

Office of Solid Waste



Environmental Fact Sheet

AMENDMENT TO REQUIREMENTS FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE INCINERATOR PERMITS

BACKGROUND

EPA issued a proposed rule on June 21, 1988 (53 FR 23342), to clarify the intent of the regulatory language in 40 CFR 270.62(d) which discusses requirements for hazardous waste incinerator permits. Specifically, EPA wanted to clarify that permit conditions for existing hazardous waste incinerators must be based on pre-permit trial burn results. "Incinerators" are defined in 40 CFR Part 260 as "... any enclosed device using controlled flame combustion that neither meets the criteria for classification as a boiler nor is listed as an industrial furnace." A trial burn is a test of an incinerator's ability to meet all applicable performance standards (environmental and regulatory) when burning a waste under a specific set of operating conditions.

ACTION

EPA is amending the hazardous waste incinerator permit regulations to clarify the requirements that an existing hazardous waste incinerator must conduct a trial burn and submit the trial burn data prior to permit issuance.

CONCLUSION

The permitting agency must set permit conditions such that the incinerator will comply with the performance standards of Part 264 Subpart O (Section 270.62). Results of the trial burn are the critical pieces of information in setting these conditions. These requirements provide for maximum protection of human health and the environment since the permit conditions will be based on actual performance information, rather than theoretical conditions.

CONTACT

For further information, please contact the RCRA Hotline Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST. The national toll-free number is 800-424-9346; in Washington, D.C., the number is 202-382-3000.