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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



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DIRECTOR

VIA E-MAIL

TO: Governor Rick Snyder
Senate Natural Resources Committee Members
House Natural Resources Committee Members

FROM: C. Heidi Grether, Director *CHG*

DATE: November 22, 2016

SUBJECT: Report on the Low-Level Radioactive Waste 2015 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 generated in calendar year 2015.

Twenty-eight facilities reported that they generated waste requiring off-site disposal. The following table compares 2015 data with that of 2014.

Type of Facility	Number of Facilities Reporting Waste in 2015	Volume of LLRW Generated in 2015 (ft ³)	Number of Facilities Reporting Waste in 2014	Volume of LLRW Generated in 2014 (ft ³)
Academic	9	1,801	10	898
Government	2	10	1	8
Industry	10	392	7	393
Medical	4	38	2	9
Utility	3	53,689	3	50,929
TOTAL	28	55,930	23	52,237

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 or Texas or store on-site until decayed to background. 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. Class B and C wastes are stored on-site until decayed to background levels or disposed

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of in the licensed disposal facility in Texas. The volume of waste generated in 2015 was 54,776 cubic feet of Class A waste, 456 cubic feet of Class B waste, and 698 cubic feet of Class C waste.

If you need further information, please contact Robert Skowronek, Radiological Protection Section, Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection, at 517-614-0882; or you may contact me at 517-284-6700.

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