United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Solid Waste and
Emergency Response
(OS-305)

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EPA

RCRA Information Access

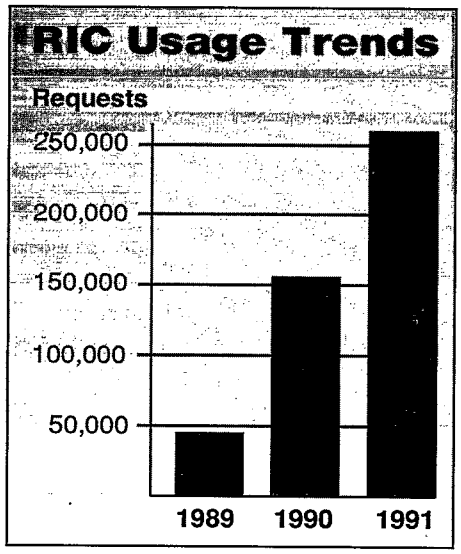
RCRA INFORMATION CENTER
RIC
A STOREHOUSE OF INFORMATION

Welcome

to RCRA Information Access

by Sylvia K. Lowrance
Director, Office of Solid Waste

During the last several years, we have seen a significant increase in the use of the RCRA Information Center (RIC). For example, in 1989 RIC responded to over 45,000 requests for information or materials from 24,000 requestors; by 1991, the number of requests had jumped to 256,000 from 87,000 individuals and institutions. This growth can be attributed to the expanding array of services and information RIC offers. The goal of ***RCRA Information Access*** *is to keep RCRA staff abreast of the changes and improvements at RIC. This newsletter will feature articles on a variety of topics, such as RIC's information technology and document collections. We hope* ***RCRA Information Access*** *will encourage you to capitalize on RIC's multitude of services.*



Micrographics Conversion Project Update

The first phase of the RCRA Docket Micrographics Conversion Project is nearing completion. During this phase, EPA has been converting to microfilm the dockets of all finalized rules, Administrative Record files, and proposed rules published before 1988 but never finalized. More than 170 cubic feet of paper documents have been filmed, and the originals have been sent to the Federal Record Center.

The motives for launching the Conversion Project were simple: to save money, increase efficiency, and prolong the physical life of RCRA documents. Storage and document management expenses have been cut by more than 90 percent as a result of the project. Older materials take up less space, leaving more room for new dockets and a growing number of OSW publications and *Federal Registers*. In addition, microfilm minimizes the risks of docket loss, theft, or misfiling.

In the second phase of this project, OSW publications (including guidance documents, technical reports, booklets, brochures, fact sheets, and Reports to Congress) will be converted to both microfiche and microfilm formats. OSW publications that are no longer in print or that are available only through NTIS will be duplicated to microfiche for state and federal government employees. Using microfiche rather than paper documents will reduce both photocopying and postage costs. The microfilm documents will be available for all RIC patrons to use.

For information and instruction on how to use the micrographics system, visit the RIC staff in Room M2427 of Waterside Mall, or call (202) 260-9327.

Tours Available:
Wednesdays
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Public Hours:
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

RCRA Information Center (RIC)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Room M2427
Waterside Mall
401 M Street, SW.
Washington, DC
(202) 260-9327

Printed on recycled paper.

Did You Know...

RIC patrons can access many special collections and on-line services, such as the EPA/NOAA Library Information Network Catalog (LINC). LINC is a computerized card catalog available on CD-ROM, which contains records on all of the holdings in the 28 EPA libraries and the 22 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) libraries and information centers.

LINC users can access more than 228,000 records of environmental information, including books, technical reports, maps, conference proceedings, journals, and other documents and materials in a variety of formats. LINC's CD-ROM media is highly user-friendly, providing on-screen help windows and various mechanisms to prevent the user from getting lost within the system.

COMMONLY REQUESTED PUBLICATIONS

Ask for These Items at the RIC Reference Desk

Native American Network: A RCRA Information Exchange
Newsletter covers RCRA's solid waste management issues. Serves as a forum to exchange experiences and ideas among tribes to enhance working relationships among tribal governments, EPA, other federal agencies, and state and local governments.

Recycle Today! Educational Materials for Grades K-12 (Pamphlet) EPA/530-SW-90-025
Encourages children to recycle and conserve materials. Contains information for ordering free educational materials (curriculum guide, how-to handbook, comic book, and poster) available to teachers from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Reusable News
Quarterly newsletter by the Municipal and Industrial Solid Waste Division that reports on EPA's and others' efforts to safely and effectively manage garbage. Includes articles on recycling, procurement, markets, composting, and information available for EPA and other organizations.

RCRA/Superfund Monthly Hotline Report: 1991 Annual Report EPA/530-SW-91-093N (PB92-131 390)
Provides a compilation of Questions and Answers and *Federal Register* Summaries from individual Monthly Hotline Reports for the period of January to December 1991. It is divided into three sections: Questions and Answers, *Federal Register* Summaries, and Indices to the questions, according to subject matter and regulatory and statutory citations.

Technical Implementation Document for EPA's Boiler and Industrial Furnace Regulations EPA/530-R-92-011 (PB92-154 947)
Provides permit writers and owners/operators with technical guidance for following BIF Rule requirements. Addresses certain precompliance and compliance certification activities, permitting, continued compliance with operating requirements, and associated planning and testing required for compliance with rules.

RCRA INFORMATION CENTER STAFF

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If you have any ideas

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