

Maintenance Advisory

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jdc:cr

Mercury Switch Disposal

Mercury switches are considered a Universal Waste and can be handled in an alternative manner to that of Hazardous Waste. Universal Waste does not affect a facilities generator status and less labeling is required. A manifest is not required for disposal and a licensed hazardous waste transporter is not required.

Mercury switches may be accumulated for up to one year. Therefore, Central Maintenance Signals Shop will serve as the storage facility for the discarded mercury switches. In doing so the department can keep track of quantity, origin and time of disposal of the discarded mercury switches. Please make arrangements to drop off or have mercury switches picked up with Central Maintenance Signals Shop

The following is important information regarding mercury switches and their disposal:

- A used/unused mercury switch is considered a universal waste the day it is *discarded*.
- Contain any mercury switch which shows evidence of damage or possible leakage.
- If mercury is spilled from a mercury switch, the waste must be cleaned up, characterized and disposed of properly. Please contact Central Maintenance Division or your Region Resource Specialist if you encounter spilled mercury.