

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Environmental Fact Sheet

HAZARDOUS WASTE REGULATION PROPOSED FOR SOME INORGANIC CHEMICALS

EPA is proposing to add three wastes from inorganic chemical manufacturing processes to the list of hazardous waste. Regulating these chemical wastes will protect human health and the environment by eliminating potential pathways of exposure.

Background

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) requires EPA to make listing determinations for hazardous waste. EPA lists a waste as hazardous when the Agency determines that it poses unacceptable risks to the environment or people. Listed waste usually comes from various manufacturing processes, which includes the inorganic chemical manufacturing industry. The Agency examined over 170 waste streams from the following 14 sectors: antimony oxide, barium carbonate, boric acid, cadmium pigments, inorganic hydrogen cyanide, phenyl mercuric acetate, phosphoric acid from the dry process, phosphorus pentasulfide, phosphorus trichloride, potassium dichromate, sodium chlorate, sodium dichromate, sodium phosphate from wet process phosphoric acid, and titanium dioxide. After making detailed assessments of these waste streams, the Agency is proposing to list three of them as hazardous waste.

Action

EPA is proposing to add the three wastes to the K-coded waste list. K-code wastes come from specialized manufacturing processes, such as those found in the inorganic chemical manufacturing industry. The three wastes the Agency proposes to list are:

- K176 ! Baghouse filters from the production of antimony oxide;
- K177 ! Slag from the production of antimony oxide that is not disposed of or speculatively accumulated; and
- K178 ! Nonwastewaters from the production of titanium dioxide by the chloride-ilmenite process.

EPA also proposes to add the hazardous constituents of these wastes to the list of constituents regulated under RCRA for each type of waste. These constituents are: antimony, arsenic, lead, thallium, and manganese.

For More Information

The *Federal Register* notice, this fact sheet, and related documents are available on the Internet at <<http://epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/id/inorchem/pr2000.htm>. For technical assistance, call the RCRA Hotline. Callers within the Washington Metropolitan Area must dial 703-412-9810 or TDD 703-412-3323 (hearing impaired). Long-distance callers may call 1-800-424-9346 or TDD 1-800-553-7672. The RCRA Hotline operates weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Comments on this proposal will be accepted for 60 days following publication in the *Federal Register*. Address comments (see details in *Federal Register*) or other written requests to: rcra-docket@epa.gov or RCRA Information Center (5305W), US EPA, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460-0002.