ISWA TECHNICAL POLICY NO. 10

HAZARDOUS WASTE AS PART OF INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT

Policy

ISWA supports the separate handling of hazardous waste at designated hazardous waste treatment facilities as an element of integrated solid waste management, and supports the idea of keeping hazardous components apart from other waste streams.

ISWA supports the idea of focusing on the producers of goods to prevent hazardous components in new products. By separate treatment at designated hazardous waste facilities outdated and prohibited chemicals can be phased out.

ISWA works on the implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development Plan of Implementation stating:

“Encourage partnerships to promote activities aimed at enhancing environmentally sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes, implementing multilateral environmental agreements, raising awareness of issues relating to chemicals and hazardous waste and encouraging the collection and use of additional scientific data”

“Promote efforts to prevent international illegal trafficking of hazardous chemicals and hazardous wastes and to prevent damage resulting from the transboundary movement and disposal of hazardous wastes in a manner consistent with obligations under relevant international instruments, such as the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal”

ISWA supports the idea of training, education and information about sustainable handling and treatment of hazardous waste among others by offering the training manual “Training Resource Pack for Hazardous Waste Management in Developing Economies”.

Focus should be given to large producers of hazardous waste but also small producers of hazardous waste generate large amounts of hazardous waste. Collection systems for small producers of hazardous waste should be a part of integrated solid waste management.

Position

Permitting of hazardous waste treatment facilities should be consistent with the established and long term capacity needs of local government and their integrated waste management plans. The use of hazardous waste treatment facilities should be consistent with best economic, environmental, and public health practices, and should be based on the assurances that during
siting, design, construction, and operation, a waste-to-energy facility will comply with all federal, provincial-state, and local government rules, regulations, and permits.

The following are considered to be best practice in the siting, design, and utilization of hazardous waste treatment facilities as part of integrated waste management:

1. Sites for hazardous waste treatment facilities should be selected based on the following principles:
   - capability of being engineered to provide for best practices in design and operation,
   - siting in locations which are compatible with existing land use practices

2. Designated hazardous waste treatment facilities should be established for various hazardous waste streams among others:
   - thermal treatment facilities - high temperature treatment for hazardous wastes comprising halogens
   - physical/chemical treatment facilities
   - controlled landfilling

3. Hazardous waste treatment facilities shall be designed by registered professional engineers and other licensed professionals, with demonstrated knowledge in hazardous waste, to prescribe to the following principles:
   - means for the measurement of incoming hazardous waste and out-shipped residues,
   - means for the screening and chemical analyzing of incoming hazardous waste,
   - control of run-on and run-off to minimize to prevent surface water contamination,
   - prevention of air quality contamination,
   - incorporation of air quality monitoring systems,
   - provision for the safe interim storage of hazardous waste.

4. Operation of hazardous waste treatment facilities shall prescribe to the following principles:
operation under the management of a provincial/state certified manager/operator in those provinces/states where certification is required,

provision for controlled access and use by only authorized users,

measurement and registration of all incoming hazardous waste,

acceptance of no wastes not included in the design and permit conditions,

provision for training of on-site personnel, and

own safety and fire protection staff where needed.