



INDUSTRIAL WASTE RESOURCE GUIDELINES

POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCB) MANAGEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

This guideline summarises the requirements for the storage, handling, use and transport of materials containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in Victoria.

WHAT ARE PCBs?

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are a group of very stable chlorinated aromatic hydrocarbons.

Prior to 1980, PCBs were widely used in electrical equipment such as transformers, generators and capacitors, as well as in fluorescent light fittings, electric motors, ceiling fans and dishwashers.

Due to the persistence in the environment of PCBs and the serious health concerns associated with these chemicals, the importation and manufacture of PCBs in Australia has been banned since the 1970s. Phase-out of equipment containing PCBs has been ongoing since this time.

PCB MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

PCBs are primarily managed under the *Environment Protect Act 1970* via a Notifiable Chemicals Order (the Order), which implements The *Polychlorinated Biphenyls Management Plan* (the National Management Plan), published by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC).

Contravention of the Order is an offence under the Act and may attract significant penalties.

Waste PCBs are subject to statutory controls under the *Environment Protection (Scheduled Premises and*

Exemptions) Regulations 2007 and the *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009*.

The National Management Plan provides guidance on the safe management and phase-out of PCBs; setting minimum standards for storage, handling, use and disposal of PCB materials.

The Order specifies that material or waste containing PCBs at a concentration of more than 2 mg/kg requires regulation.

The aim of the PCB management framework is to:

1. protect human health and the environment
2. manage and phase out all remaining equipment and materials containing PCBs in line with the objectives of the National Management Plan
3. ensure that PCBs are stored, handled, transported, treated and disposed of in a safe and proper manner
4. minimise contamination of other materials with PCBs
5. maintain a public register that lists the location, quantity and concentration of PCBs at premises where material, equipment and waste is greater than 10 kg or in excess of the threshold concentration and quantity of 50 mg/kg and 50 g.

SALE OR SUPPLY

The sale or supply of PCBs is prohibited without prior written consent from EPA in the form of:

- an approved environment improvement plan (EIP) for PCBs
- or
- an approved Application for Consent (provided at the end of this guideline).

The EIP should identify the types of circumstances when sale or supply may be envisaged, as well as all other required information (see Environment Improvement Plan section below).

Information that must be provided in the Application for Consent includes: estimated PCB concentration, quantity, proposed transporter and EPA licence number of the intended destination premises. If approved, EPA will issue a consent number.

This guidance forms part of the Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines, which offer guidance for wastes and resources regulated under the *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009*. Publication IWRG643.1 – September 2009.

Estimates of the quantities and concentrations of PCBs can be based on the outcomes of the risk-based strategy and statistical survey procedure outlined in the National Management Plan. Where analyses have been undertaken, the results should be included.

Emergency situations, such as transport accidents involving PCBs, may necessitate the sale or supply of PCBs. In this circumstance, contact EPA through the emergency services.

ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN (EIP)

The Order requires any premises that store, treat, destroy, dispose of or otherwise handle PCBs, and any person who transports PCBs, to have an EPA-approved EIP, which must meet the objectives of the National Management Plan (NMP).

The EIP must be signed by the occupier of the premises, or by an officer authorised by the occupier, and should include information on relevant equipment maintenance and inspection programs, emergency containment and clean-up procedures, and staff training.

If there is an existing environmental management system (EMS), EIP, licence or transport permit, the EIP for PCB management should be integrated into these existing systems; however, a separate application is required.

Approved plans will be issued with a letter of approval and an EIP number.

Management and storage of PCBs

The NMP provides guidance on a risk-based strategy for the management and phase-out of equipment containing PCBs.

Any containers or equipment likely to contain PCBs that are found to be leaking or in poor condition, must be removed or repaired and any associated contaminated soil safely disposed of, as soon as practicable.

Equipment surveys to identify likely locations, quantities and concentrations of PCBs on your premises must be carried out by appropriately qualified staff. Where analysis of PCB containing material is required, this must be carried out by NATA-accredited laboratories. Further guidance is provided in the NMP.

Transport, treatment and disposal of PCBs

Transport of waste PCBs must be in accordance with the *Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009*, which regard PCBs as prescribed industrial waste (PIW).

Requirements under these Regulations include:

- the use of waste transport certificates

- transport by vehicles with a current permit to transport the stated category and concentration of PCBs
- treatment or disposal at facilities licensed by EPA to accept waste containing the given concentration of PCB.

If you are intending to have PCBs stored, treated, reprocessed or disposed of, your EIP should specify the facility(ies) that you intend to use for this purpose.

Disposal of solid waste PCBs to landfill (for example, PCB contaminated soil) must only occur where the concentration of the solid is within the limits prescribed in the landfill licence. Landfills are only licensed to accept solid waste with a PCB concentration of 50 mg/kg or less. Solid waste with a PCB concentration greater than this will require treatment at a licensed facility.

Disposal of liquid PCBs to landfill is prohibited.

Further information for transporting of PIW:

- [Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines](#) - Transport section
- Permitted transporters and licensed waste receivers in the PIW Database www.epa.vic.gov.au/waste/iwd

Interstate transport of PCBs

For interstate movement of waste PCBs the following forms must be completed prior to transport:

- *Application for consignment authorisation – movement of controlled waste between states and territories (National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM)).*
- *Application for approval pursuant to Condition 3 of the Notifiable Chemicals Order (PCBs)*

See the PCB forms at the end of this document.

Further information for interstate transport:

- [Industrial Waste Resource Guidelines](#) – *Movement of prescribed industrial waste from Victoria.*

Record keeping

Records must be kept by the occupiers of premises involved in the management of PCBs, so the PCBs can be tracked from the point of generation, through any handling, including transport, storage, or treatment to final destruction or disposal.

Records must include the following:

- Probable or known PCB locations, concentrations and quantities, the transporter(s) and the eventual disposal route(s). Waste transport certificates with this information may be considered an adequate record.
- Certificates of destruction or disposal linking the results of equipment surveys with the phase-out and removal of PCBs from premises.



POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCB) MANAGEMENT

All premises must have adequate record keeping systems to be able to:

- confirm the estimated concentrations of each load of PCBs consigned for removal from the premises
- account for and notify EPA of notifiable quantities of PCBs (see 'Notifiable Quantity')
- update EPA annually on any changes.

An EPA officer may ask for records to be produced upon request.

DILUTION

The dilution of PCBs is prohibited without prior written consent from EPA. Approval of an EIP that provides the relevant information, including the types of circumstances where dilution may be envisaged, constitutes written consent.

Approval for dilution may be given in the following circumstances:

- If the concentration is within the threshold concentration of 50 mg/kg and 2 mg/kg (non-schedule PCB), PCBs can be diluted to less than 2 mg/kg to enable energy recovery, but must only occur with written consent. Only licensed premises or premises with an approved EIP will be permitted to prepare fuels derived from PCB wastes.
- Dilution of scheduled PCBs to less than the threshold concentration of 50 mg/kg may only be permitted for the purpose of destruction. Destruction of PCBs must only occur at a facility licensed to do so.

NOTIFIABLE QUANTITY

Where premises:

- contain more than 10 kg of PCBs in material and waste
- or
- are in excess of the threshold concentration and quantity of 50 mg/kg and 50g ('scheduled PCB' as outlined in the (NMP))

the occupier must notify EPA of the quantity, concentration and location of PCBs by completing a

Notification of Polychlorinated Biphenyls form, (see the PCB forms at the end of this document).

Note: EPA must be advised annually of any changes. This information will be recorded on a publicly accessible register.

The basis on which the notifiable quantity was determined should accompany the notification.

CERTIFICATE OF DESTRUCTION AND DISPOSAL

When PCBs have been destroyed or disposed of, the facility that received them must:

- issue a Certificate of Destruction or Disposal (see the PCB forms at the end of this document) to the occupier of the premises consigning the PCBs
- state on the Certificate of Destruction or Disposal whether the PCBs have been disposed of, destroyed or diluted to less than 2 mg/kg to enable energy recovery.

The occupier of the premises consigning the PCBs must:

- ensure that they obtain a Certificate of Destruction or Disposal from the receiving facility.
- ensure that a copy of the Certificate of Destruction and Disposal is forwarded to EPA.

Records of the Certificate of Destruction or Disposal must be maintained and made available to EPA officers upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact EPA's Statutory Facilitation Unit if you wish to discuss PCBs or submit an EIP.

Tel: 03 9695 2722

www.epa.vic.gov.au

For the ANZECC publication, *Polychlorinated Biphenyls Management Plan*, 2003; see the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts: www.environment.gov.au

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT PURSUANT TO CONDITION 3 OF THE VARIATION OF AN ORDER RELATING TO NOTIFIABLE CHEMICALS (PCBs) DATED 1 FEBRUARY 2000

From:
 Organisation _____
 Contact Person _____
 Telephone _____ Facsimile _____
 EMAIL: _____

To:
 EPA Victoria,
 GPO Box 439500, Melbourne 3001
 Phone: 03 9695 2662 Fax: 03 9695 2692
 EMAIL: WASTEISSUES@EPA.VIC.GOV.AU

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CONSIGNOR OF THE PCBs

Name of PCB consignor: _____

Contact details: Telephone _____ Facsimile _____

PCB description and current location (e.g., equipment type) _____

PCB form (tick form): Liquid Sludge Solid Number of items of equipment

Amount of PCBs _____ kilograms/litres/tonnes (circle appropriate)

PCB concentration (mg/kg) _____ (attach copy of NATA-endorsed analytical results or include estimates for quantity and concentration for each item of equipment).

Name of transporter _____ Permit no. _____

Date of transport: from ____ / ____ / ____ to ____ / ____ / ____

Transport Certificate number (if known) _____

Method of transport: Road only Rail and road Ship and road Ship, rail and road

Name of treatment facility receiving PCBs _____ Licence no. _____

Destruction/disposal method: Chemical/phy treatment Immobilisation Storage

Other (specify) _____

Where the treatment facility is not the final destination, indicate the final fate of the PCBs:

Name of facility of final destination _____ Licence number _____

Treatment type _____ (choose from above options)

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true and correct.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Consent is given subject to the following conditions.

1. All details contained in this application are true and correct.
1. The Authority must be notified immediately of any proposed changes to information contained in this application.
2. This consent relates to movement of PCBs within Victoria only; separate application must be made for interstate transport.

Pursuant to Condition 3 of the Variation of an Order relating to Notifiable Chemicals dated 1 February 2000, the Authority gives consent to sell or supply PCBs being the subject of your application dated _____

Secretary or delegate _____ Date _____

False and misleading information may lead to enforcement action.

This authorisation may be amended or revoked at any time.

Consent no.

This provides consent for sale and supply

The personal information on this form and any correspondence, notice or other document issued following processing of this information will be stored and used by EPA for the purposes of administering the *Environment Protection Act 1970*. You may access this information by contacting the EPA Privacy Information Officer. This information may be disclosed to another government organisation, including to a Tribunal or Court, where required for the purpose of administering or enforcing the *Environment Protection Act* or any other relevant laws.



**APPLICATION FOR CONSIGNMENT AUTHORISATION
MOVEMENT OF CONTROLLED WASTE BETWEEN STATES AND TERRITORIES
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION MEASURE**

From:
 Organisation _____
 Contact person _____
 Telephone _____ Facsimile _____
 Email: _____

To:
 EPA Victoria,
 GPO Box 439500, Melbourne 3001
 Phone: 03 9695 2662 Fax: 03 9695 2692
 Email: wasteissues@epa.vic.gov.au

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PRODUCER OF THE WASTE

I hereby apply for a consignment number for the transport of the waste described below from
 _____ (State of origin) to _____ (State of destination).

Name of waste producer _____

Waste description _____ (for PCB waste, see over)

Form of waste (tick form) Liquid Sludge Solid Liquid & solid

Waste code (List 1) Contaminants (List 2)

UN number Dangerous Goods Class Bulk/no. of packages

Amount of waste kilograms or litres or tonnes

Name of transporter _____

Licence or permit no. Date(s) of transport: from / / to / /

Method of transport Road only Rail and road Ship and road Ship, rail and road

Name of facility receiving waste _____ Licence no. _____

Intended disposal route(s): Recycling Energy recovery Chemical/phy treatment
 Immobilisation Incineration Storage Landfill Other

If the intended disposal route is storage or immobilisation, indicate the final fate of the waste:

Landfill Other Briefly note destination _____

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true and correct.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

The consignment number applicant.

This consignment authorisation must be used in relation to the waste described above, subject to any conditions and limitations attached, and is valid from to inclusive.

Authorised Officer _____ Date _____

This authorisation may be amended or revoked at any time.

EPA VICTORIA

The personal information on this form and any correspondence, notice or other document issued following processing of this information will be stored and used by EPA for the purposes of administering the Environment Protection Act 1970. You may access this information by contacting the EPA Privacy Information Officer. This information may be disclosed to another government organisation, including to a Tribunal or Court, where required for the purpose of administering or enforcing the Environment Protection Act or any other relevant laws.



**APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL PURSUANT TO CONDITION 3 OF
THE NOTIFIABLE CHEMICAL ORDER (PCBS) DATED 1 FEBRUARY 2000**

Waste concentration (ppm) _____ (attach copy of NATA-endorsed analytical results or include estimates for volume and concentration for each item of equipment).

Treatment type _____

(If you have indicated 'Other' as the intended disposal route, you must specify the proposed treatment type; e.g., blending)

Where the treatment facility is not the final destination, indicate the final destination of the waste:

Name of facility of final destination _____ Licence number _____

Treatment type _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

Approval is granted subject to following conditions and any further conditions or limitations attached:

1. All details contained in the application for consignment number and PCB waste movement must be true and correct.
2. The Authority must be notified immediately of any proposed changes to the details contained in the application.
3. This approval relates only to movement of PCB waste into Victoria. You must also obtain approval from other jurisdictions for PCB waste being moved from Victoria.
4. Movement of PCB waste must not occur until all approvals are granted.
5. In accordance with clause 3(g) of the Variation of an Order relating to Notifiable Chemicals you must obtain a destruction/disposal certificate from the receiving facility.
6. You must comply with any conditions imposed for any interstate movement of PCB waste under the National Environment Protection Measure 'Movement of controlled waste between states and territories'.

Pursuant to clause 3 of the Variation of an Order relating to Notifiable Chemicals, dated 1 February 2000, the Authority grants approval to sell/supply PCB waste subject to your application dated _____

EPA Chairman or Secretary _____ Date _____

False and misleading information may lead to enforcement action.
This authorisation may be amended or revoked at any time.

**CERTIFICATE OF DESTRUCTION OR DISPOSAL OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS
(PCBS) PURSUANT TO CONDITION 3(G) OF THE VARIATION OF AN ORDER RELATING
TO NOTIFIABLE CHEMICALS (PCBS) – DATED 1 FEBRUARY 2000**

This certificate is to be completed pursuant to condition 3(g) of the variation of the Order relating to Notifiable Chemicals dated 1 February 2000, by the occupier of the premises where the PCBs are received. The certificate is to confirm the destruction or disposal of PCBs. For further details, refer to the reverse side.

1. DISPOSAL/DESTRUCTION FACILITY

Name: _____

Address: _____

Licence number: _____

2. PCB CONSIGNOR

Consent No.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Name: _____

Address: _____

3. CERTIFICATION

*This is to certify that PCBs have been received from the above PCB Consignor and have been *destroyed/ disposed of.*

Destruction or disposal date: _____

Method of destruction or disposal: _____

Quantity and form (solid/liquid)
of the material disposed of following treatment: _____

Concentration of PCBs (mg/kg) destroyed/disposed _____

(attach copy of NATA-endorsed analytical report, or estimate – refer to EPA publication)

Signed: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

**The destruction or disposal facility must send a copy of this 'Certificate for Destruction or Disposal' to the PCB consignor .
The PCB consignor must ensure that a copy is forwarded to EPA.**

*Cross out not applicable.

Copy to be forwarded to:

EPA Victoria, Statutory Facilitation Unit, GPO Box 439500,
Melbourne 3001 Tel: 03 9695 2662 Fax: 03 9695 2692
wasteissues@epa.vic.gov.au



Completing and dealing with the Certificate of Destruction or Disposal

- The onus is on the occupier of the premises consigning the PCBs for destruction or disposal ("the Consignor"), to ensure that a "Certificate of Destruction or Disposal" is issued to it by the facility receiving the PCBs. The certificate is to be issued upon destruction or disposal.
- The destruction and disposal facility receiving the PCBs may be any facility which stores, including temporary storage, destructs or disposes or otherwise handles PCBs.
- Prior to the PCBs being moved from one facility another, an application for sale or supply must be completed and lodged with the Authority. Consent must be obtained before any movement takes place. Where the PCB consignor has an EPA-approved environment improvement plan (EIP), the Consent number shall be the approved EIP number.

**NOTIFICATION OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCBS)
PURSUANT TO CONDITION 3(E) OF THE VARIATION OF AN ORDER RELATING TO
NOTIFIABLE CHEMICALS (PCBS) – DATED 1 FEBRUARY 2000**

This notification is to be completed pursuant to condition 3(e) of the variation of the Order relating to Notifiable Chemicals dated 1 February 2000, by the occupier of a premises containing more than 10 kg of PCBs in material or waste at or in excess of the threshold concentration and quantity of 50 mg/kg and 50 g.

| | |
|-------------|--|
| From: _____ | To: EPA Victoria Statutory Facilitation Unit, GPO Box 439500, Melbourne 3001 Phone: 03 9695 2662 Fax 03 9695 2692 |
|-------------|--|

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE OCCUPIER OF THE PREMISES CONTAINING PCBS

Name of occupier _____ EIP number

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

Premises address _____

Contact details: Telephone _____ Facsimile _____

PCB description (tick description): Waste Material

Current location (tick one or more): Equipment containing PCB Number of items of equipment

| |
|---|
| 1 |
|---|

Articles containing or contaminated with PCB

Solvents or oil containing or contaminated with PCB

Contaminated soil

Amount of PCBs _____ kilograms/litres/tonnes (circle appropriate)
(attach supporting information on how the notifiable quantity was determined)

PCB concentration (mg/kg) _____ (attach copy of NATA-endorsed analytical results or include estimates for quantity and concentration for each item of equipment).

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the above information is true and correct.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) _____ Signature _____ Date _____

