 hazardous wastes when disposed (Memo, Abrams to Duncan; May 5, 1987). An electroplating facility has a vent associated with the electroplating line that captures volatilized air emissions from the line and concentrates them in a filter. If the contaminated filter is to be discarded, would it carry the F006 listing?

The filter used to concentrate air emissions from the electroplating line would not carry the F006 listing because the air emissions are not wastewater. Although the filter does meet the definition of sludge, it does not result from the treatment of an electroplating wastewater, and therefore does not meet the F006 listing description. EPA has defined "wastewater" only within the land disposal restrictions program, and has not provided a general definition for purposes of the electroplating listings. For clarification regarding the general definition of wastewater as it pertains to the F006 listing, individuals should contact their EPA Region or authorized state.