



*Some Key Points on Hazardous Waste Management and Minimization*  
*November 8, 2011*

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**I. Waste Determination:** Look at the the materials going into your processes and the waste that is being generated. Are any of them:

- a. Ignitable? This means a flashpoint less than 140° F (60° C)
- b. Corrosive? These are acids and bases, with a pH  $\leq 2$  or  $\geq 12.5$ , respectively
- c. Reactive? Unstable wastes that can react violently or create toxic gases when mixed with water, is capable of detonation, is explosive, or is cyanide or sulfide bearing.
- d. Toxic? A number of chemicals are considered toxic and are a danger if released into the ground water. These include Mercury, Arsenic, Lead, Chromium, Benzene, Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK), Trichloroethylene, as well as many others.

**II. Generator Status:** This is determined by how much hazardous waste you generate per month.

- a. CESQG - less than 220 lbs per month
- b. SQG - between 220 lbs and 2200 lbs per month
- c. LQG - over 2200 per month

**III. On-site Management:**

- a. Store hazardous waste securely in appropriate containers.
- b. Keep the lids closed when not actively transferring waste to the container.
- c. Make sure hazardous waste labels contain the words “Hazardous Waste”, a description of contents, EPA waste codes, and the accumulation start date.
- d. Do not exceed storage time limits: 180 days for SQG; 90 days for LQG.
- e. Perform and document weekly contain inspections.

**IV. Preparedness and Prevention Plan**

- a. Designate an emergency coordinator.
- b. Post emergency info next to the telephone. This includes phone numbers for the emergency coordinator, fire department, and spill response contractor. Also, post a facility map show locations of exits, fire extinguishers, spill control equipment, and the alarm system.
- c. Stock and maintain emergency equipment including communication devices (radios or cell phones), fire extinguishers, a spill kit, and adequate water supply and pressure.

**V. Record Keeping:** The following documents should be kept on file for three years:

- a. Hazardous waste manifests
- b. Inspections records
- c. Training records
- d. Land disposal restrictions
- e. EPA ID# forms and biennial generator reports
- f. Preparedness and prevention documents:
  - i. Required postings
  - ii. Notification to authorities
  - iii. Contingency plan

**VI. Need Assistance?** Visit [www.unrbep.org](http://www.unrbep.org) or call BEP specialists at (702) 866-5927 in Southern Nevada or (800) 882-3233 in Northern Nevada.