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TWO MINUTE TRAINING

TO: CH2M HILL PLATEAU REMEDIATION COMPANY

FROM: PAUL W. MARTIN, RCRA Subject Matter Expert CHPRC Environmental Protection, Hanford, WA

SUBJECT: SATELLITE ACCUMULATION OF AEROSOL CANS AND DETERMINING THE 55-GALLON LIMIT

DATE: *MAY 31, 2018*

CHPRC Projects	CH PRC - Env.	MSA	Hanford Laboratories	Other Hanford	Other Hanford
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TWO MINUTE TRAINING

- **SUBJECT:** Satellite Accumulation of Aerosol Cans and Determining the 55-Gallon Limit
 - Q: A customer has started accumulating empty and non-working, partially full aerosol paint containers in a large 100-gallon tote that is being managed as a RCRA satellite accumulation area (SAA). As the aerosol cans accumulate, the customer is not sure how to determine when the 55-gallon limit is being approached. For these aerosol cans, should the SAA 55-gallon limit be determined based upon the accumulation of 55 gallons of aerosol cans (roughly a half-full 100-gallon tote), or based upon the accumulation of 55 gallons of the residues within the aerosol cans?
 - A: According to <u>WAC 173-303-200(2)(a)</u> [40 CFR 262.34(c) or 40 CFR 262.15*], a generator may accumulate as much as 55 gallons of dangerous/hazardous waste or one quart of acutely hazardous waste in containers at or near any point of generation where waste initially accumulates. The regulation does not give any details on how the 55-gallon or 1 quart limit is determined.

However, an EPA guidance letter dated February 17, 2016, (<u>RO 14875</u>) concerning satellite accumulation of containers with acutely hazardous waste residues stated:

"... the residues remaining in containers that held commercial chemical products are hazardous wastes, and EPA has clarified on several occasions that a distinction may be drawn between the residues themselves and the container..."

Accordingly, the same principle would apply here, and the one-quart accumulation limitation in an SAA only applies to acute hazardous waste and any residues within the container. In your circumstances, the container itself does not need to be included when calculating the maximum accumulation volume of acute hazardous waste in an SAA."

Applying this acutely hazardous waste residue analogy to non-acutely hazardous waste aerosol cans with residues means the customer can calculate the residues remaining in the empty and partially full aerosol cans to determine when the 55-gallon limit is being approached. The customer could take a conservative approach and accumulate the aerosol cans in a 55-gallon container and when full of cans, assume the 55-gallon limit has been reached even though there may only be a few gallons of actual hazardous waste residues. On the other hand, the customer could make defensible estimates or assumptions of how much residue remains in the aerosol cans as they are accumulated. With this option, the customer might be able to fill the 100-gallon tote to capacity and still not exceed the 55-gallon limit.

Therefore the 55-gallon limit for these aerosol cans can be based on the volume of residues remaining in the aerosol cans as opposed to the aerosol cans themselves.

SUMMARY:

- SAAs are limited to 55 gallons of hazardous/dangerous wastes or 1 quart of acutely hazardous waste.
- The SAA limit could conservatively be based on the volume of the aerosol container themselves.
- The SAA limit could also be based only on the volume of the residues remaining within the aerosol cans.

WAC 173-303-200(2) and the February 17, 2016, EPA guidance letter are attached to the e-mail. If you have any questions, please contact me at "Paul_W_Martin@rl.gov" or at (509) 376-6620.

TWO MINUTE TRAINING - ATTACHMENT

SUBJECT: Satellite Accumulation of Aerosol Cans and Determining the 55-Gallon Limit

WAC 173-303-200 Accumulating dangerous waste on-site.

(2) Satellite accumulation.

(a) A generator may accumulate as much as fifty-five gallons of dangerous waste or one quart of acutely hazardous waste (as defined in <u>WAC 173-303-040</u>) in containers at or near any point of generation where waste initially accumulates (defined as a satellite accumulation area in WAC 173-303-040). The satellite area must be under the control of the operator of the process generating the waste or secured at all times to prevent improper additions of wastes to a satellite container. Satellite accumulation is allowed without a permit provided the generator:

- (i) Complies with <u>WAC 173-303-630(2)</u>, (4), (5)(a) and (b), (8)(a), and (9)(a) and (b); and
- (ii) Complies with subsection (1)(d) of this section.

(b) When fifty-five gallons of dangerous waste or one quart of acutely hazardous waste (as defined in WAC 173-303-040) is accumulated, the container(s) must be marked immediately with the accumulation date and moved within three days to a designated storage or accumulation area.

(c) On a case-by-case basis the department may require the satellite area to be managed in accordance with all or some of the requirements under subsection (1) of this section, if the nature of the wastes being accumulated, a history of spills or releases from accumulated containers, or other factors are determined by the department to be a threat or potential threat to human health or the environment.

* 40 CFR 262.15, "Satellite accumulation area regulations for small and large quantity generators" is from the Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Final Rule and may not yet be effective in all states and is not yet effective in Washington state.

FROM: Paul W. Martin

DATE: 5/31/18

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