

Containment Buildings as Generator Accumulation Units

On August 18, 1992 (57 FR 37194), EPA promulgated regulations for treatment and storage of hazardous waste in containment buildings. Section 262.34(a) allows large quantity generators to use containment buildings as hazardous waste accumulation units without obtaining a permit or interim status. May small quantity generators (generators of 100-1,000 kg. Per month of hazardous waste) accumulate hazardous waste in containment buildings and still be eligible for the reduced requirements of 40 CFR 262.34(d)?

A small quantity generator may not accumulate hazardous waste in containment buildings and remain eligible for the reduced requirements of 262.34(d). The provisions for small quantity generators in 262.34(d) and (e) allow accumulation of hazardous waste for 180 (or 270) days provided that the generator complies with the specific requirements of 262.34(d)(1)-(5). The reduced requirements in 262.34(d) limit small quantity generators to accumulation in containers and tanks. Only those generators who comply with the requirements of 262.34(a) may use containment buildings as accumulation units without obtaining a permit or interim status. A small quantity generator who chooses to accumulate hazardous waste in containment buildings does not meet the conditions of 262.34(d). Therefore, in order to use containment buildings as accumulation units without a permit or interim status, the small quantity generator must comply with the more stringent requirements in 262.34(a). These include the personnel training requirements of 265.16; the contingency plan requirements of Part 265, Subpart D; and the closure requirements of 265.111 and 265.114. These regulations also limit a generator's on-site accumulation without a permit or interim status to a maximum of 90 days. (September 1994 Monthly Hotline Report)