EPCRA Sections 312

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Hazardous Chemical Storage Reporting Requirements

Summary

Any facility required to prepare or have available Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) for hazardous chemicals/substances under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations must prepare and submit an emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form (Tier II). This is an annual reporting requirement due by March 1 of each year and must be sent to the Indiana Emergency Response Commission (IERC), appropriate Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and local fire department. The types of chemicals and the requirements for reporting are (i) hazardous chemicals that are stored in excess of 10,000 pounds and (ii) EHSs stored in excess of 500 pounds or the TPQ, whichever is smaller.

What facilities are covered?

Any facility required under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations to maintain SDSs for hazardous chemicals stored or used in the work place. Facilities with chemicals in quantities that equal or exceed the following thresholds must report:

For Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHSs)(40 CFR part 355), either 500 pounds or the Threshold Planning Quantity (TPQ), whichever is lower.

For gasoline (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 75,000 gallons (or approximately 283,900 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely underground and was in compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable Underground Storage Tank (UST) requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.

For diesel fuel (all grades combined) at a retail gas station, the threshold level is 100,000 gallons (or approximately 378,500 liters), if the tank(s) was stored entirely underground and the tank(s) was in compliance at all times during the preceding calendar year with all applicable UST requirements at 40 CFR part 280 or

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requirements of the State UST program approved by the Agency under 40 CFR part 281.

For all other hazardous chemicals: 10,000 pounds.

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What is a hazardous chemical?

Hazardous chemicals are any substances for which a facility must maintain a SDS under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, which lists the criteria used to identify a hazardous chemical. SDSs are detailed information sheets that provide data on health hazards and physical hazards of chemicals along with associated protective measures. Over 500,000 products have SDSs which are normally obtained from the chemical manufacturer.

What are facilities required to do?

Facilities that need to submit SDSs or chemical lists under Section 311 also need to submit an annual inventory report for the same chemicals (EPCRA Section 312). This inventory report must be submitted to the IERC, LEPC and local fire department by March 1 of each year at https://tier2.dhs.in.gov/Account/Login.aspx