



Management of Solvent-Contaminated Wipes

North Carolina has adopted the solvent-contaminated wipes rule by reference with no changes on the handling and management of solvent-contaminated wipes rule. On July 31, 2013, [78 FR46448](#), the U.S. EPA promulgated a new final rule for the exclusion of Solvent-contaminated wipes. The federal rule became effective on January 31, 2014. Under the new rule, certain reusable wipes are excluded from regulation as a solid waste if laundered, reused, and managed according to the conditions of the new rule. Certain solvent-contaminated disposable wipes are excluded from being a hazardous waste but will still be defined as a waste if the conditions of the exclusion are met. If the wipes are managed according to the new regulation they will not count toward the facility's monthly hazardous waste generator status.

What is excluded?

1. Wipes containing one or more F001-F005 listed solvent found in 40 CFR 261.31 or the corresponding P- or U- listed solvent found in 261.33.

- Acetone	- Isobutyl alcohol
- Benzene	- Methanol
- n-Butanol	- Methyl ethyl ketone
- Chlorobenzene	- Methyl isobutyl ketone
- Creosols	- Methylene chloride
- Cyclohexanone	- Tetrachloroethylene
- 1,2-Dichlorobenzene	- Toluene
- Ethyl acetate	- 1,1,2- Trichloroethane
- Ethyl benzene	- Trichloroethylene (eligible for the exclusion for reusable wipes only)
- 2-Ethoxyethanol	- Xylenes

2. Wipes that exhibit a hazardous characteristic resulting from a solvent listed in 40 CFR 261.
3. Wipes that exhibit only the hazardous characteristic of ignitability found in 40 CFR 261.21 due to the presence of one or more solvents not listed in 40 CFR 261.

What is NOT excluded?

1. Wipes that contain listed hazardous waste other than solvents.
2. Wipes that exhibit the characteristic of toxicity, corrosivity or reactivity due to non-listed solvents or contaminants other than solvents.
3. For disposable wipes that are hazardous waste due to the presence of trichloroethylene.

Conditions of the Exclusion

1. Reusable and disposable wipes, when accumulated, stored, and transported, must be contained in non-leaking, closed containers.
2. The containers must be able to contain free liquids, should free liquids occur.
 - At the point of transport for cleaning or disposal, the solvent-contaminated wipes and their containers must contain no free liquids as determined by the Paint Filter Liquids Test (EPA Methods Test 9095B).
3. The containers must be labeled “Excluded Solvent-Contaminated Wipes.”
4. The solvent-contaminated wipes may be accumulated by the generator for up to 180 days from the start date of accumulation prior to being sent for cleaning or disposal.
5. Generators must maintain documentation that they are managing excluded solvent-contaminated wipes and keep that documentation at their sites.
6. Generators must maintain documentation that includes: name and address of the laundry, dry cleaner, landfill, or combustor, documentation that the 180-day accumulation time limit is being met and description of the process the generator is using to meet the “no free liquids” condition.
7. The solvent-contaminated wipes must be managed by one of the following types of facilities. These facilities that can receive reusable and disposable wipes under today’s rule are collectively referred to as “handling facilities.”
 - An industrial laundry or a dry cleaner that discharges, if any, under sections 301 and 402 or section 307 of the Clean Water Act (CWA));
 - A municipal solid waste landfill that is regulated under 40 CFR part 258, including § 258.40, or a hazardous waste landfill regulated under 40 CFR parts 264 or 265; or
 - A municipal waste combustor or other combustion facility that is regulated under section 129 of the Clean Air Act (CAA); a hazardous waste combustor regulated under 40 CFR parts 264 or 265, or a hazardous waste boiler or industrial furnace regulated under 40 CFR part 266 subpart H.

Contact Information

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- [Hazardous Waste Rules and Regulations ‡](#)

- [EPA Solvent-Contaminated Wipes Rulemaking Website](#)

‡ The NC Rules have been revised to include the solvent-contaminated wipes rule. The NC Rules changes occur in Rule .0102 and Rule .0106. The solvent wipe rules new definitions have been added to 260.10 – Definitions and the new requirements have been added to 261.4 Exclusions - 261.4(a)(26),261.4(b)(18) and 40 CFR 261.4(h).