

SAINT LUCIA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ASBESTOS WASTE

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 *Purpose:*

(a) Section 4-- 1 of the "Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority Act" states, "The Authority shall for purposes of this Act, coordinate an integrated system for the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of solid waste, including hazardous waste, and establish and manage sanitary landfills throughout Saint Lucia, as appropriate." Furthermore "hazardous waste is defined as; " any solid or liquid materials or products, or a combination of solid and liquid materials or products that contain highly persistent chemical elements and compounds that are likely to be hazardous to human health and the environment."

(b) The requirements set forth in this guideline are minimum *requirements* for the storage, transportation and disposal of *asbestos waste*. Further requirements may be specified by the Ministries of Labour and Health.

1.2 *Definitions:*

- (a) "*asbestos waste*" means a friable waste material containing asbestos fibre or asbestos dust in a concentration greater than 1% by weight;
- (b) "Authority" means Saint Lucia Solid Waste *Management* Authority;
- (c) "friable waste material" means a material that when dry can be crumbled, pulverized or reduced to powder by hand pressure;
- (d) "in bulk" means *asbestos waste* which is confined only by the permanent structure of:
 - (i) a container larger than 45 imperial gallons; or
 - (ii) a vehicle without intermediate packaging.

1.3 *Environmental Hazards:*

Asbestos is known to cause a respiratory disease called asbestosis. Any release of asbestos dust into the air is considered to be hazardous to humans or animals that inhale it.

2.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 *Removal from Buildings and Structures*

No person shall handle or remove *asbestos waste* from the interior or exterior of a building or structure or any part thereof unless the removal and handling is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority.

2.2 *Storage*

No person shall store *asbestos waste* generated by another person except at a facility for the storage of asbestos approved by the Authority.

2.3 *Safety Equipment*

No person shall handle or store *asbestos waste*, supervise the removal of asbestos waste or operate equipment to bury *asbestos waste* unless the person wears appropriate clothing and personal respiratory equipment at all times while engaged in this work.

2.4 *Airborne Fibres*

No person who handles *asbestos waste* shall permit asbestos fibres or asbestos dust to become airborne.

3.0 PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

3.1 *General Requirements*

Unless authorized in writing by the Authority all *asbestos waste* transported, stored or handled must be completely wetted and:

- a) Packaged in a plastic bag having a thickness of not less than 6 mil, sealed and placed inside a non-reusable drum having a capacity of not more than 45 imperial gallons; or
- b) Packaged in a plastic bag having a thickness of not more than 6 mil, sealed and placed inside another plastic bag having a thickness of not less than 6 mil and sealed; or
- c) Packaged and placed in accordance with a method approved in writing by the Authority.

3.2 *Bulk Shipments*

In exceptional circumstances the Authority may approve the disposal of a bulk shipment

of *asbestos waste*. Each shipment must be approved in writing by the Authority and by the person responsible for the approved *asbestos waste* storage or disposal site to which the waste is going.

3.3 Condition of Package

1. Every package or container used to transport or store *asbestos waste* must be free of any puncture, tear or leak.
2. The surface of every container or vehicle used to transport or store *asbestos waste* must be completely free of *asbestos waste*.

3.4 Repair or Repackaging of Asbestos Waste

Any packaging that becomes broken, torn or otherwise damaged in such a manner that the contents escape or may escape must be immediately repaired or replaced. If the packaging is beyond repair the *asbestos waste* must be repackaged in accordance with section 3.1.

4.0 TRANSPORTATION OF ASBESTOS WASTE

4.1 Requirements to Enclose the Shipment

Asbestos waste should be transported in a completely enclosed vehicle or in a vehicle which is equipped with tarpaulin which is secured in such a way to prevent any *asbestos waste* from escaping from the vehicle

4.2 Equipment on the Vehicle

Every vehicle which transports *asbestos waste* must contain the following equipment to enable the driver or emergency responders to deal with any asbestos which may be released:

- a) A shovel
- b) A broom
- c) Personal respiratory equipment
- d) Protective clothing adequate to protect the driver and any others who may be involved in a clean up of any asbestos which is released;
- e) A supply of water or other wetting agent and plastic bags sufficient to enable any required packaging in accordance with section 3.1 and 3.3.

4.3 Restrictions on Certain Vehicles

Asbestos waste must not be hauled in a compaction type vehicle nor can any other cargo be carried in a vehicle which is carrying *asbestos waste*.

4.4 Restrictions Prior to Transportation

Prior to being transported to an *asbestos waste* storage site or to an *asbestos waste* disposal site, arrangements must be made with the owner/operator of the facility responsible for the site to assure that the receiver agrees to accept the waste and that they are prepared to deal with the waste at the anticipated time of arrival at the site. All *asbestos waste* must go to an *asbestos waste* storage site or an *asbestos waste* disposal site that has been approved by the Authority. It is the responsibility of the hauler to assure that the site which receives the *asbestos waste* is approved by the Authority.

5.0 DISPOSAL SITES

5.1 Types of Sites

All *asbestos waste* must be disposed of by burial in accordance with the requirements of this guideline. *Asbestos waste* may be disposed of at:

- a) An active solid waste site which accepts municipal waste and which has been approved by the Authority for the disposal of *asbestos waste*;
- b) An industrial site that has been approved by the Authority for the disposal of *asbestos waste*; or
- c) A site which has been approved by the Authority solely for the disposal of *asbestos waste*.

5.2 Designation of Disposal Area

All *asbestos waste* accepted at an approved waste disposal site must be disposed of in a designated area which is separate from any other disposal activities. The site used for burial of *asbestos waste* must be designated on a plan and approved by the Authority prior to any waste disposal. A copy of the site plan showing the location of the designated *asbestos waste* disposal site shall be filed with registry of deeds.

5.3 Cover of Disposal Area

The owner/operator of an *asbestos waste* disposal site is responsible to assure that any *waste asbestos* is covered within 24 hours of being placed in the disposal area. The cover material must be at least 10 inches in depth and should not include any other waste material unless specifically approved in writing by the Authority. When an *asbestos waste* disposal site is abandoned or discontinues operation the owner/operator is responsible to place final cover material having a depth of at least 50 inches.