



Fermilab  
ES&H Section

April 16, 1998

TO: Division/Section Chemical Waste Coordinators

FROM: William Griffing

SUBJECT: Disposal of Mercury Containing Lamps

Mercury containing lamps, including fluorescent lamps and high-intensity discharge lamps, have been added to the "Universal Waste Category" in Standards For Universal Waste Management, Part 733 of 35 Illinois Administrative Code. This regulation allows the lamps to be recycled rather than being classified as hazardous waste due to their mercury content. The Illinois Pollution Control Board must complete this rulemaking on or before April 15, 1998.

As a result of this rulemaking, Fermilab will begin a program to recycle our spent mercury containing lamps immediately. **Do not dispose of mercury containing lamps in dumpsters!** The Facilities Engineering Services Section (FESS) will continue to change spent lamps as in the past. The spent lamps will be transported by FESS personnel to a central location for storage. All other small quantity generators of mercury containing lamps may request that their lamps be picked up by completing a Chemical Waste Pickup Request Form and submitting it to the Hazard Control Technology Team (HCTT) of the ES&H Section. HCTT personnel will pick up the lamps on normally scheduled chemical waste pickups and transport them to the specified storage area. The HCTT will make arrangements for a vendor to come on site and process the lamps when the quantity in storage warrants. As a small quantity generator of universal waste mercury-containing bulbs, handlers/generators must:

- Contain unbroken lamps in packaging that will minimize breakage during normal handling conditions.
- Contain broken lamps in packaging that will prevent releases of lamp fragments and residues.
- Mercury containing-lamps or a container in which the lamps are contained shall be labeled or clearly marked with the phrase "Universal Waste Mercury-Containing Lamp(s)".

If you have any questions concerning this new policy, call Billy Arnold on X-3741.

cc: Division/Section Heads

B. Arnold

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File: Chemical Waste