



May/June 2009
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Update Your Address Book Before It's Too Late!



Time is running out to update your address book to include Gabriel's new ZIP Code!

[New US Postal Service zoning efforts have changed Gabriel's ZIP Code](#) from **60622** to **60642**.

After **July 1st 2009**, any piece of mail addressed to Gabriel at our old ZIP Code will not be delivered to our office.

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Changes to Permits for Industrial Storm Water

Any holders of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Storm Water Permit ILR00, are now required to submit an electronic Storm Water Prevention Plan (SWPPP). SWPPPs can be submitted to epa.indilr00swppp@illinois.gov.



General NPDES Permit ILR00 allows for the discharge of industrial storm water from a facility. For existing permits, the SWPPP can be submitted at the same time as the annual report to epa.indannualinsp@illinois.gov.

To learn more about ILR00 permits and regulations for discharge of Industrial Storm Water, visit the [IEPA's website](#) or contact [Brigid McHale](#) at (773)486-2123.

Failure to Meet SPCC Standards Can Be Costly

All owners and operators of facilities [subjected to SPCC regulations](#) are required under the Clean Water Act to prepare and implement a [Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure \(SPCC\)](#) plan.

Failure to comply with SPCC regulations can result in heavy penalties for companies who violate this law. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is currently seeking [\\$39,930 in fines from Tunstall Fuel Company](#) for failure to develop and implement a SPCC plan at the company's storage facility in Boswell, PA.



SPCC Compliance Dates Extended Again

On June 11, 2009, the EPA announced they would be delaying the compliance date for SPCC regulations. This final rule delays the compliance date from July 1, 2009 until November 10, 2010.

Under the amended plan, any owner or operator of a facility in operation prior to August 16, 2002 must maintain their SPCC plan,

Please update your records accordingly!

Did you know?



In Chicago, if you ride your bike during hours when it is dark, you are **required by law** to have 2 lights on your bike?

A **front-facing white light** must be attached to either the bike or rider's helmet and be visible a minimum distance of 500 ft. away.

A **rear-facing red reflector or light** must be attached to either the bike or the rider's back and be visible up to 200 ft. away.

Environmental Links

[Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Illinois Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Occupational Health and Safety Administration](#)

make any necessary amendments to the Plan, and fully implement it by November 10, 2010. The owner or operator of any facility in operation after the 2002 date is required to implement a SPCC before November 10, 2010.

The Agency hopes this extension will allow all facilities proper time to fully understand and comply with the rule and its amendments. Also, the EPA is hoping this 16 month delay will allow sufficient time for the Agency to review all comments on the December 2008 amendments, currently scheduled to go into effect January 14, 2010.

The December 2008 amendments were intended to clarify and streamline rule requirements, and the EPA believes facilities should not require extensive modifications to comply. To read more on SPCC announcements and regulations, visit the USEPA's SPCC site [here](#).

If you or your company have any questions on how these regulations affect your facility, please contact [Steve Sawyer](#) at (773) 486-2123.

Reinstated Full TRI Reporting Requirements

On April 21, 2009, Lisa Jackson, the new Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, [signed a rule to reinstate stricter requirements](#) for industrial and federal facilities that release toxic substances that threaten human health and the environment.

This rule essentially reinstates Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)



reporting requirements which were in place until December 2006 when they were revised by the TRI Burden Reduction Rule, which allowed for some PBT chemicals to be reported on the shorter Form A.

Following the April 21st ruling, all reports on Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic (PBT) chemicals must be submitted on the more detailed Form R, as opposed to current regulations which require they are submitted on the less detailed Form A. For [all non-PBT chemicals](#), Form A may be used if the annual reporting amount is 500 lbs or less and 1 million lbs of the chemical was manufactured, processed or otherwise used during the year.

Don't forget - Annual TRI forms are due July 1, 2009!

Gabriel has over 35 years of experience dealing with the IEPA, USEPA, and MWRD. If you have any questions regarding reporting your own TRI, please contact [Brigid McHale](#) at (773) 486-2123.

The Problem with E-Waste Recycling

Electronics are a growing portion of the municipal solid waste stream. Americans alone own an estimated **3 billion electronic**

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar now for
the annual
Gabriel Open House!



This year's extravaganza
will be held on
September 10th, 2009.

With food, drinks, and live
entertainment, the annual
Gabriel Open House is
always a blast!

Keep your eyes and ears
open for more information
as it comes.

items. This becomes a problem when realizing that everything made eventually becomes garbage, and electronic technologies become obsolete more rapidly than most things. The EPA estimates that in [2006 alone over 300 million electronics units were discarded.](#)

While much of the electronics recycling industry is effective and supports a more sustainable environment, recent public attention has turned to those e-waste recycling collection programs that neglect the intended sustainability efforts of e-cycling and instead exploit poorer countries.

The problem starts when disreputable e-waste recycling collection and/or distribution programs ship obsolete electronics equipment to developing countries which are hungry for the technology such shipments offer (or simply the metal content in the units). These countries generally have few effective environmental regulations in place.

Too often, this e-waste which is intended to be recycled or remanufactured, is broken beyond repair, and totally obsolete. These units, instead of providing a quality rebuilt computer to a struggling school as the original donor intended, are scrapped. Copper and gold are extracted in open fires and acid baths by individuals who lack any respiratory protection, and the scrap from these processes become litter. The public health and environmental consequences appear to be quite severe.

How do we fix this toxic problem?

One solution which which might help this growing problem is if the electronics industry began re-engineering electronics to use less toxic elements or to make them easier to retrieve and reuse. This, however, is not an easy solution and will require a major increase in the effort on the part of computer manufacturers.

Additionally, environmental management and industrial development policies in the United States that support recycling industries should be encouraged. The Electronics Industry has also initiated stronger steps toward self-regulation. A new initiative, known as the [e-Stewards](#) program has an accreditation and certification program for electronics waste recyclers.

Repairing the problem of e-cycling abuse will take continued attention on the part of both consumers as well as industry leaders, as well as monitoring of global agreements and strategies as technology and options evolve.

Written by Gabriel's Special Projects Manager, [Judy Freeman](#)
To watch a 60 Minutes clip about the dangers of e-cycling abuse, click [here](#).

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