

Emergency Coordinator Preparedness and Prevention Requirements

Both small quantity generators (SQG) and large quantity generators (LQG) are required to have safeguards in place in the event of an emergency. For responding to emergencies, there must be at least one person designated as the point of contact, this point of contact is called the emergency coordinator. More than one person can be deemed the emergency coordinator for a facility. If the emergency coordinator information changes, entities notified for the purposes of the preparedness and prevention requirements must be notified, and any postings within the facility must also be changed.

Training SQG: 40 CFR §262.34(d)(5)(iii)

SQG regulated facilities must ensure all employees are thoroughly familiar with proper waste handling and emergency procedures, relevant to their responsibilities during normal facility operations and emergencies. LQG's have specific employee training requirements which is covered in a separate fact sheet.

Emergency Coordinator Requirements: Posting (SQG only) 40 CFR §262.34(d)(5)(ii)

At a minimum, post the following information next to the telephone closest to the location where hazardous waste is stored:

- The name(s) and telephone number(s) of the emergency coordinator(s);
- Location of fire extinguishers and spill control material, and, if present, fire alarm; and
- The telephone number of the fire department, unless the facility has a direct alarm.
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Emergency Coordinator Requirements: Responsibilities/Duties 40 CFR §262.34(d)(5)(i)(iv)(A)(B)(C)

At all times there must be at least one employee either on the premises or on call (i.e., available to respond to an emergency by reaching the facility within a short period of time) with the responsibility for coordinating all emergency response measures as outlined below:

- In the event of a fire, call the fire department or attempt to extinguish it using a fire extinguisher;
- In the event of a spill, contain the flow of hazardous waste to the extent possible, and as soon as is practicable, clean up the hazardous waste and any contaminated materials or soil;
- In the event of a fire, explosion, or other release which could threaten human health outside the facility or when the generator has knowledge that a spill has reached surface water, the generator must immediately notify the National Response Center (using their 24-hour toll free number 800/424-8802).

The report must include the following information:

- The name, address, and U.S. EPA Identification Number of the generator;
- Date, time, and type of incident (e.g., spill or fire);
- Quantity and type of hazardous waste involved in the incident;
- Extent of injuries, if any; and
- Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered materials, if any.

Spills must be reported to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection as soon as possible, but no later than the end of the first working day of the release at (888) 331-NDEP (6337).

Emergency Coordinator: Large Quantity Generator 40 CFR §265.55

The emergency coordinator(s) for large quantity generators must be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the facility's contingency plan, all operations and activities at the facility, the location and characteristics of waste handled, the location of all records within the facility, and the facility layout. The emergency coordinator must have the authority to commit the resources needed to carry out the contingency plan. The contingency plan is a document outlining the actions to be taken in the event of an emergency. Contingency plan details for LQG's are covered in a separate fact sheet..

Preparedness and Prevention Requirements 40 CFR Subpart C

The preparedness and prevention requirements are part of the overall “General Facility Standards” designed to prevent releases, hazards, or other events where human health or the environment could be compromised. There are six components outlining preparedness and prevention which must be demonstrated, documented, or both.

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is requiring all generators subject to these requirements to have documentation that all components within Subpart C (preparedness and prevention) have been addressed. Additionally, NDEP requires documentation of arrangements with local authorities unless the facility is in a rural environment without services from local authorities.

Maintenance and Operation of Facility 40 CFR §265.31

Facilities must be maintained and operated to minimize the possibility of a fire, explosion, or any unplanned sudden or non-sudden release of hazardous waste or hazardous waste constituents to air, soil, or surface water which could threaten human health or the environment.

Required Equipment 40 CFR §265.32

All facilities must be equipped with the following, unless none of the hazards posed by waste handled at the facility could require a particular kind of equipment specified below:

- An internal communications or alarm system capable of providing immediate emergency instruction (voice or signal) to facility personnel;
- A device, such as a telephone (immediately available at the scene of operations) or a hand-held two-way radio, capable of summoning emergency assistance from local police departments, fire departments, or state or local emergency response teams;
- Portable fire extinguishers, fire control equipment (including special extinguishing equipment, such as that using foam, inert gas, or dry chemicals), spill control equipment, and decontamination equipment; and
- Water at adequate volume and pressure to supply water hose streams, or foam producing equipment, or
- automatic sprinklers, or water spray systems.

Testing and Maintenance of Equipment 40 CFR §265.33

All facility communications or alarm systems, fire protection equipment, spill control equipment, and decontamination equipment, where required, must be tested and maintained as necessary to assure its proper operation in time of emergency.

Access to Communications or Alarm System 40 CFR §265.34

Whenever hazardous waste is being poured, mixed, spread, or otherwise handled, all personnel involved in the operation must have immediate access to an internal alarm or emergency communication device, either directly or through visual or voice contact with another employee, unless such a device is not required under 40 CFR §265.32.

If there is ever just one employee on the premises while the facility is operating, he/she must have immediate access to a device, such as a telephone (immediately available at the scene of operation) or a hand-held two-way radio, capable of summoning external emergency assistance, unless such a device is not required under 40 CFR § 265.32.

Required Aisle Space 40 CFR §265.35

The owner or operator must maintain aisle space to allow the unobstructed movement of personnel, fire protection equipment, spill control equipment, and decontamination equipment to any area of facility operation in an emergency, unless aisle space is not needed for any of these purposes.

Arrangements with Local Authorities 40 CFR §265.37

The owner or operator must attempt to make the following arrangements, as appropriate for the type of waste handled at his facility and the potential need for the services of these organizations:

- Arrangements to familiarize police, fire departments, and emergency response teams with the layout of the facility, properties of hazardous waste handled at the facility and associated hazards, places where facility personnel would normally be working, entrances to roads inside the facility, and possible evacuation routes;
- Where more than one police and fire department might respond to an emergency, agreements designating primary emergency authority to a specific police and a specific fire department, and agreements with any others to provide support to the primary emergency authority;
- Agreements with State emergency response teams, emergency response contractors, and equipment suppliers; and
- Arrangements to familiarize local hospitals with the properties of hazardous waste handled at the facility and the types of injuries or illnesses which could result from fires, explosions, or releases at the facility.

Where state or local authorities decline to enter into such arrangements, the owner or operator must document the refusal in the operating record.

The State of Nevada requires documentation of how the facility attempted to make arrangements with police, fire, emergency response teams, and hospitals regardless of the type of waste handled at the facility.

Resources

Local

- Nevada Revised Statutes and Administrative Code <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/law1.cfm>
- Nevada Division of Emergency Management (DEM) <http://dem.state.nv.us/>
- Nevada State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)..... <http://serc.nv.gov>
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) <http://serc.nv.gov/lepcs.htm>
- Nevada Department of Public Safety..... <http://dps.nv.gov/index.htm>
- Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Chemical Accident Prevention Program (CAPP)
<http://ndep.nv.gov/bwm/capp.htm>

National

- Code of Federal Regulations <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/cfr40.htm>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency..... <http://www.fema.gov/>
- U.S. DOT, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety..... <http://hazmat.dot.gov>
- U.S. EPA Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oswer/ceppoweb.nsf/content/index.html>

Free and Confidential Assistance for Nevada's Businesses and Communities
BEP Toll-Free Assistance (800) 882-3233 | www.unrbep.org

DISCLAIMER: This guidance document is intended as general information and is not provided nor intended to act as a substitute for legal advice or other professional services. BEP advises the regulated community to read all applicable regulations set forth in both US Code of Federal Regulations (Title 40 C.F.R. Parts 260-279) and the Nevada Hazardous Waste Regulations and to keep informed of all subsequent revisions or amendments to these regulations. This guidance document was developed by BEP with funding support provided by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.



NEVADA DIVISION OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**



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