



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

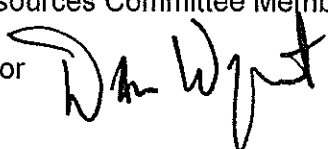
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

TO: Governor Rick Snyder  
Senate Natural Resources, Environment, and Great Lakes Committee Members  
House Natural Resources Committee Members

FROM: Dan Wyant, Director 

DATE: April 3, 2013

SUBJECT: Report on the Low-Level Radioactive Waste 2011 Survey

In accordance with Section 18a of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Authority Act, 1987 PA 204, as amended, generators of low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) are required to report annually to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Low-Level Radioactive Waste Authority, certain information on the volume, type, and activity of the LLRW produced. This report is a brief summary of the information submitted by generators for waste disposed in calendar year 2011.

Twenty-six facilities reported that they generated waste requiring off-site disposal. The following table compares 2011 data with that of 2010.

| Type of Facility | Number of Facilities Reporting Waste in 2011 | Volume of LLRW Generated in 2011 (ft <sup>3</sup> ) | Number of Facilities Reporting Waste in 2010 | Volume of LLRW Generated in 2010 (ft <sup>3</sup> ) |
|------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Academic         | 8  | 914   | 9  | 1,655   |
| Government       | 3  | 12  | 1  | 1   |
| Industry         | 8  | 558   | 4  | 588   |
| Medical          | 3  | 7   | 7  | 2,379   |
| Utility          | 4  | 47,789  | 4  | 48,622  |
| Total            | 26   | 49,280  | 25   | 53,245  |

In 2010 medical waste volume generated was higher than normal. This was primarily due to the decommissioning of a cyclotron that produced radioactive material used for positron emission tomography (PET) imaging.

LLRW is categorized in Classes. Class A waste comprises the largest volume of LLRW. Michigan waste generators can ship Class A waste to a licensed disposal facility in Utah. Certain organic chemicals and animal carcasses containing low concentrations of certain radioactive materials can also be shipped to licensed out-of-state facilities for incineration. Class B and C wastes are generated in much smaller volumes than Class A waste, but have significantly more radioactivity than Class A waste. The volume of waste generated in 2011 was 49,017 cubic feet of Class A waste and 263 cubic feet of Class B and C waste.

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If you need further information, please contact Bob Skowronek, Radiological Protection Section, Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection, at 517-241-1253; or you may contact me at 517-373-7917.

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