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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: PCB CONCENTRATION ASSUMPTIONS FOR USE VS. PCB DISPOSAL

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

CHPRC Projects	CH PRC - Env.	<u>MSA</u>	<u>Hanford</u>	Other Hanford	Other Hanford	
	Protection		Laboratories	Contractors	Contractors	
Richard Austin		Brett Barnes				
Tania Bates	Jeff Bramson	Michael Carlson	(TBD)	Bill Bachmann	Dan Saueressig	
Rene Catlow Bob Bullock		Mike Demiter		Dean Baker	Joelle Moss	
Richard Clinton	Richard Clinton Frank Carleo		DOE RL, ORP, WIPP	Scott Baker	Glen Triner	
Larry Cole	Larry Cole Bill Cox			Lucinda Borneman	Greg Varljen	
Laura Cusack	Jeanne Elkins	Jeff Ehlis	Mary Beth Burandt	Paul Crane	Julie Waddoups	
John Dent	Ryan Fischer	Garin Erickson	Duane Carter	Tina Crane	Jay Warwick	
Lorna Dittmer	Jonathan Fullmer	Panfilo Gonzalez Jr.	Al Farabee	Ron Del Mar	Ted Wooley	
Stuart Hildreth	Ted Hopkins	Dashia Huff	Tony McKarns	John Dorian		
Mike Jennings	Barry Lawrence	Mark Kamberg		Mark Ellefson		
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Sasa Kosjerina	Diane Leist	Saul Martinez		Rob Gregory		
Melvin Lakes	Mitch Marrott	Matt Mills		James Hamilton		
Richard Lipinski	Stewart McMahand	Carly Nelson		Andy Hobbs		
Stuart Mortensen	Brian Mitcheltree	Michelle Oates		Ryan Johnson		
Dave Richards	Anthony Nagel	Eric Pennala		Megan Lerchen		
Phil Sheely	Linda Petersen	Jon Perry		Mike Lowery		
Connie Simiele	Fred Ruck	Christina Robison		Michael Madison		
Jeff Westcott	Sean Sexton	Christian Seavoy		Terri Mars		
	Dave Shea	David Shaw		Cary Martin		
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	Kat Thompson	Lana Strickling		Steve Metzger		
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TWO MINUTE TRAINING

SUBJECT: PCB Concentration Assumptions for Use vs. PCB Disposal

- Q: A customer has several small transformers containing <3 pounds of fluid. The customer has been using the PCB concentration assumptions for use at 40 CFR 761.2(a)(1) which basically allow any person to assume that transformers with < 3 pounds of unestablished fluid have a PCB concentration of < 50 ppm. The customer now wants to dispose of the transformers that have been assumed to be <50 ppm PCBs. Can the customer continue to assume the transformers are <50 ppm PCBs and dispose as PCB nonregulated wastes?
- A: Per TSCA EPA's January 2014 PCB Question and Answer Manual on page 6, it states:
 - "Q: Do the PCB concentration assumptions in §761.2 apply to use, storage and disposal, or only use?
 - A: The assumptions apply to use and to storage for reuse. They do not apply to disposal or to storage for disposal. For example, if you are the owner of a transformer manufactured before July 2, 1979, that contains ≥3 pounds of fluid other than mineral oil at an unknown concentration, while the transformer is in use you must assume it is a PCB Transformer, i.e., that it contains ≥500 ppm PCBs. Once you decide to dispose of the transformer, you are no longer required to assume that it is a PCB Transformer. You must know the concentration at the time of disposal in order to assure compliance with the regulations. However, if you place the transformer into storage for disposal without having determined its concentration, EPA recommends that you store it as if it contains PCBs at regulated levels to avoid a violation."

The example given by EPA (\geq 3 pounds of fluid) does not apply to the customer's situation; however, the main points of EPA's answer do apply. The assumptions for use apply to use and to storage for reuse; and you must know the concentration of PCBs at the time of disposal to comply with 40 CFR 761.

Therefore, our customer cannot assume their transformers with <3 lbs of fluid are <50 ppm PCBs at the time of disposal and per 40 CFR 761.2(c) the customer must test the fluid or use manufacturer's information and service records to document the concentration PCBs.

SUMMARY:

- The PCB concentration assumptions for use at 40 CFR 761.2 apply to use and to storage for reuse.
- Once a PCB item is removed from service for disposal, the PCB concentration assumptions for use do not apply and the PCB concentrations must be known at the time of disposal.
- PCB items destined for disposal must have their PCB concentrations established per 40 CFR 761.2(c) by testing, or by manufacturer's information and service records.

40 CFR 761.2 and excerpts from the January 2014 PCB Q&A Manual are attached to the e-mail. If you have any questions, contact me at <u>Paul W Martin@rl.gov</u> or at (509) 376-6620.

FROM:	Paul W. Martin	DATE:	9/5/19	FILE: 2MT\2019\090519.rtf	PG: 1			
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TWO MINUTE TRAINING – ATTACHMENT

SUBJECT: PCB Concentration Assumptions for Use vs. PCB Disposal

§761.2 PCB concentration assumptions for use

(a)

(1) Any person may assume that transformers with < 3 pounds (1.36 kilograms (kgs)) of fluid, circuit breakers, reclosers, oil-filled cable, and rectifiers whose PCB concentration is not established contain PCBs at < 50 ppm.

(2) Any person must assume that mineral oil-filled electrical equipment that was manufactured before July 2, 1979, and whose PCB concentration is not established is PCB-Contaminated Electrical Equipment (i.e., contains ≥50 ppm PCB, but < 500 ppm PCB). All pole-top and pad-mounted distribution transformers manufactured before July 2, 1979, must be assumed to be mineral-oil filled. Any person may assume that electrical equipment manufactured after July 2, 1979, is non-PCB (i.e., < 50 ppm PCBs). If the date of manufacture of mineral oil-filled electrical equipment is unknown, any person must assume it to be PCB-Contaminated.

(3) Any person must assume that a transformer manufactured prior to July 2, 1979, that contains 1.36 kg (3 pounds) or more of fluid other than mineral oil and whose PCB concentration is not established, is a PCB Transformer (i.e., \geq 500 ppm). If the date of manufacture and the type of dielectric fluid are unknown, any person must assume the transformer to be a PCB Transformer.

(4) Any person must assume that a capacitor manufactured prior to July 2, 1979, whose PCB concentration is not established contains \geq 500 ppm PCBs. Any person may assume that a capacitor manufactured after July 2, 1979, is non-PCB (i.e., < 50 ppm PCBs). If the date of manufacture is unknown, any person must assume the capacitor contains \geq 500 ppm PCBs. Any person may assume that a capacitor marked at the time of manufacture with the statement "No PCBs" in accordance with §761.40(g) is non-PCB.

(b) PCB concentration may be established by:

(1) Testing the equipment; or

(2)

(i) A permanent label, mark, or other documentation from the manufacturer of the equipment indicating its PCB concentration at the time of manufacture; and

(ii) Service records or other documentation indicating the PCB concentration of all fluids used in servicing the equipment since it was first manufactured.

[63 FR 35436, June 29, 1998, as amended at 64 FR 33759, June 24, 1999]

FROM: Paul W. Martin

DATE: 9/5/19

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TWO MINUTE TRAINING – ATTACHMENT

SUBJECT: PCB Concentration Assumptions for Use vs. PCB Disposal

January 2014 Version Revisions to the PCB Q and A Manual

§761.2 Assumptions

General

- 1. Q: Do the PCB concentration assumptions in §761.2 apply to use, storage and disposal, or only use?
 - A: The assumptions apply to use and to storage for reuse. They do not apply to disposal or to storage for disposal. For example, if you are the owner of a transformer manufactured before July 2, 1979, that contains <3 pounds of fluid other than mineral oil at an unknown concentration, while the transformer is in use you must assume it is a PCB Transformer, i.e., that it contains <500 ppm PCBs. Once you decide to dispose of the transformer, you are no longer required to assume that it is a PCB Transformer. You must know the concentration at the time of disposal in order to assure compliance with the regulations. However, if you place the transformer into storage for disposal without having determined its concentration, EPA recommends that you store it as if it contains PCBs at regulated levels to avoid a violation.
- 2. Q: Can I dispose of equipment manufactured after July 2, 1979, without testing to determine if it is non-PCB?
 - A: No. The PCB concentration assumptions in §761.2 apply only while the equipment is in use. At the time of disposal, you must know the equipment's actual PCB concentration.

3. Q: If PCBs are not used in an authorized manner and are released, can the assumptions in these sections still be made?

- A: No, for two reasons. First, the assumptions apply only to authorized uses. Second, the assumptions only apply while the equipment is in use or stored for reuse. They do not apply to PCBs that have spilled or been otherwise released from the equipment.
- 4. Q: Can I clean up a spill from a transformer manufactured after 1979 assuming the PCB concentration of the spill is <50 ppm? Similarly, can I clean up a spill from a transformer containing less than 3 pounds of PCBs assuming the concentration is <50 ppm?
 - A: No. The PCB concentration assumptions in §761.2 apply only while the equipment is in use or stored for reuse. At the time of disposal, you must know the equipment's actual PCB concentration. The concentration assumptions do not apply to PCBs that have spilled or been otherwise released from the equipment.

FROM: Paul W. Martin

DATE: 9/5/19

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