

Rule 234 Disposal of Organic Waste
(Adopted March 27, 2003)

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Rule 234

- 1 **PURPOSE:** To reduce the emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) resulting from the generation, storage, transfer, treatment, recycling or disposal of volatile organic wastes.
- 2 **APPLICABILITY:** This Rule applies to any person who generates, stores, transfers, treats, recovers, recycles or disposes of volatile organic wastes.
- 3 **EXEMPTIONS**
 - 3.1 **Household Wastes:** Wastes generated by household users shall be exempt from the requirements of this Rule.
 - 3.2 **Exempt Wastes:** Organic agricultural chemicals (pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, and fertilizers) used to grow and harvest crops or raise fowl, animals, or bees, in order to make a profit, provide a livelihood or to conduct agricultural research or instruction by an educational institution are exempt from the requirements of this Rule.
- 4 **DEFINITIONS**
 - 4.1 **Dispose** means to abandon, deposit, or otherwise discard any volatile organic waste, contained or non-contained, into or on any land or water so that such waste or any constituent of it may be emitted to the atmosphere.
 - 4.2 **Incompatible Volatile Organic Wastes** means volatile organic wastes which are unsuitable for mixing under controlled conditions because the mixing could render some or all of the volatile organic wastes unsuitable for recycling or for application of other resource recovery process.
 - 4.3 **Leak Free** means a liquid leak of less than three (3) drops per minute or a vapor leak from any source of volatile organic waste which causes a reading, as methane, on a portable combustible gas detector which is less than 100 percent of the Lower Explosive Limit (LEL) of such waste when measured within one centimeter of the source using the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Reference Method 21 (Determination of VOC Leaks) or, the appearance of a visible mist.
 - 4.4 **Resource Recovery Process** means any method, technique, or process, which transforms a volatile organic waste into a usable material (such as a fuel supplement or recyclable solvent).
 - 4.5 **Storage** means the containment of volatile organic waste prior to treatment, recovery, transfer, or disposal.
 - 4.6 **Treatment** means any method, technique, or process designed to reduce the organic compound content of any volatile organic waste.

- 4.8 Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)** means any compound containing at least one atom of carbon, excluding any **Exempt Compound** as identified in Rule 102, *Definitions*. (For the purposes of implementing Butte County Air Quality Management District Rule 430, *New Source Review* and Rule 431, *Emission Reduction Credits And Banking*, the term VOC is assumed to be the same as those compounds defined under the VOC definition).
- 4.9 Volatile Organic Waste** means any liquid waste which contains VOCs in excess of one percent by weight as determined by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Method 401 (Gravimetric Purge and Trap method) or by an equivalent method approved by the Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO).

5 REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Condition of Containers:** All containers holding volatile organic waste shall be maintained in a leak-free condition.
- 5.2 Compatibility of Waste With Container:** The owner or operator must use a container made of, or lined with, materials which will not react with the volatile organic waste to be stored so that the ability of the container to contain the waste is not impaired.
- 5.3 Management of Containers:** A container holding volatile organic waste must always be closed during storage, except when it is necessary to add or remove waste. Each storage container shall be labeled with the contents identified and the initial date noted when waste solvent was added.
- 5.4 Inspections:** The owner or operator shall inspect containers at least weekly, looking for leaks and for deterioration caused by corrosion or other factors.
- 5.5 Special Requirements for Ignitable or Reactive Wastes:** Containers holding ignitable or reactive waste must be located within the property boundary in accordance with the requirements specified in the Uniform Fire Code.
- 5.6 Special Requirements for Incompatible Wastes:**
- 5.6.1** Incompatible wastes must not be placed in the same container. The treatment, storage, and disposal of ignitable or reactive waste, and the co-mingling of wastes, or wastes and materials, must be conducted so it does not:
- 5.6.1.1** Generate extreme heat, pressure, explosion, or violent reaction;
 - 5.6.1.2** Produce uncontrolled toxic mists, fumes, dusts or gases in sufficient quantities to threaten human health;
 - 5.6.1.3** Produce flammable fumes or gases in sufficient quantities to pose a risk of fire or explosions;
 - 5.6.1.4** Damage the structural integrity of the device or facility containing the waste; or

