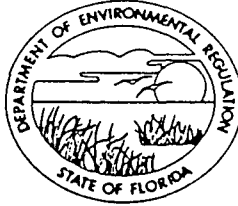


STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

TWIN TOWERS OFFICE BUILDING
2600 BLAIR STONE ROAD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301-8241



BOB GRAHAM
GOVERNOR

VICTORIA J. TSCHINKEL
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Managers of Electric Utilities, Asphalt Plants, and Other Industrial Burners

FROM: Victoria J. Tschinkel *VJ*

DATE: January 5, 1987

RE: Used Oil as a Fuel

On April 28, 1986, I issued a memorandum to inform you of recently promulgated federal rules on the burning of used oil. Because some recipients of that memorandum have voiced concerns about the Department's interpretation of certain provisions of the regulations, this memorandum supersedes all previous communication on the subject of used oil as a fuel.

On November 29, 1985, the U.S. EPA promulgated final RCRA regulations on the burning of used oil fuel. The Department has adopted these regulations by reference. The EPA regulations establish specifications for used oil fuel that may be burned in nonindustrial boilers.

Used Oil Specifications

<u>Constituent/Property</u>	<u>Allowable Level</u>
Arsenic	5 ppm maximum
Cadmium	2 ppm maximum
Chromium	10 ppm maximum
Lead	100 ppm maximum
Total Halogens	4,000 ppm maximum
Flash Point	100 degrees Fahrenheit minimum

Burning of off-specification used oil and hazardous waste fuels in non-industrial boilers is prohibited by the RCRA rules. The April 28 memorandum may have left some readers with the impression that industrial burners were also restricted by these rules to burning fuel that met specifications; however,

Memorandum
Page Two
January 5, 1987

industrial boilers and furnaces may burn hazardous waste fuel and used oil fuel, regardless of whether the fuels meet specifications. It should be noted, however, that facilities that burn hazardous waste fuel and off-specification used oil fuel are still subject to administrative requirements such as notification, receipt of an identification number, compliance with the manifest or invoice systems, and, for hazardous waste fuels, compliance with hazardous waste storage standards for hazardous waste fuels.

No level for PCBs is included in the used oil specifications, since the use, including burning for energy recovery, of used oil containing any concentrations of PCBs is prohibited under current federal regulations. Some readers of the April 28 memorandum expressed concern about this statement, asserting that 40 CFR §761.1 makes federal PCB regulations applicable only to substances containing more than 50 ppm PCBs. I have conferred with EPA headquarters concerning the federal position on the issue of burning used oil contaminated with less than 50 ppm PCBs. It is EPA's position that the burning for energy recovery of used oils containing any concentration of PCBs was prohibited as of October 1, 1984. This conclusion is based on 40 CFR §761.20(a), which prohibits use of PCBs in any concentration unless it is specifically authorized under 40 CFR §761.30. Although EPA has authorized the processing and distribution in commerce of PCBs in concentrations of less than 50 PPM for purposes of disposal, 40 CFR §761.20(c)(4), that agency has taken the position that burning for energy recovery is "use" rather than "disposal" and is, therefore, prohibited. Note, however, that PCBs in concentrations of less than 50 ppm may be burned in a high efficiency boiler as an approved PCB disposal method pursuant to 40 CFR §761.60, provided that state air permitting requirements have also been satisfied.

Ms. Jane Kim of the Office of Toxic Substances at EPA headquarters (202/382-3991) has indicated to Department staff that EPA is considering amending federal PCB regulations to allow the burning for energy recovery of used oil containing less than 50 ppm PCBs. Until then, she suggests that companies wishing to burn these oils submit a request to EPA Region IV for authorization with respect to the federal rules. I suggest that interested parties direct any comments on the federal regulation or the anticipated amendment directly to EPA.*

* Since the state PCB rule, Rule 17-34, Florida Administrative Code, only regulates the storage for disposal of PCBs, the use of PCBs is not regulated by the Department. However, Department air rules 17-2, F.A.C., and the basic permitting requirement of Chapter 403 F.S. must be complied with.

Memorandum
Page Three
January 5, 1987

Although the specification for total halogens (chemicals containing chlorine, bromine, iodine, or fluorine) is 4,000 ppm, used oil containing over 1,000 ppm will be presumed to have been mixed with a halogenated hazardous waste. In the April 28 memorandum, I stated that used oil fuels with more than 1,000 ppm total halogens should not be burned in boilers unless the marketer can show that the used oil does not contain any halogenated hazardous wastes. To clarify any confusion that this statement may have caused, I would like to make the following points:

1. As noted above, hazardous waste fuel and off-specification used oil fuel may be burned for energy recovery in industrial boilers. We did not intend to suggest that such use is prohibited by the RCRA rule.
2. Also, as previously noted, persons may rebut the presumption that used oil containing more than 1,000 ppm total halogens has been mixed with hazardous waste (for example, by showing that the used oil does not contain significant concentrations of halogenated hazardous constituents). The use of the word "any" may have caused some confusion in our cautionary statement; however, since the management and storage standards for used oil and hazardous waste fuels differ, the Department felt that a strong caution was in order.

Finally, I would like to clarify the discussion in my April 28, 1986, memorandum regarding air permitting considerations for the burning of used oil. In that memorandum I stated that the authorization to burn used oil requires that air construction permits be modified to insure that any changes to permit conditions will be federally enforceable. Upon reconsideration on this point, I am now revising the guidance in the previous memorandum as follows:

1. If your current air pollution operation permit, construction permit, or BACT determination does not specifically prohibit the burning of used oil, then you may responsibly burn "on-specification" used oil without any permit modification until the Department notifies you that your permit needs to be revised.

Memorandum
Page Four
January 5, 1987

2. If your air permit or BACT determination specifically prohibits the burning of used oil, or if you are burning "off-specification" used oil, you will need to contact the appropriate Department district office within the next 90 days to discuss what type of authorization is needed.

In addition to the air permitting considerations, facilities that burn more than 10,000 gallons of used oil annually must register with the Department as use oil recyclers in accordance with Florida Administrative Code Rule 17-7, Part V, unless specifically exempted under the provisions of that rule.

By burning used oil in an approved manner, you will help Florida recycle a valuable resource, to cut down on its energy dependence, and to protect our fragile environment. You also will be saving money on your fuel bill. We will all benefit by efforts to properly recycle used oil through its use as a fuel.

If you have any questions or comments, please refer them to David Kelley at (904)488-0300 in the Bureau of Waste Management or Barry Andrews at (904)488-1344 in the Bureau of Air Quality Management.

VJT/ks