

WAC 173-303-070 Designation of dangerous waste. (1) Purpose and applicability.

(a) This section describes the procedures for determining whether or not a solid waste is DW or EHW.

(b) The procedures in this section are applicable to any person who generates, or discovers on their site, a solid waste, as defined in WAC 173-303-016 (including recyclable materials) that is not exempted or excluded by this chapter, or by the department, or who is directed to or must further designate waste by subsection (4) or (5) of this section. Any person who generates or discovers a solid waste on their site must make an accurate determination if that waste is a dangerous waste in order to ensure wastes are properly managed according to applicable dangerous waste regulations. A dangerous waste determination is made by following the designation procedures set forth in subsection (3) of this section. Any person who determines by these procedures that their waste is designated DW or EHW is subject to all applicable requirements of this chapter.

(2)(a) Except as provided in (c) of this subsection, once a material has been determined to be a dangerous waste, then any solid waste generated from the recycling, treatment, storage, or disposal of that dangerous waste is a dangerous waste unless and until:

(i) The generator has been able to accurately describe the variability or uniformity of the waste over time, and has been able to obtain demonstration samples which are representative of the waste's variability or uniformity; and

(ii)(A) It does not exhibit any of the characteristics of WAC 173-303-090; however, wastes that exhibit a characteristic at the point of generation may still be subject to the requirements of WAC 173-303-140 (2)(a), even if they no longer exhibit a characteristic at the point of land disposal; and

(B) If it was a listed waste under WAC 173-303-080 through 173-303-083, it also has been exempted pursuant to WAC 173-303-910(3); or

(iii) If originally designated only through WAC 173-303-100, it does not meet any of the criteria of WAC 173-303-100. Such solid waste will include, but not be limited to, any sludge, spill residue, ash emission control dust, leachate, or precipitation runoff. Precipitation runoff will not be considered a dangerous waste if it can be shown that the runoff has not been contaminated with the dangerous waste, or that the runoff is adequately addressed under existing state laws (e.g., chapter 90.48 RCW), or that the runoff does not exhibit any of the criteria or characteristics described in WAC 173-303-100.

(b) Materials that are reclaimed from solid wastes and that are used beneficially (as provided in WAC 173-303-016 and 173-303-017) are not solid wastes and hence are not dangerous wastes under this section unless the reclaimed material is burned for energy recovery or used in a manner constituting disposal.

(c)(i) A dangerous waste that is listed in WAC 173-303-081(1) or 173-303-082(1) solely because it exhibits one or more characteristics of ignitability as defined under WAC 173-303-090(5), corrosivity as defined under WAC 173-303-090(6), or reactivity as defined under WAC 173-303-090(7) is not a dangerous waste, if the waste no longer exhibits any characteristic of dangerous waste identified in WAC 173-303-090 or any criteria identified in WAC 173-303-100.

(ii) The exclusion described in (c)(i) of this subsection also pertains to:

(A) Any solid waste generated from treating, storing, or disposing of a dangerous waste listed in WAC 173-303-081(1) or 173-303-082(1) solely because it exhibits the characteristics of ignitability, corrosivity, or reactivity as regulated under (a) and (b) of this section.

(B) Wastes excluded under this section are subject to 40 C.F.R. Part 268, which is incorporated by reference at WAC 173-303-140 (2)(a) (as applicable), even if they no longer exhibit a characteristic at the point of land disposal.

(3) Designation procedures.

(a) The dangerous waste designation for each solid waste must begin promptly at the point of waste generation or upon the discovery of a solid waste on their site. This must be done before any dilution, mixing, or other alteration of the waste occurs, and at any time in the course of its management that it has, or may have, changed its properties as a result of exposure to the environment or other factors that may change the properties of the waste such that the solid waste or dangerous waste classification of the waste may change.

(b) A person must determine whether the solid waste is excluded from regulation under WAC 173-303-071.

(c) A person must check each section, in the order set forth in (d) of this subsection, to determine whether the waste is designated as a dangerous waste. When the waste is determined to be a dangerous waste following the steps in (d)(i) through (iii) of this subsection, further designation is not required except as required by subsection (4) or (5) of this section. If a person has checked the waste against each section and the waste is not designated, then the waste is not subject to the requirements of this chapter 173-303 WAC.

Any person who wishes to seek an exemption for a waste which has been designated DW or EHW must comply with the requirements of WAC 173-303-072.

(d) To determine whether or not a solid waste is designated as a dangerous waste a person must:

(i) First, determine if the waste is a listed discarded chemical product, WAC 173-303-081;

(ii) Second, determine if the waste is a listed dangerous waste source, WAC 173-303-082;

(iii) Third, determine if the waste also exhibits one or more dangerous waste characteristics, WAC 173-303-090; and

(iv) Fourth, if the waste is not listed in WAC 173-303-081 or 173-303-082, and does not exhibit a characteristic in WAC 173-303-090, determine if the waste meets one or more dangerous waste criteria, WAC 173-303-100.

(e) For the purpose of determining if a solid waste is a dangerous waste as identified in WAC 173-303-080 through 173-303-100, a person must either:

(i) Test the waste according to the methods, or an approved equivalent method, set forth in WAC 173-303-110; or

(ii) Apply knowledge of the waste in light of the materials or the process used, when:

(A) Such knowledge can be demonstrated to be sufficient for determining whether or not it designated and/or designated accurately; and

(B) All data and records supporting this determination in accordance with WAC 173-303-210(3) are retained on-site; and

(C) When available knowledge is inadequate or absent to make an accurate designation, the generator must test the waste according to

the methods, or an approved equivalent method, set forth in WAC 173-303-110.

(f) Persons testing their waste must obtain a representative sample of the waste for the testing set forth in WAC 173-303-110.

(g) Test results from properly performed test methods specified in WAC 173-303-090 and 173-303-100 are definitive for determining the designation and regulatory status of the waste.

(4) Testing required. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, the department may require any person to test a waste according to the methods, or an approved equivalent method, set forth in WAC 173-303-110 to determine whether or not the waste is designated under the dangerous waste lists, characteristics, or criteria, WAC 173-303-080 through 173-303-100. Such testing may be required if the department has reason to believe that the waste would be designated DW or EHW by the dangerous waste lists, characteristics, or criteria, or if the department has reason to believe that the waste is designated improperly (e.g., the waste has been designated DW but should actually be designated EHW). If a person, pursuant to the requirements of this subsection, determines that the waste is a dangerous waste or that its designation must be changed, then they are subject to the applicable requirements of this chapter 173-303 WAC. The department will base a requirement to test a waste on evidence that includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Test information indicating that the person's waste may be DW or EHW;

(b) Evidence that the person's waste is very similar to another persons' already designated DW or EHW;

(c) Evidence that the persons' waste has historically been a DW or EHW;

(d) Evidence or information about a person's manufacturing materials or processes which indicate that the wastes may be DW or EHW; or

(e) Evidence that the knowledge or test results a person has regarding a waste is not sufficient for determining whether or not it designated and/or designated accurately.

(5) Additional designation required. A generator must manage dangerous waste under the most stringent management standards that apply. The following subsections describe how waste that has been designated as DW under the dangerous waste lists, WAC 173-303-080 through 173-303-082, or characteristics, WAC 173-303-090, or in the case of (c) of this subsection, under the lists, characteristics, or criteria, must be further designated under the dangerous waste criteria, WAC 173-303-100. This further designation under the criteria is necessary because it may change how the waste must be managed. Additional designation is required when:

(a) The waste is designated as DW with a QEL of 220 pounds and the generator otherwise qualifies as a small quantity generator. In this case, a generator must determine if their DW is also designated as a toxic EHW, WAC 173-303-100, with a QEL of 2.2 pounds; or

(b) The waste is designated as DW and the waste is to be discharged to a POTW operating under WAC 173-303-802(4) (Permits by rule). In this case, a generator must determine if the waste is also an EHW under WAC 173-303-100; or

(c) The waste is designated as a state-only DW and the waste is to be:

(i) Burned for energy recovery, as used oil, under the provisions of WAC 173-303-515; or

(ii) Land disposed within the state. In this case, a generator must determine if the waste is also an EHW under WAC 173-303-100.

(6) Dangerous waste numbers. When a person is designating, reporting, or keeping records on a dangerous waste, they must use all the dangerous waste numbers which they know are assignable to the waste from the dangerous waste lists, characteristics, or criteria. For example, if the waste is ignitable and contains more than 5 mg/l leachable lead when tested for the toxicity characteristic, they must use the dangerous waste numbers of D001 and D008. This will not be construed as requiring a person to designate their waste beyond those designation requirements set forth in subsections (2) through (5) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105, 70.105D RCW and Subtitle C of RCRA. WSR 20-20-045 (Order 19-07), § 173-303-070, filed 9/30/20, effective 10/31/20. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105, 70.105D RCW and RCRA. WSR 19-04-038 (Order 16-03), § 173-303-070, filed 1/28/19, effective 4/28/19. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105 RCW. WSR 15-01-123 (Order 13-07), § 173-303-070, filed 12/18/14, effective 1/18/15. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105 and 70.105D RCW. WSR 09-14-105 (Order 07-12), § 173-303-070, filed 6/30/09, effective 7/31/09. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105, 70.105D, and 15.54 RCW and RCW 70.105.007. WSR 04-24-065 (Order 03-10), § 173-303-070, filed 11/30/04, effective 1/1/05. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105 and 70.105D RCW. WSR 03-07-049 (Order 02-03), § 173-303-070, filed 3/13/03, effective 4/13/03. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105, 70.105D, 15.54 RCW and RCW 70.105.007. WSR 00-11-040 (Order 99-01), § 173-303-070, filed 5/10/00, effective 6/10/00. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105 and 70.105D RCW. WSR 98-03-018 (Order 97-03), § 173-303-070, filed 1/12/98, effective 2/12/98; WSR 95-22-008 (Order 94-30), § 173-303-070, filed 10/19/95, effective 11/19/95; WSR 94-01-060 (Order 92-33), § 173-303-070, filed 12/8/93, effective 1/8/94. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105 RCW. WSR 93-02-050 (Order 92-32), § 173-303-070, filed 1/5/93, effective 2/5/93. Statutory Authority: Chapters 70.105 and 70.105D RCW, 40 C.F.R. Part 271.3 and RCRA § 3006 (42 U.S.C. 3251). WSR 91-07-005 (Order 90-42), § 173-303-070, filed 3/7/91, effective 4/7/91. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105 RCW. WSR 89-02-059 (Order 88-24), § 173-303-070, filed 1/4/89; WSR 87-14-029 (Order DE-87-4), § 173-303-070, filed 6/26/87; WSR 86-12-057 (Order DE-85-10), § 173-303-070, filed 6/3/86; WSR 84-14-031 (Order DE 84-22), § 173-303-070, filed 6/27/84. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.105 RCW and RCW 70.95.260. WSR 82-05-023 (Order DE 81-33), § 173-303-070, filed 2/10/82.]