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HAZARDOUS WASTE REGULATIONS (NI) 2005  
HAZARDOUS WASTE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT



## SMALL QUANTITIES OF HAZARDOUS WASTE PRODUCED DURING MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) are responsible for monitoring and enforcing the Hazardous Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 in Northern Ireland. These Regulations do not contain any minimum level for quantities of hazardous waste which must be consigned.

**The NIEA believes in firm but fair regulation.** Underlying the policy of firm but fair regulation are the principles of; **proportionality** in the application of the law and in securing compliance; **consistency** of approach, **transparency** about how the NIEA operates and what those regulated may expect from the NIEA, and **targeting** of enforcement action.

NIEA have considered the potential financial and administrative impacts for the industry and the requirements of the Hazardous Waste Directive. Consequently we have developed guidance which aims to ensure both proportionate regulation and protection of the environment.

NIEA will not normally take enforcement action against persons carrying out maintenance activities for failure to consign small quantities of hazardous waste (as defined in Table 1), providing

- The movement of waste is from the premises where it is produced, to either the premises of the company carrying out the maintenance work or other premises owned by the producer.
- The waste is moved by the persons carrying out the maintenance work.
- Each batch is less than the quantity specified for the waste in Table 1.
- The persons carrying out the maintenance work must record all movements of this kind – these records will be subject to inspection by NIEA and must be retained for a period of three years from the date of receipt of waste.
- The persons holding the waste (which may be the person carrying out the maintenance work or the producer) should seek advice from NIEA Licensing on whether an authorisation to store waste is required.

- The waste is consigned from the holding premises in full compliance with the Hazardous Waste Regulations and all other relevant waste legislation.

This does not, however, preclude NIEA from taking appropriate action where NIEA considers there is a risk posed to human health and/or the environment.

This guidance does not apply to waste management companies who have a mechanism under the legislation for collection of small quantities of waste from several sites (the carrier's round).

NIEA will continue to monitor and inspect all organizations in the waste management chain.

**Table One: Definition of small quantities for hazardous waste**

Type of waste	Maximum size of a small quantity
Oil (with no PCB's)	30 litres
Oily rags	5kg
Fluorescent lamps	10 lamps
Lead acid batteries	5 batteries
Ni-Cd batteries	20 batteries

**For further information contact:**

Northern Ireland Environment Agency  
Hazardous Waste/TFS Section  
Land & Resource Management  
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BT7 2JA  
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**IMPORTANT NOTES PLEASE READ**

*This guidance document will be subject to regular review and may change in the light of regulatory changes, future Government guidance or experience of this type of activity. This guidance does not remove your obligation to comply with other legislation.*