

**Guidance Document**

**Title:** Asbestos Waste Disposal

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**Approved By:**

  
**Derrick Maddocks, Director**

Asbestos Waste Disposal

**GD-PPD-033.1**

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## **SUBJECT**

Asbestos Waste Disposal

## **OBJECTIVE**

To prevent exposure to asbestos waste and to ensure that the handling, storage, collection, transportation and disposal of these wastes does not represent a health hazard to humans or a threat to the environment.

## **BACKGROUND**

Asbestosis of the lung, lung cancer and mesothelioma, a rare cancer of the pleural lining, have been associated with exposures to airborne asbestos fibres. As a result, the use of asbestos has been restricted. Where asbestos products are in use, and where decommissioning/refit activities are planned or in progress, a concerted effort must be made to minimize exposures for those individuals involved in handling, storage, collection, transporting and disposing of the products. Provisions made are to minimize or eliminate exposure risk to human health as and environmental receptors.

The Department of Environment & Conservation is responsible for the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002* within the Province. Service NL is empowered to provide specific approval, inspection and enforcement services of this Act on behalf of the Department.

## **LEGISLATION**

*Environment Protection Act, 2002*

*The Occupational Health and Safety Act*

*Asbestos Abatement Regulations, 1998* (or as amended) ("the Regulations")

*Highway Traffic Act*

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Approved Waste Disposal Site:** A site designated for the disposal of waste for which a valid certificate of approval is in place, having been issued under the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002*.

**Asbestos :** A generic term referring to any of the following fibrous silicates: actinolite, amosite, anthophyllite, chrysotile, crocidolite or tremolite.

**Asbestos Waste:** Waste material containing "non-friable" and/or "friable" asbestos in a concentration greater than 1% asbestos by dry weight. Friable asbestos is asbestos in a form that when dry can be crumbled, pulverized or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

**Department:** Means the Department of Environment and Conservation, Pollution Prevention Division.

**Exposure:** Exposure to airborne respirable asbestos fibres or asbestos dust, whether originating from asbestos minerals, materials or products.

**Generator:** The owner of the land, facilities, equipment and/or buildings from which asbestos waste is generated, or alternatively the asbestos abatement contractor undertaking the work on behalf of the owner.

**Service NL :** Department authorized to act on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Conservation under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002*.

## **GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Asbestos waste shall be disposed of only at an approved waste disposal site. It is illegal to dump/discard or otherwise dispose of asbestos waste in any area which is not an approved waste disposal site as described under provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002* and in accordance with provisions of this policy. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Guidance Document will place the person (s) responsible in violation of the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002* and make the person(s) responsible for taking any remedial measures as may be prescribed by the Department.

Any person(s) engaged in the removal and/or disposal of asbestos waste is required to operate under the provisions of the Asbestos Abatement Regulations. A valid asbestos abatement contractor's certificate (available from the OHS Branch of Service NL) is required to engage in asbestos removal activity in accordance with section 6 of the Regulations.

The Regulations are under the authority of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (O-3 RSN 1990) and are administered by the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of Service NL. Where there is a conflict between this document and the Regulations, the requirements of the Regulations shall apply.

Administration of this policy shall be by Service NL on behalf of the Department.

Any determination of asbestos content required by the Department shall be conducted by accredited laboratories that have demonstrated competence in the analysis of asbestos.

## **HANDLING AND TRANSPORT**

The Generator shall ensure that all agents or contractors have received the necessary training as per Section 7 of the Regulations and are informed, in writing, of the risks associated with handling such wastes. The Generator will also apply personal health and safety protocols in handling, transporting and disposal.

Asbestos waste shall be completely wetted with water and securely enclosed in a polyethylene bag/wrap having a thickness of not less than 6 mil, and then securely enclosed within a second polyethylene bag/wrap having a thickness of not less than 6 mil prior to transport (i.e. "double bagged"). For mixed wastes containing asbestos waste, the mixed waste shall be completely wetted with water and placed in a transport vehicle equipped with a disposable polyethylene liner having a thickness of at least 12 mil, after which the waste material will be securely enclosed inside the liner prior to transport. The outside surfaces of all bags/wraps/liners containing asbestos waste shall be completely free of asbestos waste before transport to an approved waste disposal site. All bags/wraps/liners used to store or transport asbestos waste shall be completely free of punctures, tears or leaks.

All asbestos waste shall prominently display a tag or label indicating "**Asbestos Waste**" or "**Asbestos Contaminated Material**".

In addition to being securely enclosed in polyethylene bags/wraps/liners, asbestos waste shall be transported in a completely enclosed vehicle, or the vehicle shall be equipped with a tarpaulin or similar equipment such that the asbestos waste is prevented from escaping during transport.

All asbestos waste must be transported to an approved waste disposal site.

Transporters of asbestos waste must hold a valid Certificate of Approval, to operate a waste management system, under provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act, 2002*.

#### **PROCEDURE**

Requests for and prior approval for the disposal of asbestos waste at an approved waste disposal site shall be obtained from the owner/operator in writing.

All requests for asbestos waste disposal shall be recorded on the prescribed form entitled, **Asbestos Waste Disposal Request Form** (attached) and submitted to Service NL.

Service NL shall maintain a record of all asbestos waste disposal requests on behalf of the Pollution Prevention Division, Department of Environment and Conservation.

Records and statistics shall be provided by Service NL to the Department upon written request.

#### **DISPOSAL**

Asbestos waste shall be considered **Special Waste** and may be land filled, in a designated special waste area, in an approved waste disposal site, with the written permission of the owner/operator.

Asbestos waste shall be backfilled with a minimum 0.6 metres of compacted fill material on the day of disposal.

The owner/operator of the waste disposal site shall ensure the boundaries of the asbestos waste disposal area are clearly defined and that an all-weather sign is posted. The disposal location shall be plotted on a scale drawing or plan. The plot plan must be filed with the regional office of Service NL and the site owner/operator.

The owner/operator of the waste disposal site shall ensure that backfilled asbestos waste is not disturbed in the future.

**ASBESTOS WASTE DISPOSAL  
REQUEST FORM**

Regional Offices  
 St. John's (709) 729-3699  
 Clarenville (709) 466-4060  
 Gandor (709) 256-1420  
 Grand Falls-Windsor (709) 292-4206  
 Corner Brook (709) 637-2204  
 Happy Valley/Goose Bay (709) 896-5428

Per the "Guidance Document for Asbestos Waste Disposal GD-PPD-033.1", companies or persons wishing to dispose of asbestos waste must first obtain approval from the appropriate Regional Office of the Government Service Centre.

**Company Information (PART A - to be completed by the applicant)**

1

NAME OF APPLICANT / COMPANY	
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE
LICENCE OPERATOR NUMBER	

**Waste Disposal Site (PART A - to be completed by the applicant)**

2

PROPOSED DATE OF DISPOSAL
FACILITY WHERE THE ASBESTOS WASTE IS TO BE DISPOSED
<i>The applicant must attach a site plan which identifies the asbestos waste disposal location at the waste disposal facility.</i>

**Waste Details (PART A - to be completed by the applicant)**

3

SOURCE OF ASBESTOS WASTE	
MODE OF TRANSPORT OF ASBESTOS WASTE	
TYPE(S) OF ASBESTOS	VOLUME OF WASTE TO BE DISPOSED

I hereby certify that the information provided by me on this application form is complete and accurate.

4 Applicant's Name (please print)      5 Signature Of Applicant      6 Date

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M	M	D	D	Y	Y									

**Service NL Review Prior to Disposal (PART C - to be completed by Service NL)**

7

DATE REVIEWED	GSC APPROVAL Yes / No
SIGNATURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER	

**Disposal Details (PART B - to be completed by the waste disposal facility operator upon completion of the disposal)**

8

DATE WASTE WAS DISPOSED	SIGN POSTED Yes / No	SITE INSPECTION CONDUCTED Yes / No	HAS THE WASTE BEEN BACKFILLED Yes / No
SIGNATURE OF WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY OPERATOR			

**Service NL Review After Disposal (PART C - to be completed by Service NL)**

9

DATE REVIEWED	CONFIRM SITE PLAN ATTACHED Yes / No	CONFIRM DISPOSAL FACILITY APPROVAL Yes / No
SIGNATURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER		