



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION



Reporting Retail Store Hazardous Waste In CERS

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on reporting retail store hazardous waste in the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS). Keep in mind there are State and Federal laws that regulate hazardous waste management – this document shall only be used for CERS reporting in San Diego County.

A wide variety of retail establishments including, but not limited to, grocery stores, home improvement stores, department stores, pharmacy stores, convenience stores, discount stores, and automotive retailers have the potential to generate some amount of hazardous waste. Certain non-saleable merchandise found in retail stores may be hazardous wastes, including spilled, customer returned, excess or overstocked, damaged, used, and/or discontinued merchandise that, as a consequence of spillage, damage, use (as tester or display), company policy or phase out, and otherwise non-saleable merchandise. Retail hazardous wastes must be properly managed under the requirements of California Health & Safety Code (H&SC) Chapter 6.5, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22.

Per San Diego County Code section [68.904](#), businesses, persons, owners or operators that operate a facility subject to a Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) permit shall report hazardous waste generated in any amount through CERS. At the minimum the following information shall be included: the common name of the waste, maximum amount in storage at any one-time, annual waste amount, physical state of the waste, unit of measure, and the federal hazard categories for the hazardous waste.

When preparing a CERS submittal to report a retail hazardous waste stream, start by considering the hazardous properties/characteristics (i.e., types of hazardous wastes) generated at your retail store by referencing Safety Data Sheets, hazardous waste manifests, hazardous waste storage containers/labels, or any other resource that will assist you with classifying the waste. List the hazardous waste characteristic in the Chemical Name and Common Name.

Examples of Common Nomenclature:

- Toxic/State-Regulated Waste
- Flammable/Ignitable Waste
- Oxidizing Waste
- Corrosive Waste - Acids
- Corrosive Waste - Bases
- Non-RCRA Pharmaceutical Waste

Physical State

Solids and liquids must be reported separately in CERS, such as *Oxidizing Waste - Liquids* and *Oxidizing Waste - Solids*.

Universal Waste

Universal wastes generated at retail stores are not required to be reported in CERS if the items are managed and disposed of as universal waste, *unless* 500 pounds is stored at any one time during the reporting year. For example, if a retail store stores a maximum of 550 pounds of fluorescent lamps and 100 pounds of batteries onsite, and both sets of items are managed as universal waste, only the spent fluorescent lamps must be reported in the CERS inventory. When reporting universal waste, the Chemical Name and Common Name should identify the inventory item as universal waste (e.g., Universal Waste - Spent Fluorescent Lamps).

Note: This guidance is intended for County of San Diego CUPA facilities and may differ from other CUPAs' requirements.

How many inventory items should I report?

The number of inventory items reported in CERS depends on the variety of retail products sold at each store and how the wastes are categorized. Specialty stores, such as make-up retailers may only report two or three types of wastes because these types of stores sell mainly cosmetic products, but discount stores will most likely report many types of wastes due to the variety of products sold (e.g., cleaning supplies, over-the-counter medicine, beauty products, etc).

Adding Inventory Items in CERS

Below are steps to assist retail store compliance staff with reporting retail wastes in CERS. A sample CERS submittal is provided, followed by a CERS submittal glossary.

Each inventory item must be manually added by completing the following steps:

1. Start by manually selecting **“Add Material”**, then select **“Unable to Find Material/Add New Material”** and provide a descriptive Common Name suitable to the hazardous waste properties of the waste category; it is recommended you use the same nomenclature for the Chemical Name.

2. Complete the following fields:
 - a. Physical State
 - b. Hazardous Material Type (select “Waste”)
 - c. Trade Secret
 - d. Extremely Hazardous Substance
 - e. State Waste Code
 - f. All applicable Federal Hazard Categories
 - g. Largest Container
 - h. Maximum Daily Amount (max storage capacity)
 - i. Annual Waste Amount (reference hazardous waste manifests if available)
 - j. Units
 - k. Storage Container Type

3. Once all fields have been completed select save.

SAMPLE CERS SUBMITTAL

For **EACH** entry you create, complete the following fields.
See GLOSSARY on the next page for additional information and guidance.

Chemical Identification and Physical Properties

Chemical Name

Common Name

Physical State
 Solid Liquid Gas

CAS Number

Hazardous Material Type Pure Mixture Waste

Trade Secret
 Yes No

CERS Chemical Library ID
-

US EPA SRS ID

Chemical Hazard Classification

EHS Yes No

Radioactive
 Yes No

Curies

Fire Code Hazard Classes (by priority)

[View/Edit Additional Firecodes](#)

DOT Hazard Class

State Waste Code [Lookup Code](#)

Federal Hazard Categories

- PHYSICAL: Flammable
- PHYSICAL: Gas Under Pressure
- PHYSICAL: Explosive
- PHYSICAL: Self-heating
- PHYSICAL: Pyrophoric
- PHYSICAL: Oxidizer
- PHYSICAL: Organic Peroxide
- PHYSICAL: Self-reactive
- PHYSICAL: Pyrophoric Gas
- PHYSICAL: Corrosive to Metal
- PHYSICAL: In Contact with Water Emits Flammable Gas
- PHYSICAL: Combustible Dust
- PHYSICAL: Hazard Not Otherwise Classified (HNOC)
- HEALTH: Carcinogenicity
- HEALTH: Acute Toxicity
- HEALTH: Reproductive Toxicity
- HEALTH: Skin Corrosion or Irritation
- HEALTH: Respiratory or Skin Sensitization
- HEALTH: Serious Eye Damage or Eye Irritation
- HEALTH: Specific Target Organ Toxicity
- HEALTH: Aspiration Hazard
- HEALTH: Germ Cell Mutagenicity
- HEALTH: Simple Asphyxiant
- HEALTH: Hazard Not Otherwise Classified (HNOC)

Inventory Location and Quantity

Chemical Location

Chemical Location Confidential EPCRA
 Yes No

Map # (Optional) Grid # (Optional)

Average Daily Amount

Largest Container

Days on Site

Maximum Daily Amount

Annual Waste Amount

Units gallons
 cubic feet
 pounds
 tons

Inventory Storage Information

Aboveground Tank

Underground Tank

Tank Inside Building

Steel Drum

Plastic/Non-Metallic Drum

Can

Carboy

Silo

Fiber Drum

Bag

Box

Cylinder

Glass Bottle

Plastic Bottle

Tote Bin

Tank Truck, Tank Wagon

Tank Car, Rail Car

Other

Storage Pressure
 Ambient Above Ambient Below Ambient

Storage Temperature
 Ambient Above Ambient Below Ambient Cryogenic

Mixture Components

Hazardous Component Name	CAS Number	% by Weight	EHS
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Additional Mixture Components

Note: This guidance is intended for County of San Diego CUPA facilities and may differ from other CUPAs' requirements.

E.1

Additional Chemical/Material Description

Additional Chemical Description Information

CERS SUBMITTAL GLOSSARY

Chemical Identification and Physical Properties		
A.1	Common Name	Enter the appropriate description of the waste (reference page 1 for examples).
A.2	Physical State	Select "Solid", "Liquid", or "Gas". CERS will not let you choose more than one physical state. Separate inventory items need to be created for different states.
A.3	Hazardous Material Type	Select "Waste".
A.4	Trade Secret	Select "Yes" or "No".
Chemical Hazard Classification		
B.1	EHS (Extremely Hazardous Substance)	Select "Yes" or "No". If the retail products in this category include mixtures containing EHSs, answer "No" to this field and follow the instructions in section E below. The definition of EHS can be found in 40 CFR, Part 355, Appendix A .
B.2	State Waste Code	Enter the applicable waste code. CERS will not let you enter more than one 3-digit waste code, but the waste code can be found on the Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest, generator's waste profile, or in 22 CCR Appendix XII .
B.3	Federal Hazard Categories	Select the Federal Hazard Categories that are applicable to the retail items in this waste category. You may also provide specific information in the "Additional Chemical Description Information" box at the bottom of the page.
Inventory Location and Quantity		
C.1	Largest Container	Enter the volume of the largest container storing the waste.
C.2	Maximum Daily Amount	Enter the maximum volume of waste to be stored onsite at any one time.
C.3	Annual Waste Amount	Enter the total volume of waste that is expected to be generated.
C.4	Units	Enter the units of measure for the waste. The units of measure are not required to match the physical state.
Inventory Storage Information		
D.1	Storage Containers	Select all the container types that are used to store the waste. Multiple container types can be chosen, and "Other" can be selected if the container type is not available to select.
Additional Chemical/Material Description		
E.1	<p>This section is not required, but may be used for any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the different types of retail wastes included in your entry • Indicate if any special handling is required • Any additional information 	

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