



Air Pollution Control Board
Brian P. Bilbray District 1
Dianne Jacob District 2
Pamela Slater District 3
Leon L. Williams District 4
John MacDonald District 5

Air Pollution Control Officer
R. J. Sommerville

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RULE 1205: CONTROL OF DIOXINS EMISSIONS FROM MEDICAL WASTE INCINERATORS

On July 20, 1993, the Air Pollution Control Board adopted Rule 1205, a new rule to control dioxins emissions from medical waste incinerators. Dioxins are toxic air contaminants suspected to cause cancer in humans. The rule will take effect January 1, 1994. The rule does not apply to crematoria for human or animal remains.

The new rule requires that emission control devices be installed at facilities that burn more than 25 tons of medical waste per year. Dioxins emissions must be reduced by at least 99% by weight or to less than 10 nanograms of dioxins per kilogram of waste burned. The rule also specifies operating temperature and design requirements for medical waste incinerators and emission control devices, operator training requirements and emissions source testing, monitoring and recordkeeping requirements.

Incinerators that burn less than 25 tons per year of medical waste are exempt from dioxin emission control requirements, but are required to:

- keep records
- handle and store all post-combustion wastes to minimize particulate emissions
- provide medical waste incineration training to all staff operating the incinerator.

In addition, owners or operators of existing incinerators that burn more than 10 but less than 25 tons of medical waste per year are required to conduct an initial source test to determine dioxin emissions no later than July 1, 1994.

The rule schedule requires full compliance by April 1, 1995 for existing medical waste incinerators and upon installation and startup for new incinerators. If you are the owner or operator of a medical waste incinerator that burns more than 25 tons of waste per year, you are required to submit an application for an Authority to Construct and/or modified Permit To Operate by April 1, 1994. Please call the District's Engineering Division at (619) 694-3307 to determine whether you need to submit an application.

A copy of Rule 1205 is enclosed. For more information about the rule, call the Enforcement Division at (619) 694-3340. For a permit application or fee information, call the Engineering Division at (619) 694-3307.

RGS:jo

8/4/93 9150 Chesapeake Drive • San Diego • California 92123-1096 • (619) 694-3307

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