

INFORMATION NOTE

TREATMENT OF NON HAZARDOUS WASTES FOR LANDFILL

Number: IN 01/07

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Who Should Read this: MOD staff and contractors who have a responsibility for waste management	
When it takes effect: Immediately	When it is due to expire: Mar 08

Document Aim: To raise awareness that from 30 October 2007, waste must be treated **before** it is disposed of at non-hazardous and inert landfills throughout the UK. This requirement already applies to hazardous waste.

1. This Information Note sets out the key points and exceptions and signposts main MOD policy and Environment Agency guidance.

TREATMENT OF NON HAZARDOUS WASTES FOR LANDFILL

What is the new requirement?

1. From 30 October 2007, waste must be treated before it is disposed of at non-hazardous and inert landfills. This requirement already applies to hazardous wastes.

Who is affected?

2. Landfills cannot accept untreated waste. Waste producers therefore have a choice. They can treat the waste themselves or ensure that it is treated elsewhere before being landfilled.

What legislation is behind this?

3. The new rules are a result of a European wide requirement in the Landfill Directive.

Compliance with the Regulations

4. Detailed Guidance on what the Regulations mean is given in "Treatment of non hazardous wastes for landfill – your waste your responsibility" and "Guidance for Waste Destined for Disposal in Landfills", both available from the Environment Agency.

5. The key points are:

- Waste must be treated before it is disposed of at non-hazardous and inert landfills.
- Treatment must comply with a 'three-point test':
 - i. It must be a physical, thermal, chemical or biological process including sorting.
 - ii. It must change the characteristics of the waste; and
 - iii. It must do so in order to:
 - reduce its volume; or
 - reduce its hazardous nature; or
 - facilitate its handling; or
 - enhance its recovery

6. Some wastes being landfilled may already be the product of a treatment process and will not need additional treatment. Sorting and segregation of the waste if carried out properly meets the 'three-point test'.

7. There are some, very limited, exceptions to the need for treatment because there are sometimes no treatments available that would contribute towards the aim of the Directive. These exceptions are THAT:

- It is inert waste for which treatment is not technically feasible:
- It is waste other than inert waste and treatment would not reduce its quantity or the hazards that it poses to human health or the environment.

8. Waste producers are not obliged to treat their waste themselves and may simply buy this service from a waste contractor.

9. Which ever option is chosen there is already a statutory requirement for a transfer note, together with a full description of the waste to accompany each consignment of waste. Records of all waste must be kept by the producer and waste contractor for at least two years. (See JSP 418 Vol 2. Leaflet 18 – Waste)

10. If a waste producer wants to send their waste to landfill they will need to provide confirmation to the landfill operator that the waste has been treated. It is good practice for the waste producer to always complete a written declaration stating:

- the type of treatment; and
- if relevant, the amount of waste sorted out for recovery or alternative treatment.

11. Further Information:

JSP 418, Vol 2, Leaflet 18 – Waste (<http://www.defence.mod.uk/jsp400-700/jsp418/JSP418/Vol2/Leaf18.pdf>)

Environment Agency (2007), Treatment of non hazardous wastes for landfill – your waste your responsibility, see:

http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/pdf/GEHO0207BLWJ-e-e.pdf?lang=_e

Environment Agency (2006), Guidance for Waste Destined for Disposal in Landfills – Version 2, see:

http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/wacv2_1006008.pdf