



VEOLIA Environmental Solutions and Services REGULATORY ALERT

December 2019 Updates to Elemental Mercury Storage

Elemental Mercury Management and Storage Fees

Agency: Office of Environmental Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

Published Date: 12/23/2019

Effective Date: 01/22/2020

Summary

The Department of Energy published a final rule to establish a fee for long-term management and storage of elemental mercury in accordance with the Mercury Export Ban Act. This was done in order to comply with the the Mercury Export Ban Act. The fee is based upon a plan to store elemental mercury for 15 years so that treatment and disposal technology and capacity will be in place for the disposal of high-concentration elemental mercury waste. The fee per metric ton is the sum of the net present value of elemental mercury storage for fifteen years using the 15-year real interest rate from Office of Management and Budget Circular A-94, the pro-rated cost of materials required for storage of elemental mercury, the present value of the cost of transporting elemental mercury from the storage facility to a treatment facility in the sixteenth year, and the present value of the cost of treatment and disposal in the sixteenth year.

The fee is due to the DOE at the time of delivery. This fee may be adjusted annually. Fees are payable upon delivery of elemental mercury to the DOE facility. All fee payments are to be made payable to the U.S. Department of Energy. The payments are to be made in U.S. funds by electronic funds transfer such as ACH (Automated Clearing House) using E.D.I. (Electronic Data Interchange), check, draft, money order, or credit card.

The breakdown of the storage cost per metric ton is given by the following table:

Year	Receipt	Management	Lease	Oversight	State Tax	Removal	Total
1	\$570.00	\$300.84	\$300.84	\$117.17	.....	.....	\$1,288.85
2-15	.....	\$300.84	\$300.84	\$60.17	\$120.34	.....	\$782.18
16	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$120.34	\$9570.00	\$690.34

The cost of storage from the table is \$12,900. The net present value of this total, using the 15-year real interest rate from the OMB Circular A-94 is \$11,500.

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The resulting fee per metric ton is given by the following table:

Storage cost	\$11,700
Transportation cost	\$800
Treatment and Disposal Cost	\$24,500
Total	\$37,000

Reference/Link

The link below will allow you to view/print this safety advisory notice.
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-12-23/pdf/2019-27672.pdf>

Record of Decision for the Long-Term Management and Storage of Elemental Mercury

Agency

Office of Environmental Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

Published Date: 12/06/2019
Effective Date: 12/03/2019

Summary

This record of decision is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to inform the public that a decision has been made revolving around the long-term management and storage of elemental mercury to meet the federal government's statutory responsibility for long-term storage of elemental mercury generated within the United States. The DOE has decided that they will store up to 6,800 metric tons (7,480 tons) of elemental mercury in existing buildings at Waste Control Specialists near Andrews, Texas.

This record of decision is based upon a plan to store elemental mercury for 15 years so that treatment and disposal technology and capacity will be in place for the disposal of high-concentration elemental mercury waste. The DOE evaluated seven government and commercial sites as the range of reasonable alternatives in the Draft Elemental Mercury Storage Environmental Impact Statement before deciding that the Waste Control Specialists (WCS) was the preferred alternative. This is the result of the Mercury Export Ban Act as of October 14, 2008. The DOE states that "All practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted."

Reference/Link

The link below will allow you to view/print this safety advisory notice.
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-12-06/pdf/2019-26344.pdf>