

Notification on the Management of Disposed Waste Materials



The Ministry of Industry, in accordance with factory-related legislation, has issued a notification regarding the management of disposed waste materials. This regulation, known as the Ministry of Industry Notification on the Management of Disposed Waste Materials in 2566 B.E., addresses the proper handling of waste materials generated within factory premises. The notification serves as a comprehensive guideline for waste management practices, ensuring the responsible disposal and reduction of environmental impacts.

The notification came into effect on November 1, 2566 B.E., with certain provisions, such as those outlined in sections 13 and 22, taking effect from the date of their publication in the Royal Gazette. It is crucial for factory operators to comply with the requirements set forth in the notification to ensure environmentally responsible



waste management practices. Non-compliance may result in penalties or legal repercussions.

Scope and Applicability

The notification applies to all factories and industrial establishments operating within Thailand. It encompasses a wide range of waste materials, including but not limited to human waste, waste generated from office buildings, employee accommodations, canteens, and consumables used within the factory. However, it does not cover hazardous waste materials regulated by specific legislation related to public health and nuclear energy.

Definition of Terms

To facilitate a clear understanding of the notification, it is essential to define the terms “waste materials” and “disposed waste materials” as specified within its provisions. Waste materials refer to any substances or products that are no longer needed or intended for their original purpose within the factory. These materials may be hazardous or non-hazardous, have commercial value, or be suitable for recycling or reprocessing. Disposed waste materials, on the other hand, specifically denote waste materials that are no longer required and do not pose any hazardous risks.

Exclusions

The notification excludes several types of waste materials from its applicability. These include human waste and waste generated within factory premises, such as office buildings, employee accommodations, canteens, and consumables. Additionally, waste materials originating from non-factory sources, which are not yet connected to external waste disposal systems, are also exempted. It is important to note that certain waste materials exempted from this notification may be subject to separate regulations governing public health or nuclear energy.

Eight Key Takeaways

1. Waste Separation and Container Inspection

To ensure safety, waste generators must separate hazardous and non-hazardous waste and clearly distinguish them. Containers holding waste or unused materials should be inspected regularly to maintain their operational safety. Furthermore, containers should be labeled with essential details, including the name of the waste generator, the name and code of the waste or material type, the start and closure dates of containment.

2. Proper Storage Conditions

For waste or unused materials that are not yet managed, suitable and adequate storage facilities must be provided. These storage areas should be well-maintained and consistently kept clean, with clear signage and safety symbols, such as prohibition signs and warning signs. If waste or unused materials are stored inside a building, the structure must be stable, well-ventilated, and have sufficient space for safe storage. In cases where leaks occur, appropriate containment systems must be in place.

3. Environmental Considerations

During waste storage, it is essential to consider the characteristics of the waste or unused materials in relation to the environmental conditions. Factors such as temperature, humidity, heat, sunlight, and vibration that could lead to hazardous chemical reactions must be taken into account. Waste generators should also consider preventing contamination and dispersion into the air, soil, surface water, and groundwater resulting from leaks. The environmental compatibility of the waste or unused materials and the storage environment should be carefully evaluated.

4. Preparation of Storage Layout

Waste generators are required to prepare a storage layout plan for the current waste or unused materials. This plan should be made available for inspection by relevant authorities. It is important that the management of waste or unused materials be carried out using appropriate and safe methods, adhering to the principles and criteria set by the Director-General.

5. Proper Waste Management

When managing waste or unused materials within the factory premises, waste generators must adopt suitable and safe methods that comply with scientific principles and do not cause adverse environmental impacts. The guidelines, procedures, and conditions prescribed by the Director-General should be followed. Unauthorized removal of waste or unused materials from the factory premises is strictly prohibited unless authorized by the Director-General or an authorized delegate.

6. Permit Application and Reporting

Waste generators who wish to remove waste or unused materials from the factory premises must apply for a permit using the provided form (Form GOR.1). The permit application and issuance process should preferably be conducted electronically or through an automated system, in accordance with the guidelines, procedures, and conditions specified by the Director-General.

7. Reporting Requirements

After obtaining the permit, waste generators must notify the relevant authorities of the waste management details before removing the waste or unused materials from the factory premises. This notification should adhere to the guidelines, procedures, and conditions set by the Director-General.

8. Suspension and Cancellation of Permit

The Director-General or an authorized delegate has the authority to suspend the removal of waste or unused materials from the factory premises. This may occur if the waste generator fails to comply with the issued permit or if the waste generator is already taking necessary actions as prescribed by Article 37 or Article 39, specifically related to waste management. Once the waste generator has complied with the requirements, the Director-General or authorized delegate may lift the suspension.

Commentary

The Ministry of Industry Notification on the Management of Disposed Waste Materials is a significant development in ensuring responsible waste management practices within factories and industrial establishments in Thailand. This comprehensive regulation provides guidelines for the proper handling and disposal of waste materials generated on factory premises, with the aim of reducing environmental impacts.

Factory operators must fully comply with the requirements outlined in the notification to avoid penalties or legal repercussions. The notification defines important terms related to waste materials and specifies exclusions for certain types of waste, highlighting its scope and applicability. It also emphasizes the need for waste generators to obtain permits, report waste management details, and comply with the

instructions and conditions set by the Director-General. By adhering to waste separation, proper storage conditions, environmental considerations, and other key principles, factories can contribute to a cleaner and safer environment.

The notification represents a significant milestone in advancing Thailand's industrial sector towards a more environmentally conscious and sustainable future, aligning with global initiatives for environmental sustainability. By adhering to the guidelines and procedures set forth in the notification, factories have the opportunity to establish effective waste management practices, thus making meaningful contributions to sustainable development.

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