

**Environmental Protection Agency**

**§ 240.100**

**PART 240—GUIDELINES FOR THE THERMAL PROCESSING OF SOLID WASTES**

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**AUTHORITY:** Sec. 209(a), Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965 (Pub. L. 89-272); as amended by the Resource Recovery Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-512).

**SOURCE:** 39 FR 29329, Aug. 14, 1974, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart A—General Provisions**

**§ 240.100 Scope.**

(a) The prescribed guidelines are applicable to thermal processing facilities designed to process or which are processing 50 tons or more per day of municipal-type solid wastes. The application of this capacity criterion will be interpreted to mean any facility designed to process or actually processing 50/24 tons or more per hour. However, the guidelines do not apply to hazardous, agricultural, and mining wastes because of the lack of sufficient information upon which to base recommended procedures.

(b) The requirement sections contained herein delineate minimum levels of performance required of any solid waste thermal processing operation. The recommended procedures sections are presented to suggest preferred methods by which the objectives of the requirements can be realized. The recommended procedures are based on the practice of incineration at large facilities (50 tons per day or more) processing municipal solid waste. If techniques other than the recommended procedures are used or wastes other than municipal wastes are processed, it is the obligation of the facility's owner and operator to demonstrate to the responsible agency in advance by means of engineering calculations, pilot plant data, etc., that the techniques employed will satisfy the requirements.

(c) Thermal processing residue must be disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner. Where a land disposal facility is employed, it must be in accordance with the Environmental

Protection Agency's Guidelines for the Land Disposal of Solid Wastes for both residues from the thermal processing operation and those non-hazardous wastes which cannot be thermally processed for reasons of health, safety, or technological limitation.

(d) Pursuant to section 211 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, these guidelines are mandatory for Federal agencies. In addition, they are recommended to State, interstate, regional, and local government agencies for use in their activities.

(e) The guidelines are intended to apply equally to all solid waste generated by Federal agencies, regardless of whether processed or disposed of on or off Federal property; and solid waste generated by non-Federal entities, but processed or disposed of on Federal property. However, in the case of many Federal facilities such as Post Offices, military recruiting stations, and other offices, local community solid waste processing and disposal facilities are utilized, and processing and disposal is not within the management control of the Federal agency. Thus, implementation of the guidelines can be expected only in those situations where the Federal agency is able to exercise direct management control over the processing and disposal operations. However, every effort must be made by the responsible agency, where offsite facilities are utilized, to attain processing and disposal facilities that are in compliance with the guidelines. Where non-Federal generated solid waste is processed and disposed of on Federal land and/or facilities, those facilities and/or sites must be in compliance with these guidelines. Determination of compliance to meet the requirements of the guidelines rests with the responsible agency, and they have the authority to determine how such compliance may occur.

#### § 240.101 Definitions.

As used in these guidelines:

(a) *Air: Overfire air* means air, under control as to quantity and direction, introduced above or beyond a fuel bed by induced or forced draft. "Underfire air" means any forced or induced air, under control as to quantity and direction, that is supplied from beneath and

which passes through the solid wastes fuel bed.

(b) *Bottom ash* means the solid material that remains on a hearth or falls off the grate after thermal processing is complete.

(c) *Combustibles* means materials that can be ignited at a specific temperature in the presence of air to release heat energy.

(d) *Design capacity* means the weight of solid waste of a specified gross calorific value that a thermal processing facility is designed to process in 24 hours of continuous operation; usually expressed in tons per day.

(e) *Discharge* means water-borne pollutants released to a receiving stream directly or indirectly or to a sewerage system.

(f) *Emission* means gas-borne pollutants released to the atmosphere.

(g) *Facility* means all thermal processing equipment, buildings, and grounds at a specific site.

(h) *Fly ash* means suspended particles, charred paper, dust, soot, and other partially oxidized matter carried in the products of combustion.

(i) *Free moisture* means liquid that will drain freely by gravity from solid materials.

(j) *Furnace* means the chambers of the combustion train where drying, ignition, and combustion of waste material and evolved gases occur.

(k) *Grate siftings* means the materials that fall from the solid waste fuel bed through the grate openings.

(l) *Gross calorific value* means heat liberated when waste is burned completely and the products of combustion are cooled to the initial temperature of the waste. Usually expressed in British thermal units per pound.

(m) *Hazardous waste* means any waste or combination of wastes which pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or living organisms because such wastes are nondegradable or persistent in nature or because they can be biologically magnified, or because they can be lethal, or because they may otherwise cause or tend to cause detrimental cumulative effects.

(n) *Incineration* means the controlled process which combustible solid, liquid, or gaseous wastes are burned and changed into noncombustible gases.