

Canada-Wide Standards for Mercury and Dioxins/Furans (New Incinerators)
- Manitoba Implementation Plans -

Overview of the Standards:

Canada-wide Standards (CWS) are being established and implemented pursuant to the 1998 Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) and its Canada-wide Environmental Standards Sub-agreement. The Council of Ministers (COM) endorsed Standards for mercury (at its June 2000 meeting) and for dioxins/furans (at its May 2001 meeting) from waste incineration. CWS are developed through an intergovernmental process engaging external stakeholders in advisory or consultative roles. Implementation of the standards are the responsibility of each jurisdiction.

Waste incineration has historically accounted for significant portion of mercury and dioxins/furans emitted in Canada. As with other sectors, reductions in emissions have also occurred over the years through the implementation of emission control technology and pollution prevention practices to reduce mercury content in products that eventually become a part of the waste stream. Incineration in Canada is estimated to release about 446 kilograms per year of mercury and 25 grams per year of dioxins/furans.

Four types of incinerators are addressed within this CWS. In Manitoba, there are 33 biomedical incinerators mostly located at health care facilities. A similar number of “municipal solid waste” incinerators are located in the province; these are mainly very small units located at schools, commercial establishments, *etc.* and are not the large facilities that typically service the domestic waste from communities. (Both the mercury CWS and the dioxins/furans CWS define municipal solid waste to include any waste which might normally be disposed of in a non-secure landfill site if not incinerated (*i.e.*, including non-hazardous solid wastes regardless of origin), but is not intended to include “clean” wood waste.) There are no hazardous waste nor sewage sludge incinerators located within the province.

CWS Numeric Target and Timeframe:

For new or expanding facilities of any size, application of best available pollution prevention and control techniques, such as a waste diversion program, to achieve a maximum concentration in the exhaust gases from the facility as follows:

Incineration Sector	Mercury CWS ($\mu\text{g}/\text{Rm}^3$)	Dioxin and Furan CWS ($\text{pg I-TEQ}/\text{m}^3$)
Municipal waste incineration	20	80
Medical waste incineration	20	80
Hazardous waste incineration	50	80
Sewage sludge incineration	70	80

Any new or expanding facility will be required to design for and achieve compliance immediately upon attaining normal full scale operation, compliance to be confirmed by annual stack testing or an equivalent emission rate as confirmed by an audit of a waste diversion program.

Implementation of the CWS for Mercury and the CWS for Dioxins/Furans at New Incinerators - Manitoba

General Accountability:

Manitoba's overall approach to new incinerators would be to integrate both the mercury and dioxins/furans CWS requirements into the relevant regulatory process. Incinerators that are a part of a 'manufacturing and industrial plant', as defined in Manitoba Regulation 164/88 under the Environment Act, would be subject to environmental Licencing. Achievement of the CWS limits would be included as a requirement within the facility Licence. Similarly, hazardous waste incinerators are addressed by the Manitoba Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act (MDGHTA) and regulations thereunder. Incinerator installations not falling into the above categories will be addressed by future regulatory changes (*e.g.*, amendment to the current Incinerator Regulation to include the CWS requirements, rescinding of the Incinerator Regulation with the addition of incinerators to the Classes of Development Regulation so incinerators require Licencing, *etc.*). Any applicant would be advised of these forthcoming changes and requirements to meet CWS limits.

Milestones and Timeframes:

Since environmental licencing of a facility involves a site-specific environmental assessment, on a case-by-case basis, implementation of the CWS would be addressed at the time a proposal for licencing was received by the Department. Specific timelines for addressing installations not currently listed in the Classes of Development Regulation or covered by the MDGHTA have not been set at this time.

Public Role:

In support of Licencing under the Manitoba Environment Act, public involvement in the environmental assessment and licencing processes is mandated by the Act. The Act requires public notice of proposals and an opportunity to participate in the review through the submission of comments. Public meetings and hearings may also be convened, as necessary. Additionally, Section 41(2) of the Act also requires that in the formulation or substantive review of regulations, the Minister shall provide opportunity for public consultation and shall seek advice and recommendations. As part of these broader processes, a public role in the implementation of the CWS would be provided.

Access to Information:

Under its Environment Act, Manitoba maintains a number of 'public registries' across the Province where information related to environmental assessment, licencing and other information can be placed and will be publicly accessible. Information related to this CWS would be deposited at the appropriate registry sites as well as at key central locations.

Verifiable Progress:

As a condition of its Licence (or by amendment to the Regulation), new facilities would be required to annually report on achievement of the CWS.

Manitoba Conservation
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