

9483.1987(19)

OPERATING DAY DEFINED FOR TANKS AND SURFACE IMPOUNDMENTS

OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

OCT 16 1987

Mr. P. E. Gerwert
Manager
Industrial Waste and Toxic Substances
General Motors Corporation
General Motors Technical Center
30400 Mound Road
Warren, Michigan 48090-9015

Dear Mr. Gerwert:

Thank you for your letter of September 25, 1987, to Mr. J. Winston Porter of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding General Motor's interpretation of the term "operating day", as it is used in the regulations promulgated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Your interpretation of "once each operating day" in Section 265.195 (hazardous waste tanks), to mean once each day during which manufacturing operations are being conducted, conforms with EPA's interpretation of the term. EPA's interpretation of the term "operating day" in Section 265.226(a)(1) (surface impoundments) is that inspections must occur on every day that any waste is placed in the surface impoundment.

I would like to emphasize that Section 265.193(c)(3) states that secondary containment systems must, at a minimum, be provided with a leak-detection system that is designed to detect the release of hazardous waste within 24 hours. This mandates daily checking of secondary containment systems, including days in which manufacturing operations are not conducted. Also, Section 265.193(f) requires visual inspection on a daily basis, whether or not manufacturing operations are being conducted.

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I hope that these comments resolve the questions you have about interpretation of these regulations. If you have any further questions, please contact Bill Kline of the Waste Treatment Branch for questions about tanks at (202) 382-7917 or Paul Cassidy of the Land Disposal Branch for questions about surface impoundments at (202) 382-4654.

Sincerely,

Original Document signed

Marcia E. Williams
Director
Office of Solid Waste