

9441.1984(21)

RCRA/SUPERFUND HOTLINE MONTHLY SUMMARY

JULY 84

4. A natural gas production company injects methanol into well heads to keep them from freezing during the winter months. The water/natural gas/methanol mixture is piped through a central piping station where the natural gas is separated from the water/methanol mixture. The water/methanol mixture is piped to a lined pond and finally discharged to a series of percolation ponds. The discharge to the percolation ponds is regulated under the State ground-water program. The methanol is ignitable; however, it eventually volatilizes into the atmosphere. Is the methanol/water mixture excluded from regulation according to 261.4(b)(5)?

Yes; the mixture is excluded according to 261.4(b)(5). This exclusion is specifically referenced in section 3001(b)(A) of RCRA. A report to Congress on the excluded waste is directed under section 8002 of RCRA.

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