



MAGTFTC-MCAGCC 29 Palms

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure



1 October 2025

Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Item Disposal

Application and Purpose

This guidance applies to personnel who dispose of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) items aboard Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC), Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms ("installation").

This document provides environmental protection guidelines for the disposal of PCB items.

Procedures

Because of their hazardous waste (HW) characteristics, items that contain or have been contaminated with PCBs must be disposed of in accordance with federal and state regulations. PCBs can cause serious harm to human health and the environment. It is critical that precautions are taken to lessen the environmental impact of PCBs.

Operational Controls

The following controls apply:

- Confirm that safety data sheets are readily available and current.
- Confirm that any PCB-containing material is managed and disposed of as HW. Any item that may potentially contain PCBs but that does not have a label must be managed and disposed of as HW, including the following:
 - Fluorescent light ballasts
 - Electrical transformers
 - Electrical components
- Confirm that the following actions are adhered to in the disposition of electrical distribution system equipment:
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Test Method 800, PCB'0, State of California-certified laboratory will be used.
 - If the analysis results for any item is less than 5.0 parts per million, the following action will occur:
 - The oil from the item will be drained into a closed-top 55-gallon steel drum.
 - The drum will be marked with the words "Non-PCB Contaminated" and the corresponding electrical item serial numbers that were drained into the drum.
 - The drained electrical item will be marked with the words "Non-PCB Contaminated" and the item's serial number.
 - The exterior of the drum and item must be free of any oil residue.

- Debris used to sample, drain, or clean the exterior of the drum will be packaged in an opened top-drum and marked “Non-PCB Contaminated.”
- The non-PCB drum, item, and laboratory analysis will be turned into the Environmental Affairs (EA) Hazardous Waste Management Branch (HWMB), Building 2095.
- If an electrical item contains PCB oil, it must be tested to determine whether it is positive or negative.
- If the analysis results for any item is greater than 5.0 parts per million, the following action will occur:
 - The oil from the item will be drained into a closed-top 55-gallon steel drum.
 - The drum will be marked with the words “PCB Contaminated” and the corresponding electrical item serial numbers that were drained into the drum.
 - The drained electrical item will be marked with the words “PCB Contaminated,” the concentration of PCBs (including nondetects), date of analysis, and serial number of the associated items.
 - The exterior of the drum and item must be free of any oil residue.
 - Debris used to sample, drain, or clean the drum’s exterior will be package in an opened-top drum and marked “PCB Contaminated.”
 - The PCB drum, item, and laboratory analysis will be turned into the EA HWMB, Building 2095.
 - A spill kit should be kept nearby.
 - A fire extinguisher should be kept nearby.
 - Personnel protective equipment should be kept on hand.

If there are any specific situations or other concerns not addressed by this procedure, contact HWMB via phone at (760) 830-7244.

Training Requirements

Affected personnel must be trained in this document and the following:

- General Environmental Awareness training

Recordkeeping

The following records must be maintained:

- Associated records specific to this practice will be maintained for a period of 3 years.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures

Refer to the Integrated Contingency and Operations Plan.

Inspection and Corrective Action

The Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) will confirm unit adherence to this ESOP. The ECC will confirm that unit personnel are trained in this ESOP and maintain appropriate documentation in accordance with this ESOP. If this ESOP contains an enclosed inspection checklist, designated personnel will conduct the inspections using this ESOP as guidance and document the inspections via the enclosed checklist. If deficiencies are discovered during an inspection, the ECC will ensure immediate corrective action is taken and that all deficiencies and corrective actions are recorded on the enclosed checklist.

References

- (a) Integrated Contingency and Operations Plan
- (b) Installation Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan

Use and Version Control

ESOPs are used to augment instructions contained in official orders and directives, and, where necessary, provide for sufficient control of the installation's significant practices. Environmental Affairs maintains the authoritative, current version of this and other ESOPs on the installation's website: <https://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/G-4-Installation-Support-Directorate/Environmental-Affairs/#environmental-sops>