

Special Waste Transportation Permits

The Department of Environment is now issuing permits under the Yukon's *Special Waste Regulations* for the transportation of special wastes in the territory.

Most spills of special wastes occur during transportation. While rare, spills of special wastes put both the environment and human health at risk, and can be expensive to clean up. Although existing laws and codes cover driver training and vehicle safety, until now there has been no mechanism in the Yukon to ensure drivers, shippers, and receivers are aware of the hazards associated with special wastes.

The new special waste transportation permit fills this gap and will help special waste transporters protect their employees, the public and the environment by making sure they have the knowledge and resources to properly handle special wastes and prevent and manage spills.

Do I Need a Special Waste Transportation Permit?

The following questions will help you determine if you or your company should apply for a special waste transportation permit:

1. Are you transporting special wastes?

Special wastes are dangerous goods no longer used for their original purpose. Some common types of special waste include waste oil, used batteries, used antifreeze, and leftover solvents, cleaners, paints, and pesticides.

2. Is the transportation for hire?

The requirement to obtain a transportation permit applies only to those individuals or companies who transport special wastes for hire. Householders do **not** need a permit to transport their own special wastes to a transportation or management facility that is permitted to handle them.

3. Do the quantities of special waste to be transported meet or exceed any of the following minimum thresholds?

- 5 kilograms or more of a solid special waste, or a combination of more than one solid special wastes;
- 5 litres or more of a liquid special waste other than waste oil;
- 5 kilograms or 5 litres or more of a mixture of a solid special waste and a liquid special waste other than waste oil; or
- 20 litres or more of waste oil.

4. Are the special wastes generated in the Yukon?

Companies or individuals only require transportation permits if they ship special wastes that originate in the Yukon. Permits are not required to transport wastes through or into the territory as those shipments are subject to the requirements of the originating jurisdiction.

Permit Requirements

Companies and individuals required to obtain a special waste transportation permit must supply the following with their permit application:

- proof of minimum \$2 million 3rd party liability insurance (covering body and property damage);
- proof of vehicle ownership (or permission to transport special wastes from the owner if the vehicle is leased);
- a list of special wastes commonly carried; and
- an approved spill response plan that addresses those special wastes.

These requirements ensure that if a spill does occur, the company will have a plan in place to help minimize any environmental damage, and that clean-up costs will be covered by the responsible party's insurance, rather than by taxpayer funds.

Permits are issued for renewable three-year terms and provide identification numbers for the waste manifests required for all special waste shipments. Requirements for record keeping and notification are standard conditions of the permit.

Application forms are available at the Weigh Stations in Whitehorse and Watson Lake, and at Department of Environment offices in Whitehorse and the communities.

Spills Regulations

The Spills Regulations describe the size and kinds of spills that must be reported. The person who possesses or controls a special waste at the time of a spill, or who causes a spill, is responsible for reporting it and for notifying anyone who may be adversely affected by it. Containment and clean-up action should begin as soon as possible to protect human health and the natural environment. The spill contingency plans required by the new special waste transportation permits will help ensure the cleanup will minimize adverse effects on environmental and human health.

**Spills must be reported immediately to the
Yukon Spills Report Centre in Whitehorse at (867) 667-7244
(24 hour service), or an Environmental Protection Officer.**

Collect calls are accepted.

For permit applications or additional information on the Special Waste or Spills Regulations, please contact:

Environmental Programs Branch (V-8)
Yukon Department of Environment
Box 2703
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