The Standardized Permit for Building Owners of Jewelry Marts

What is a Standardized Permit?

A Standardized Permit allows a business to treat and store the hazardous waste that it generates, or the hazardous waste generated by other businesses. A Standardized Permit is available only for hazardous waste management activities that do not require a federal hazardous waste permit. The Standardized Permit does not authorize a business to transport hazardous waste. If you transport your hazardous waste to a permitted hazardous waste treatment facility, you must either be or use a registered hazardous waste transporter to transport the waste. There are different levels, or series, of the Standardized Permit available, and a business will be placed into one of these series according to how much hazardous waste the business wants to manage. In California, only the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) can issue Standardized Permits.

Do I need a Standardized Permit?

Any person or business that wants to store and treat hazardous waste that is generated by others, or that wants to store and treat waste at a location that is different than where the waste was generated, must get a permit or grant of authorization from DTSC [1]. If you own or manage a building with tenants in jewelry manufacturing businesses, and you want to store and treat their hazardous waste, you must have a Standardized Permit issued by DTSC.

How do I apply for a Standardized Permit?

Contact the DTSC Standardized Permits and Corrective Action Branch (SPCAB) at (510) 540-3975 to request an application package for a Standardized Permit. SPCAB will assign a permit writer to assist you in completing the application for a Standardized Permit. Submit completed Standardized Permit applications to SPCAB in the DTSC Berkeley office at 700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200, Berkeley, California 94710. It is highly recommended that you contact DTSC and request a pre-application meeting before submitting your application.

‡ "Treatment" is any method, technique, or process which is designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste or any material contained therein, or removes or reduces its harmful properties or characteristics for any purpose, including, but not limited to, energy recovery, material recovery, or reduction in volume. (Health & Saf. Code, § 25123.5 and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 66260.10.)
What do I have to do to apply for a Standardized Permit?
There are many requirements for obtaining a Standardized Permit [2]. Some of the important requirements include:

- Obtain an EPA Facility Identification Number from DTSC (please see the DTSC fact sheet on “Hazardous Waste Generator Requirements for Jewelry Mart Operators”) [3].
- Describe your hazardous waste treatment and storage methods.
- Prepare a community profile.
- Prepare a closure plan with cost estimate [4].
- Be prepared to provide financial assurance before operating [5].
- Complete Phase I Environmental Assessment [6].
- Develop a waste analysis plan [7].
- Provide design for secondary tank containment [8].
- Provide design for tanks and prepare to provide certification of tank integrity before operating [9].
- Comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including the public comment and review period for all environmental documents [10].
- Comply with the Tanner public notification and siting requirements for offsite Standardized Permit facilities [11].

What are the requirements for operating under a Standardized Permit?
A facility operating under a Standardized Permit must have the following in place [2]:

- Adequate financial assurance must be provided before operating [4].
- Communication devices at the facility [12].
- A contingency plan for responding to emergency situations [13].
- A personnel training plan [14].
- A security system to control entry to any area where hazardous waste is managed [15].
- A facility inspection schedule to ensure that any problems that arise with hazardous waste management are identified and fixed quickly [16].

- Facility management practices.
- Appropriate permits from other agencies.
- Secondary containment for tanks [8].
- Certification of Integrity of tanks [9].
- Manifest requirements [17].

What records do I need to keep if I operate under a Standardized Permit?
The following are some of the records that you must keep if you operate a facility under a Standardized Permit [18]:

- Descriptions of all hazardous wastes you received and the treatment provided.
- Who generated the waste.
- The volume of waste received.
- Waste analysis results for hazardous waste received.
- Contingency plan reports.
- Facility inspection reports.
- Closure cost estimates.
- The location of all waste storage and treatment areas in the facility.
- Copies of the standardized permit and approved operation plan.
- Copies of all manifests for hazardous waste received by your facility.

The requirements for operating under a Standardized Permit are very stringent. Any waste transferred to a treatment facility operating under a Standardized Permit must be transported by a DTSC-registered hazardous waste transporter using a hazardous waste manifest. The treatment facility must keep detailed records of who generated the waste, and how much waste is received from each generator. In addition, treatment facilities operating under a Standardized Permit must have a detailed written waste analysis plan for all hazardous waste stored and treated by the facility, and must be able to demonstrate that all waste received by the facility is in compliance with the waste analysis plan. Based on these requirements, a common plumbing system used to transfer waste from the tenants of a building to a waste treatment unit owned and operated by the owner of the building, may not meet the standards for a Standardized Treatment permit.
Is there a fee for the Standardized Permit?

Yes. The cost of processing the Standardized Permit varies depending on the level, or series, of Standardized Permit that you qualify for. Currently, it ranges from $5,925 to $35,614. In addition, each facility must pay an annual fee to the Board of Equalization; the amount of the annual fee also varies depending on the series of Standardized Permit that you are qualified for. Currently, it ranges from $2,308 to $11,730. The fee is adjusted annually.

For additional information, please contact the DTSC Standardized Permits and Corrective Action Branch at (510) 540-3975, and refer to the DTSC fact sheets "Hazardous Waste Facility Permits" and "Standardized Permit Tier for Hazardous Waste Treatment/Storage Facilities."

Disclaimer

This fact sheet is intended to provide guidance for obtaining a Standardized Permit. This fact sheet covers only some of the basic requirements under the Health and Safety Code and the California Code of Regulations. This document does not replace or supersede relevant statutes and regulations. This fact sheet was prepared in January, 2002 and is based on statutes and regulations in effect at that time. Interested parties should always review the most current statutes and regulations.

References


Please direct questions to the DTSC Office nearest you, or call the regional Public and Business Liaisons at (800) 72TOXIC (1-800-728-6942) or visit www.dtsc.ca.gov

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This fact sheet is also available in Armenian, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
Esta información se encuentra disponible también en armenio, español y vietnamita.
Մարդյան, բարձր, բնապահպանության, համայնքի, քաղցկետերության և բազավարձկության: Տարած ռեակտիվ և բջջային լեզուներ: 
Tài liệu này được viết bằng tiếng Armenia, tiếng Tây Ban Nha và tiếng Việt