

Transporters of Hazardous Waste Fact Sheet

Hazardous Waste Management in BC

Hazardous wastes are those wastes which, due to their nature and quantity, are potentially hazardous to human health and/or the environment and require special disposal techniques to eliminate or reduce the hazard.

All hazardous wastes must be transported in compliance with the **Hazardous Waste Regulation** and the **BC Environmental Management Act**. Hazardous wastes that are also dangerous goods must be transported in compliance with federal transport regulations.

Responsibilities of Hazardous Waste Transporters

The hazardous waste transporter is responsible for:

- Obtaining a license to transport (LT) from the BC Ministry of Environment;
- Using drivers who are fully trained in the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulation (TDGR) and the Hazardous Waste Regulation (HWR);
- Refusing to transport hazardous waste from hazardous waste generators who do not have a BC Generator Registration (Provincial ID) Number, where required, or to transport waste without documented evidence that the destination of the hazardous waste is authorized to accept the waste.
- Ensuring the hazardous waste shipment being accepted for transport has been properly analyzed, classified, packaged and labeled, and that the Manifest forms are filled out correctly and completely.

Wastes in British Columbia are Regulated

To reduce personal and environmental risks and enforce proper practices, the federal, provincial, municipal and regional governments have established a variety of laws (acts, regulations and bylaws) respecting how wastes should be managed.

Failure to meet these legal requirements can have significant impacts not only on the environment, but also on a business' reputation and finances through fines and cleanup costs.

Proper characterization of wastes and manifesting the wastes when they are moved off site are the prime responsibility of the waste generator, although the carrier and the receiver also have designated responsibilities and the associated liability.



Hazardous Waste Transporter

Penalties

The penalties for non-compliance with the Hazardous Waste Regulation are listed in **Part 10, Division 1 of the BC Environmental Management Act**.

Anyone who commits a violation can be charged - from the president of a company, right down to a person working on the shop floor.

If found guilty, they could be fined and/or imprisoned!

A fine of up to \$200,000 can be imposed for making untrue or misleading statements on a waste manifest.

Reckless disregard for safety violations causing a risk of harm or death to other persons can result in fines of up to \$3,000,000 and/or 3 years imprisonment.

Hazardous Waste Management in BC

Licensing

In British Columbia, transporters require a license when they ship hazardous wastes in quantities that require the use of a Manifest. Essentially, this ensures that no person or company transports more than a prescribed quantity of hazardous waste without having a license issued by the BC Ministry of Environment.

In order to obtain a License to Transport (LT), the transport company must complete the application form, submit all necessary documents and ensure that at least one person has passed the written BC examination to become a qualified hazardous waste specialist.

The Ministry of Environment's Hazardous Waste Homepage:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/hazwaste/index.htm> has complete information on the requirements for applying for and receiving a license to transport hazardous waste.

Transporters that ship hazardous wastes that are also dangerous goods may also be subject to Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations TDGR (federal and provincial) <http://www.tc.gc.ca/tdg/menu.htm>, or to the BC Ministry of Transportation Regulations <http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse>.



Drivers who transport hazardous wastes must be trained and have valid certification as required by Transport Canada for the transportation of dangerous goods.



Properly label and mark storage containers, according to all relevant requirements of the Hazardous Waste Regulations and the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations

If you are unsure if a particular waste is hazardous, you should retain the services of a qualified hazardous waste consultant, or contact a reputable hazardous waste management company for advice.

Shipping Documents/Manifests

There are different forms to be completed depending on the type of waste being transported and the quantity of the wastes. For the transportation of hazardous wastes, waste generators are required to complete a shipping document called a Waste Manifest or movement document.

The Waste Manifest tracks the movement of hazardous waste within, into or out of BC. It documents the type and amounts of waste, who shipped it (the generator), who transported it (the transporter), who received it (the management facility) and how waste is to be handled.

The Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations require the use of a shipping document for the movement of dangerous goods. The Manifest form required by the BC Ministry of Environment also functions as an acceptable shipping document for hazardous wastes that are also dangerous goods.

It should be noted that a Manifest is generally not to be used as a continuous shipping document for more than one trip between generators or management facilities, except as provided for under the regulations.

As well, the quantity and description of waste recorded on the Manifest must match the waste on the shipment vehicle to be in compliance with the law. Except as provided for in the regulations, a separate Manifest form must be completed for each shipment.

Training

Some hazardous wastes fall into the category of being "Dangerous Goods" and are subject to additional regulatory requirements. Drivers or handlers of "Dangerous Goods" must be properly trained and must have valid certification from their employers as required by Transport Canada for the transportation of dangerous goods.

Staff must also be trained in their responsibilities under the Hazardous Waste Regulations. Training of staff helps ensure that hazardous waste is transported or shipped in compliance with BC Regulations.

It also reduces the possibility of spills or other incidents that could threaten public health and safety or damage the environment and lessens the likelihood of costly fines, delays in transporting the wastes and spill clean-up costs.

Manifest Form

Ministry of Environment, Hazardous Waste Legislation Guide, June 2005

Various shipping forms can be purchased from:

Distribution Centre, Victoria Telephone: 250-952-4460
PO Box 9455 Stn Prov Govt Fax: 250-952-4431
Victoria, BC V8W 9V7 Toll Free: 1-800-282-7955
CANADA Email: DCVCustomerSer@gov.bc.ca

The price list and order form can be found on the Ministry's website at:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/hazwaste/forms/pdf/pricelist.pdf>

BC Ferries has regulations on transporting hazardous waste on the BC Ferry System, which can be found at the following website:

http://www.bcferries.com/travel_planning/dangerous_cargo-commercial.html

Information on transporting hazardous waste through tunnels in BC (Transportation Act; Tunnel Transportation of Dangerous Commodities Regulation) can be found at the following website: http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/reg/T/174_70.htm#3.02

This information sheet is presented by the BC Environment Industry Association (BCEIA) and is intended as information only and not to be the definitive interpretation of any act or regulations regarding Hazardous Waste. (January 2008)



Need More Information?

Contact the nearest regional office of the BC Ministry of Environment. A list of regional offices can be found at <http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/regops/contacts.html>

Or you can find your nearest Ministry of the Environment office by phone.

Victoria: (250) 387-6121

Vancouver: (604) 660-2421

Elsewhere in BC: 1-800-663-7867

Outside BC: (604) 660-2421

There are links to the relevant legislation, as well as other helpful information on the BC Ministry of Environment's Hazardous Wastes Homepage, <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/hazwaste/index.htm>

For more specific information please see the other fact sheets in this series

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- 002 Generators of Hazardous Waste
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- 012 Government & Institutional Generators

or visit Hazardous Waste BC at

<http://www.hazwastebc.com>

BCEIA British Columbia Environment Industry Association

About BCEIA

The British Columbia Environment Industry Association is comprised of engineering and environmental service companies, technology companies, research organizations, government agencies and environmental law firms.

Established in 1992, the BCEIA is the most recognized environment industry association in the Province with over 90 member organizations. BCEIA is dedicated to providing programs that foster the growth of the industry and the growth of technology innovation in the industry.

The association is committed: to advance communications and networking within the industry; to strengthen business development and competitiveness; to establish a strong effective industry liaison and advocacy presence; and to increase the membership's profile in both domestic and international markets.

BCEIA works in partnership with the Vancouver-based ***GLOBE Foundation of Canada.***

BCEIA

British Columbia
Environment Industry
Association



www.bceia.com

For Further Information:

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