

Disposal of Chemical Waste Standard

Applies To

This standard applies worldwide to all 3M operations.

Introduction and Background or Purpose

3M is committed to the appropriate management and disposal of its manufacturing waste. This commitment includes waste minimization efforts to reduce the amount and hazards of waste materials generated, the recycle or reuse of those materials whenever practical, and the disposal of waste in a manner that best ensures control through final disposition in order to manage current and future risks and liabilities and protect the environment.

Requirements or Expectations

For purposes of this standard, chemical waste is defined as any hazardous or non-hazardous solid, liquid or containerized gas. Exclusions include trash, compactor waste, air emissions, liquids discharged to sewer drains in conformance with applicable regulations, waste that can appropriately be recycled, reused, reclaimed or sold, and other waste not conducive to destruction by incineration.

All chemical waste must be disposed of in accordance with all applicable environmental regulations. Chemical waste must be disposed of at waste facilities that provide 3M the most appropriate control over such waste through final disposal, identified by taking into account liability, transportation and technology risks, company financial implications and environmental impacts.

In the United States, the corporate incinerator at Cottage Grove provides the most control and is the presumptive disposal facility for chemical waste. Internationally, 3M-operated incinerators are the presumptive disposal facilities for chemical waste, where available. Where 3M-operated incinerators are not available, regional and country EHS managers must define the best local disposal solution. Where available, technologies that combust wastes are the presumptive disposal technologies for chemical waste.