

An Environmental Work Practice is a set of positive guidelines or "Do's and Don'ts" on how to control an aspect of the services, activities, or products of Yukon Energy that may have a negative effect on the environment.

SPECIAL WASTES

EMS-EWP-008

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the **Environmental Work Practice for Special Wastes** (commonly known as hazardous wastes) is to provide the steps required to purchase, store, use and dispose of hazardous wastes in an environmentally responsible manner and according to the YEC Special Waste Permit **41-120**. Contact YEC Manager of Environment for more information.

2.0 Special Wastes

Yukon Energy is permitted to generate and store the following:

- Waste oil
- Waste solvent
- Waste anti-freeze
- Waste lead based paint chips

Other examples of special wastes include waste batteries, ozone depleting substances and asbestos. In addition, any waste dangerous goods are considered special wastes.

2.1 Requirements

If the contractor or employee works with special waste in any way, they need to understand the YEC Special Waste Permit. The following are requirements under the permit.

Documentation

- Keep the Special Waste Permit posted at each site
- Keep a waste manifest everytime you transport special wastes, send to YEC Environment Department
- Maintain records of the types of special wastes in and out of your storage areas, volume, origin and storage location. File with YEC Records Management on a yearly basis.
- Submit inspection reports of weekly, monthly and annual inspections (see below requirements) to YEC Environment Department

Storage

- Prevent contamination and leaks by ensuring containers are:
 - properly labelled,
 - sealed, covered and
 - stored within secondary containment.
- Never mix or dilute special wastes.
- Routinely remove special wastes from site to an approved facility

Inspection

- Weekly - inspect for leaks of special waste storage weekly
- Monthly - Inspect storage containers for change in volume
- Annually – check container integrity, check for cracks or other issues

The Yukon *Special Waste Regulations* and the *Gas Processing Plant Regulations* state that a person who possesses or controls a special waste at the time of a release (spill), or who causes a release, **must report the incident** to the Yukon Spill Report Line (667-7244) and the Chief Operating Officer of the Oil and Gas Branch (334-3112, if applicable). Containment and clean-up action should begin as soon as possible to protect human health and the environment.

Note that for all but very small quantities of special waste, most placarding, shipping documentation, and transporter certification requirements consistent with the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations* apply to the transport of special waste.

3.0 Other Special Wastes not included in the Special Waste Permit 41-120

3.1 Pest Control Products

3.1.1 Requirements

Pest control products include herbicides (e.g., weeds, other undesirable vegetation) and pesticides (e.g., insects, rodents). One must ensure that the certified applicator or his/her assistant performs the work as specified in the permit.

The applicator must have a **Pesticide Service Permit** (see separate Fact Sheet) to apply commercial or restricted pesticides. A **Pesticide Applicator Certificate** is required to purchase any commercial or restricted pesticides.

3.2 Ozone Depleting Substances

A permit must be acquired from Environment Yukon in order to use ozone depleting substances. The form can be found on the Environment Yukon Website or at the link on the Environment Yukon website.

3.2.1 Requirements

- Halon cannot be used in the testing of fire extinguishing systems.
- Keep special wastes in permitted storage containers
- Implement continuous leak detection
- Ozone depleting substances must be captured and recycled during the servicing of all equipment.
- Ozone-depleting substances must be removed from all equipment prior to its disposal. A label stating that the ozone-depleting substance has been removed must be affixed to the unit. The label is affixed by personnel who have received training approved by the Yukon Department of the Environment.

3.3 Mercaptan

Mercaptan has the ability to leach through soil or the sediment at a moderate rate. Accumulates very little in the bodies of living organisms. Highly volatile from water.

3.3.1 Requirements

- Store and handle in accordance with federal and territorial regulations. Grounding and bonding required. Keep separated from incompatible substances.

3.4 Used Batteries and Aerosol Cans

- Batteries contain sulfuric acid and lead. Both of these materials can damage the environment and pose a safety hazard if handled improperly.
- Under the *Yukon Special Waste Regulations*, you must have a Special Waste Permit if you handle more than five kilograms of lead-acid batteries per month.

3.4.1 Requirements

When storing batteries, or preparing them for shipment, follow the steps outlined below to help prevent leaks and spills and to avoid contamination of the storage site:

- Batteries and aerosol cans should be collected and stored in a leak-proof container out of direct sunlight and exposure to precipitation (rain/snow).
- Leadhands shall ensure the proper storage and disposal of such materials. They are also responsible for coordinating the collection and disposal of the material in cooperation with the Environmental Coordinator on an annual or more frequent basis, as required.
- Larger batteries can be placed on wooden pallets. Do not make stacks of batteries more than **three**

layers thick. Separate each layer with a sheet of plywood or other suitable material.

- **Layers of pallets** should not be stacked more than **two** high.
- Enclose batteries on the pallet with thick plastic to prevent leaks. All sides must be wrapped to protect the batteries from the weather and to prevent any acid from being discharged into the environment.
- After wrapping the batteries in plastic, strap the stack of batteries to the pallet to prevent the batteries from shifting.

4.0 Disposal methods

- **Collection by a Permitted Facility**
There are several facilities in Yukon that have permits in place for treating and/or disposing of special waste.
- Liquid natural gas, natural gas
In the event of a spill, allow to vapourize and disperse to the atmosphere
- Mercaptan: Contain in leak proof container and dispose at permitted special waste handling facility.

5.0 Applicable Legislation

- Environment Act, *Pesticides Regulation*, Yukon Territorial Government
- Environment Act, *Spills Regulations*, Yukon Territorial Government
- Environment Act, *Solid Waste Regulations*, Yukon Territorial Government
- Environment Act, *Special Waste Regulations*, Yukon Territorial Government
- Canadian Environmental Protection Act. *Ozone Depleting Substances Regulations*, Environment Canada
- Oil and Gas Act, *Gas Processing Plant Regulations*, Yukon Territorial Government
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, Government of Canada

6.0 Additional Information

YEC Safe Work Practices (SWP)

SWP's can be found on the Health and Safety Departments SharePoint site.

YEC Spill Contingency Plans

Can be found on the Environmental Management System (EMS) Sharepoint site under the Environment Department.