

- Understanding how much waste a state receives from out of state or sends out of state; and

- Estimating available capacity for treating, recycling, and disposing hazardous wastes.

Additionally, EPA utilizes the Biennial Report information for planning and developing regulations; regulation development depends on descriptions and quantities of generated hazardous waste and management methods used for treatment, recycling, and disposal. The information allows the Agency to determine whether regulations are having the desired effect on the generation and management of hazardous waste; for example, the report provides information on whether the treatment of wastes has shifted from one method to another. EPA also uses the information to conduct technical assistance, plan facility inspections, and carry out regulatory enforcement. States use the information for many of the same purposes as EPA; other state uses include planning, setting waste minimization goals, assessing fees, monitoring compliance, and carrying out enforcement.

EPA and states receive requests for the information from many public and private organizations including government agencies, businesses, public interest groups, and interested citizens. Many requests come from businesses that supply chemicals, equipment, and services to hazardous waste generators and TSDFs.

3. What Changes Does EPA Plan for the 2003 Hazardous Waste Report?

As discussed in the August 13, 2002 **Federal Register** Notice, for the 2003 cycle, EPA plans to use the same Form GM, Form WR, and instructions that were used in the 2001 Hazardous Waste Report booklet with some minor changes and updates. We also plan some improvements to the RCRA Subtitle C Site Identification Form (Site ID Form) that is part of the booklet, and will clarify how to complete the form. We plan to have the 2003 Biennial Report forms and instructions booklet available to the public in midyear 2003.

EPA extensively revised the 2001 Biennial Report. EPA, however, delayed implementation of two minor changes until the 2003 cycle. The extensive 2001 revisions were developed through the Waste Information Needs/Informed (WIN) Initiative. WIN is the multi-year partnership project of the states, EPA regions, and EPA headquarters for reengineering the information that supports implementation of the RCRA hazardous waste program.

Documents about the WIN process and revisions and the 2001 Biennial Report can be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/data/brs01/icr.htm>

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/data/brs01/forms.htm>

Changes to Form GM and Form WR

EPA plans to incorporate the two changes that were discussed in the August 13, 2002 notice: (1) Deletion of the "RCRA radioactive mixed" (mixed waste) box on Form GM (Sec. 1.F) and on Form WR (H). In the 2001 Biennial Report, we included "Mixed Waste (hazardous and radioactive) Generator" on the RCRA Subtitle C Site Identification Form under Hazardous Waste Activities (Item 10.A.1.e). We retained the boxes on the Form GM and Form WR only for 2001 because the data were needed for required Department of Energy (DOE) facility reports that are sent to states. DOE is now using other data sources for those reports.

(2) Addition of a box for "Country of Origin" for waste that is imported into the United States to both the Form GM and Form WR. For 2001 and prior years, the Country of Origin was entered in the "Off-site handler EPA ID number" box on Form WR (Box 1.D); this did not allow identification of the actual off-site handler's EPA Identification Number. This addition will identify the off-site handler, usually the U.S. Importer, on Form WR and will provide the Country of Origin on both forms.

Revisions to the RCRA Subtitle C Site Identification Form

EPA plans to revise the RCRA Subtitle C Site Identification Form (Site ID Form) in the 2003 Hazardous Waste Report. This version of the Site ID Form will soon be implemented in the Notification of Regulated Waste Activities booklet (Notification) [EPA Form 8700-12] and the RCRA Hazardous Waste Part A Permit Application booklet (Part A Permit Application) [EPA Form 8700-23]; OMB recently approved renewals for both of these data collections. The same Site ID Form is included in all three data collections; EPA allows respondents to copy the most recently submitted Site ID Form rather than filling out the entire blank form. The respondents provide additions, deletions, or other changes since the previous report on a blank form and completes the Certification with the appropriate signature in Item 13.

The revisions to the Site ID Form are: (1) Addition of a facsimile (fax) phone number and electronic mail (e-mail) address information for "Site Contact

Person" (Item 8). Many businesses now communicate by fax and e-mail; these data blocks will provide space for submitting the information if the respondent would like to be contacted by fax or e-mail. This fax and e-mail information is not required for completing Item 8.

(2) Addition of address and phone number information for "Owner and Operator" (Item 9). The instructions advise the respondent to check with their state to determine if this information is required for that state's Hazardous Waste Report or Notification submissions.

(3) Addition to the explanation about determining the "RCRA Site's North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Code(s) for the Site" (Item 6). The instructions advise the respondents to check with their company's business or accounting office to determine which NAICS code(s) to report. This is because the NAICS codes are used for tax reports and other business documents. The Bureau of Census made changes to the list of NAICS codes in 2002 that are reflected in a new table on their web pages; these web page references have been added.

(4) Changing the "Regulated Waste Activities" check boxes on the Site ID Form (Item 10) from a single box to "Yes" and "No" boxes. This change will resolve some confusion about unchecked boxes. States have commented that a number of 2001 Biennial Report respondents checked some RCRA Site activities, but failed to check the appropriate ones for other ongoing activities. States want to be sure that an activity has actually ceased if it was previously reported for a RCRA Site.

Completion of the Entire RCRA Subtitle C Site Identification Form

We plan to require respondents to complete all the items for the Site ID form for the 2003 Biennial Report. For the 2001 Biennial Report, EPA did not require the respondent to complete the "Site Land Type" (Item 5) or the "Legal Owner and Operator of the Site" (Item 9). The respondent completed the "Hazardous Waste Activities—Generator of Hazardous" (Item 10.A.1) as applicable for their RCRA Site; the respondent marked "Treater, Storer, or Disposer (at your site)" (Item 10.A.3) only if applicable for their site. States received a lot of questions about these items because respondents were unclear about what was optional.

States have said that some submitters of the 2001 Biennial Report provided the site's land type, listed owner and operator, or checked new activities in