



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
LAND AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

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COVERSHEET: EXPLANATION OF CITATION AND/OR TERMINOLOGY CHANGES IN THIS POLICY DOCUMENT

This policy document remains wholly in effect, but some or all of the regulatory citations within it have changed. These changes do not alter the existing regulatory interpretations.

As part of the [2016 Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule](#), many of the regulations that apply to hazardous waste generators were moved to, or reorganized within, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 262. To view a crosswalk between the old and new citations, please visit the [Hazardous Waste Generator Regulations Crosswalk webpage](#).

The Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule also made changes to terms that may be included in this document. The most common term change was replacing “conditionally exempt small quantity generators” (CESQGs) with “very small quantity generators” (VSQGs). In addition, EPA defined the term “central accumulation area” (CAA) to mean a generator’s 90- or 180-day accumulation area for hazardous waste.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Young". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jessica Young
Chief of the Recycling and Generator Branch
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

RCRA, SUPERFUND & EPCRA CALL CENTER MONTHLY REPORT

August 2003

1. Small Quantity Generator Treatment in Tanks

Hazardous waste generators may treat waste on site in accumulation tanks or containers without a RCRA permit or interim status provided they are in compliance with the applicable provisions in 40 CFR Section 262.34 and provided that the treatment is not thermal treatment (56 FR 10146, 10168; March 24, 1986). Section 262.34 directs generators accumulating hazardous waste in tanks and containers to follow the requirements for those units in Subparts I and J of Part 265. Specifically, a small quantity generator (SQG) who accumulates waste in a tank is directed to the special tank standards in Section 265.201 (Section 262.34(d)(3)). Should a SQG performing on-site treatment of hazardous waste in a tank comply with the special Section 265.201 standards, or is the SQG subject to all of Part 265, Subpart J?

A SQG performing on-site treatment in a tank would continue to follow the special standards in Section 265.201. Since the Part 265, Subparts I and J unit standards, including the special SQG tank standards in Section 265.201, are designed to ensure that the integrity of a tank or container is not breached, the same standards apply regardless of whether a unit is used for treatment or accumulation (56 FR 10146, 10168; March 24, 1986). The structure and content of the regulations in Section 265.201 were intended to supplant Subpart J requirements for SQGs rather than supplement them. Therefore, a SQG complies with Section 265.201 instead of all of the Subpart J regulations when accumulating or treating hazardous waste in tanks. Generators should be aware that authorized states can be more stringent than EPA and should always confer with the implementing agency to determine applicable unit standards.

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