

**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MANUAL 50-5116**  
**September 2, 2008**

**Safety and Environmental**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:** This manual supersedes NWSM 50-5116, dated October 15, 2004 and includes the following changes:

- (1) **Section 1, Hazardous Material Storage:** Made editorial changes to “Synopsis” to clarify SPCC requirements and removed requirements for a submission of Tier I Form. Modified Checklist to include management of MSDS and Mercury Containing Equipment. Added acronyms for HAP, NESHAP, MCE, and HVAC. Removed Attachment B, Tier I Reporting Form. Modified Appendix B to the manual to include Hazardous Air Pollutants referenced in this section. Corrected information related to Clean Air Act (1.4.b) and changed “tanks with 10,000 gallons capacity” to “tanks with capacities of 10,000 pounds.” Corrected information for Emergency Planning Community Right to Know (1.4.1e) - changed the amount of battery acid from 1000 pounds to 500 pounds. Added regulatory reference (1.4) NFPA 30 “Flammable and Combustible Liquids” and NFPA 58 “Storage of Propane.” Corrected size of a reportable spill from 25 gallons to 42 gallons (1.5). Further clarified paragraph 1.8.1 to explain requirements for self-certification of SPCC plans. Clarified requirements (1.8.4.b) for providing MSDS sheets to appropriate local and state emergency response organizations. Modified paragraph 1.8.5 and removed requirements for submitting Tier I form. Added clarification about the use of antifreeze at NWS facilities to paragraph 1.9.3. Inserted an alert about chlorinated solvents into paragraph 1.9.11. Added a new paragraph (1.9.12) “Mercury Containing Equipment.” Added a new paragraph (1.9.13) “Electronic Equipment.”
- (2) **Section 2, Management of Waste:** Added “Mercury Containing Equipment” to paragraph 2.10 “Universal Waste” and modified Special Note. Added more information about Fluorescent tubes and their disposal (2.10.3). Expanded information about antifreeze and its disposal (2.11.2). A note about materials containing asbestos still in commerce was added (2.11.5). A training requirement for employees working on COOP site with potential asbestos contamination was added (2.11.5). Additional statement about aerosol cans and fire was added (2.11.9).
- (3) **Section 3, Transportation of Hazardous Materials and Waste:** Paragraph 3.8.1.b. was changed to reflect the overhaul of the hazardous waste manifest program. Paragraph

3.8.1.c. “Obtaining the Manifest” was added. Subparagraph 3.8.1.e. “Pre-Transport Requirement” was modified to include: change to the size of container that require EPA mandated marking from 110 gallons to 119 gallons; “Hazardous Waste” label was corrected; subparagraph (4) about placarding was added. A subparagraph 3.10.d. about transportation security training was added. New paragraph 3.11.9 “Mercury and Mercury Containing Equipment,” and disposal and shipment requirements were added.

- (4) Section 4, Emergency Reporting: Definition of “Environment” was expanded to include clarification about wetlands. Reporting requirements to State Emergency Regulatory Commission (SERC) was included in definition of “Reportable Quantity.” A requirement for filling Tier I report was removed. Paragraph 4.5.1 “Hazardous Substance Release” was corrected to include spill reporting requirements and the amount of oil spill that must be reported to the National Response Center was increased from 25 gallons to 42 gallons. Reporting requirements for “Hazardous substance and Extremely Hazardous Substance Release” (4.6) were corrected and clarified.
- (5) Section 5, Drinking Water: Information about bottled water quality was added into paragraph 5.5.1 “Public Water Systems.” EPA recommendation for additional Private Wells water testing and list of common sources of water contamination was added to subparagraph 5.5.2(a).
- (6) Section 6, Pollution Prevention: A statement about management responsibility for review of new chemical products brought to the site for hazardous characteristics and disposal requirements was added to paragraph 6.7.1, “Planning and Organization.”
- (7) Section 7, Water Discharge and Wetlands: The title of this section was changed from “Water Discharge” to “Water Discharge and Wetlands.” Additional statements related to wetlands were included in several paragraphs (Synopsis, Checklist, block 6, Definitions). Subparagraph 7.5 and the definition of “Waters of the United States” was expanded to include wetlands. New paragraph 7.8 “Wetlands” was added. Reference 40 CFR 230 “Guidelines for Specification of Disposal Sites for Dredged or Fill Material” was added to the reference paragraph.
- (8) Section 8, Air Discharge: Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) were added to several subparagraphs (Synopsis, Checklist, Definitions, Acronyms). Acronyms for National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) were added. A subparagraph “Federal/State Clean Air Act Amendment of 1970” was inserted into Regulatory Requirements. Clarification of air permits and an example of calculations of air emissions were inserted into paragraph 8.5.1. Additional subparagraphs related to ozone depleting substances-chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) such as recordkeeping requirements, disposal, reporting, and recordkeeping were added. A text clarifying sampling of radon was added into paragraph 8.7.1 “Radon Zones.” A new paragraph 8.8 “NESHAP Regulations” was added.
- (9) Section 9, Procurement: Added references to DOC Affirmative Procurement Plan in several paragraphs.

- (10) Section 10, Pesticides: Expanded paragraph 10.3.1 to clarify the definition “Pesticides” in federal requirements. Clarified state requirements for pesticide application in the paragraph 10.3.2.
- (11) Section 11, Asbestos Management: A text clarifying an original ban on asbestos and a list of currently manufactured items that may include asbestos were added (11.1). A requirement to have Asbestos Control Program was added for cases when asbestos is allowed to remain in its current state (11.6.a.). Additional requirements for labeling of asbestos disposal bags and asbestos inventory adjustment were added (11.6.3).
- (12) Section 12, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): Added a text clarifying a PCB ban and possible sources still in the existence (12.1).
- (13) Section 13, Lead Based paint: A paragraph clarifying the use of lead based paint in commercial applications was added. For buildings built after 1978 a requirement for lead testing prior to construction activity was added (13.1).
- (14) Section 14, Implementation of NEPA: A subparagraph describing Attachment A was added to paragraph 14.7.
- (15) Section 15, Past Site Contamination: Page numbers and issuance dates for applicable ASTM regulations were corrected. A new reference 40 CFR 312 (EPA regulations) was added.
- (16) Section 16, NECSAS: Web-Hosted Assessment Manager (WHAM) definition was added. Editorial changes were made to paragraphs 16.5.1 and 16.5.2.
- (17) Section 17, Training: Additional acronyms (ACM, AHERA, PACM, TSI) were added. Clarification is provided for custodial and maintenance employees working in areas where asbestos is present (17.6.5).

Signed by August 19, 2008  
John McNulty, Jr. Date  
Director, Office of Operational Systems