

Waste that must be tracked

Waste tracking helps stamp out illegal dumping, prevents waste going to the wrong facility and stops unfair competition.

The Waste Regulation has been amended and simplified, making it easier for industry to comply with the requirements. The amended regulation, Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005, came into effect on 1 March 2006.

The following information will help you understand your responsibilities and determine what you need to do to comply with the Waste Regulation.

How to identify what waste needs to be tracked when transported

Wastes included in Table 1 must be tracked when transported within NSW or interstate. Wastes included in Table 2 need to be tracked when transported interstate only. Waste does not need to be tracked if it does not exhibit any of the characteristics listed in Table 3 or if it is subject to an exemption.

It is your responsibility to show that the waste does not exhibit any of the hazard characteristics in Table 3, if you decide not to track the waste.

Is the waste subject to a tracking exemption?

The Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW (DECC) exempts certain waste from some or all tracking requirements under certain circumstances. A current list of exemptions can be viewed at www.environment.nsw.gov.au.

In addition, you don't have to track waste under the following conditions:

- the transportation of waste in an emergency to protect human health, the environment or property
- the transportation of waste by pipeline
- the transportation of any residue of a substance in a container, if the container will be refilled with the same type of substance and the substance in the refilled container is intended for use
- the transportation of waste for analysis relating to waste categorisation or research, but only if the transportation and use of the waste is approved in writing by DECC
- the transportation of unwanted chemicals, used for the operation of the farm by the owner or occupier of a farm, to a collection place provided by an approved collection scheme
- the transportation of waste in accordance with a product recall approved by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, Food Standards Australia New Zealand or the Therapeutic Goods Administration of the Commonwealth Government.



Containers with chemical residue that needs to be tracked before reconditioning

What is the online tracking system

The DECC online tracking system provides a method of meeting your obligations under the waste tracking requirements. Online tracking helps reduce the burden of paperwork on businesses, and makes enforcement and compliance easier. For example, businesses tracking waste movements online are not required to submit quarterly reports, as DECC can automatically collate the required data.

The DECC online tracking system can be used for waste transported within NSW or into NSW from other states or territories.

Find out more about the online tracking system at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/owt/index.htm

Waste to which waste tracking requirements apply

(From: Schedule 1 of the Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005)

Waste described in Table 1 must be tracked when transported unless it does not have any of the characteristics that are listed in Table 3, or if it is subject to an exemption.

Waste described in Table 2 must be tracked if it is transported to or from another state or territory, unless it does not have any of the characteristics listed in Table 3, or if it is subject to an exemption.

What happens if you don't comply with the Regulation?

If waste is illegally dumped and harms the environment, the maximum penalty is \$5 000 000 or a 7-year jail sentence.

The maximum penalty for supplying false or misleading information about waste is \$250 000.

The maximum penalty for transporting waste, or causing waste to be transported to a place that cannot lawfully receive waste, is \$1 000 000.

Table 1: Waste that must be tracked when transported within NSW or interstate

Description	Waste code
Acidic solutions or acids in solid form	B100
Antimony; antimony compounds	D170
Arsenic; arsenic compounds	D130
Barium compounds (excluding barium sulphate)	D290
Basic solutions or bases in solid form	C100
Beryllium; beryllium compounds	D160
Boron compounds	D310
Cadmium; cadmium compounds	D150
Ceramic-based fibres with physico-chemical characteristics similar to those of asbestos	N230
Chlorates	D350
Chromium compounds (hexavalent and trivalent)	D140
Clinical and related wastes	R100
Cobalt compounds	D200
Containers and drums that are contaminated with residues of substances referred to in this list	N100
Copper compounds	D190
Cyanides (inorganic)	A130
Cyanides (organic)	M210

Table 1: Waste that must be tracked when transported within NSW or interstate (continued)

Description	Waste code
Encapsulated, chemically-fixed, solidified or polymerised wastes	N160
Ethers	G100
Filter cake	N190
Fire debris and fire wash waters	N140
Fly ash	N150
Halogenated organic solvents	G150
Highly odorous organic chemicals (including mercaptans and acrylates)	M260
Inorganic fluorine compounds excluding calcium fluoride	D110
Inorganic sulfides	D330
Isocyanate compounds	M220
Lead; lead compounds	D220
Mercury; mercury compounds	D120
Metal carbonyls	D100
Nickel compounds	D210
Non toxic salts	D300
Organic phosphorous compounds	H110
Organic solvents excluding halogenated solvents	G110
Organo halogen compounds—other than substances referred to in this Table or Table 2	M160
Perchlorates	D340
Phenols, phenol compounds including chlorophenols	M150
Phosphorus compounds excluding mineral phosphates	D360
Polychlorinated dibenzo-furan (any congener)	M170
Polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxin (any congener)	M180
Residues from industrial waste treatment/disposal operations	N205
Selenium; selenium compounds	D240
Soils contaminated with a substance or waste referred to in this Table	N120
Surface active agents (surfactants), containing principally organic constituents and which may contain metals and inorganic materials	M250
Tellurium; tellurium compounds	D250
Thallium; thallium compounds	D180
Triethylamine catalysts for setting foundry sands	M230
Vanadium compounds	D270
Waste chemical substances arising from research and development or teaching activities, including those which are not identified and/or are new and whose effects on human health and/or the environment are not known	T100
Waste containing peroxides other than hydrogen peroxide	E100

Table 1: Waste that must be tracked when transported within NSW or interstate (continued)

Description	Waste code
Waste from heat treatment and tempering operations containing cyanides	A110
Waste from manufacture, formulation and use of wood-preserving chemicals	H170
Waste from the production, formulation and use of biocides and phytopharmaceuticals	H100
Waste from the production, formulation and use of inks, dyes, pigments, paints, lacquers and varnish	F100
Waste from the production, formulation and use of organic solvents	G160
Waste from the production, formulation and use of photographic chemicals and processing materials	T120
Waste from the production, formulation and use of resins, latex, plasticisers, glues and adhesives	F110
Waste from the production and preparation of pharmaceutical products	R140
Waste mineral oils unfit for their original intended use	J100
Waste oil/water, hydrocarbons/water mixtures or emulsions	J120
Waste pharmaceuticals, drugs and medicines	R120
Waste resulting from surface treatment of metals and plastics	A100
Waste tarry residues arising from refining, distillation, and any pyrolytic treatment	J160
Waste substances and articles containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, polychlorinated naphthalenes, polychlorinated terphenyls and/or polybrominated biphenyls	M100
Waste of an explosive nature not subject to other legislation	T200
Zinc compounds	D230

Table 2: Waste that must be tracked when transported interstate

Description	Waste Code
Animal effluent and residues (abattoir effluent, poultry and fish processing wastes)	K100
Asbestos	N220
Containers and drums that are contaminated with residues of waste referred to in this Table	N100
Grease trap waste	K110
Sewage sludge and residues including nightsoil and septic tank sludge	K130
Soils contaminated with a substance or waste referred to in this Table	N120
Tannery wastes including leather dust, ash, sludges and flours	K140
Tyres	T140
Wool scouring wastes	K190

Table 3: Characteristics of trackable wastes

Dangerous Goods Class (UN Class)	UN Code	Characteristics
1	H1	Explosive An explosive substance or waste is a solid or liquid substance or waste (or mixture of substances or wastes) which is in itself capable by chemical reaction of producing gas at such a temperature and pressure and at such a speed as to cause damage to the surroundings.
3	H3	Flammable liquids The word “flammable” has the same meaning as “inflammable”. Flammable liquids are liquids, or mixtures of liquids, or liquids containing solids in solution or suspension (for example, paints, varnishes, lacquers, etc but not including substances or wastes) which give off flammable vapour at temperatures of not more than 60.5 degrees Celsius, closed-cup test, of not more than 65.6 degree Celsius, open-cup test.
4.1	H4.1	Flammable solids Solids or waste solids which under conditions encountered in transport are readily combustible, or may cause or contribute to fire through friction.
4.2	H4.2	Substances or wastes liable to spontaneous combustion Substances or wastes which are liable to spontaneous heating under normal conditions encountered in transport, or to heating up in contact with air, and being liable to catch fire.
4.3	H4.3	Substances or wastes which, in contact with water, emit flammable gases Substances or wastes which, by interaction with water, are liable to become spontaneously flammable or to give off flammable gases in dangerous quantities.
5.1	H5.1	Oxidising Substances or wastes which, while in themselves not necessarily combustible, may, generally by yielding oxygen, cause or contribute to, the combustion of other materials.
5.2	H5.2	Organic peroxides Organic substances or wastes which contain the bivalent-O-O structure are thermally unstable substances which may undergo exothermic self-accelerating Decomposition.
6.1	H6.1	Poisonous (acute) Substances or wastes liable either to cause death or serious injury or to harm human health if swallowed or inhaled or by skin contact.
6.2	H6.2	Infectious substances Substances or wastes containing viable micro-organisms or their toxins which are known or suspected to cause disease in animals or humans.
8	H8	Corrosives Substances or wastes which, by chemical action, will cause severe damage when in contact with living tissue, or in the case of leakage, will materially damage, or even destroy, other goods or the means of transport; they may also cause other hazards.
9	H10	Liberation of toxic gases in contact with air or water Substances or waste which, by liberation with air or water, are liable to give off toxic gases in dangerous quantities.
9	H11	Toxic (delayed or chronic) Substances or wastes which, if they are inhaled or ingested or if they penetrate the skin, may involve delayed or chronic effects, including carcinogenicity.

Table 3: Characteristics of trackable wastes (continued)

Dangerous Goods Class (UN Class)	UN Code	Characteristics
9	H12	Ecotoxic Substances or wastes which if released present or may present immediate or delayed adverse impacts to the environment by means of bioaccumulation and/or toxic effects upon biotic systems.
9	H13	Capable of yielding another material which possesses H1–H12 Capable by any means, after disposal, of yielding another material, e.g. leachate, which possesses any of the characteristics listed above.
		Other reasons Potential to have a significant adverse impact on ambient air quality. Potential to have significant adverse impact on ambient marine, estuarine or fresh water quality.

Note: UN Class and UN Code relate to the hazard classification system included in the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods as used in Australia.

Related fact sheets

- Waste tracking for waste producers
- Waste tracking for waste transporters
- Waste tracking for receiving facilities
- Waste tracking for authorised agents
- Tracking waste online
- Characterising your waste
- Transporting waste interstate or overseas