



Use of Evaporation Units Technical Guidance Document HW-1995-G3

This technical guidance document describes the conditions under which an evaporation unit may be used without obtaining a permit for the treatment of hazardous waste. The federal regulations referred to in this document have been adopted in Kansas by KAR 28-31-260, 28-31-264, and 28-31-265.

When hazardous waste is evaporated, there is a strong potential for contaminants to be moved from one media (liquid waste) to another media (ambient air). A hazardous waste generator using evaporation units may reduce the volume of the liquid but contaminate the air and surrounding area. If evaporation is used to reduce the volume of hazardous waste and/or to conduct waste minimization, the evaporation process must not allow contaminants to enter the air and thus endanger public health and the environment.

Evaporation of a hazardous waste meets the definition of "treatment" found in 40 CFR 260.10. However, evaporation units may be operated without obtaining a permit under the following conditions:

1. The evaporation unit is a sludge dryer that is part of a wastewater treatment system operating under a wastewater treatment exemption and meets the definition in 40 CFR 260.10;

OR

2. The evaporation unit meets the definition of a totally enclosed treatment system in 40 CFR 260.10. Additional clarification by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on this definition will be provided on request.

If the evaporation unit does not meet either of the preceding conditions, the unit is a thermal treatment unit and is subject to the permit requirements of 40 CFR 264, Subpart X or the interim status requirements of 40 CFR Part 265.

It is the responsibility of the generator to control and/or monitor the emissions of the evaporation unit and to ensure that no hazardous waste constituents are released into the air

The Bureau of Waste Management requests that all plans for evaporation units be reviewed by the department prior to purchase or installation to determine if the unit will meet the criteria outlined in this guidance document.

For additional information regarding proper management of solid or hazardous waste, you may contact the Bureau of Waste Management at (785) 296-1600 or the address at the top of this document, or visit the Bureau's website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/>.