§270.79   Why is this subpart written in a special format?

This subpart is written in a special format to make it easier to understand the regulatory requirements. Like other Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, this establishes enforceable legal requirements. For this subpart, “I” and “you” refer to the owner/operator.

GENERAL INFORMATION

§270.80   What is a RAP?

(a) A RAP is a special form of RCRA permit that you, as an owner or operator, may obtain, instead of a permit issued under §§270.3 through 270.66, to authorize you to treat, store, or dispose of hazardous remediation waste (as defined in §260.10 of this chapter) at a remediation waste management site. A RAP may only be issued for the area of contamination where the remediation wastes to be managed under the RAP originated, or areas in close proximity to the contaminated area, except as allowed in limited circumstances under §270.230.

(b) The requirements in §§270.3 through 270.66 do not apply to RAPs unless those requirements for traditional RCRA permits are specifically required under §§270.80 through 270.230. The definitions in §270.2 apply to RAPs.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part or part 124 of this chapter, any document that meets the requirements in this section constitutes a RCRA permit under RCRA section 3005(c).

(d) A RAP may be:

(1) A stand-alone document that includes only the information and conditions required by this subpart; or

(2) Part (or parts) of another document that includes information and/or conditions for other activities at the remediation waste management site, in addition to the information and conditions required by this subpart.

(e) If you are treating, storing, or disposing of hazardous remediation wastes as part of a cleanup compelled by Federal or State cleanup authorities, your RAP does not affect your obligations under those authorities in any way.

(f) If you receive a RAP at a facility operating under interim status, the RAP does not terminate your interim status.

§270.85   When do I need a RAP?

(a) Whenever you treat, store, or dispose of hazardous remediation wastes in a manner that requires a RCRA permit under §270.1, you must either obtain:

(1) A RCRA permit according to §§270.3 through 270.66; or

(2) A RAP according to this subpart.

(b) Treatment units that use combustion of hazardous remediation wastes at a remediation waste management site are not eligible for RAPs under this subpart.

(c) You may obtain a RAP for managing hazardous remediation waste at an already permitted RCRA facility. You must have these RAPs approved as a modification to your existing permit according to the requirements of §270.41 or §270.42 instead of the requirements in this subpart. When you submit an application for such a modification, however, the information requirements in §270.42(a)(1)(i), (b)(1)(iv), and...
(c)(1)(iv) do not apply; instead, you must submit the information required under §270.110. When your permit is modified the RAP becomes part of the RCRA permit. Therefore when your permit (including the RAP portion) is modified, revoked and reissued, terminated or when it expires, it will be modified according to the applicable requirements in §§270.40 through 270.42, revoked and reissued according to the applicable requirements in §§270.41 and 270.43, terminated according to the applicable requirements in §270.43, and expire according to the applicable requirements in §§270.50 and 270.51.

§ 270.90 Does my RAP grant me any rights or relieve me of any obligations?

The provisions of §270.4 apply to RAPs. (Note: The provisions of §270.4(a) provide you assurance that, as long as you comply with your RAP, EPA will consider you in compliance with Subtitle C of RCRA, and will not take enforcement actions against you. However, you should be aware of four exceptions to this provision that are listed in §270.4.)

APPLYING FOR A RAP

§ 270.95 How do I apply for a RAP?

To apply for a RAP, you must complete an application, sign it, and submit it to the Director according to the requirements in this subpart.

§ 270.100 Who must obtain a RAP?

When a facility or remediation waste management site is owned by one person, but the treatment, storage or disposal activities are operated by another person, it is the operator’s duty to obtain a RAP, except that the owner must also sign the RAP application.

§ 270.105 Who must sign the application and any required reports for a RAP?

Both the owner and the operator must sign the RAP application and any required reports according to §270.11(a), (b), and (c). In the application, both the owner and the operator must also make the certification required under §270.11(d)(1). However, the owner may choose the alternative certification under §270.11(d)(2) if the operator certifies under §270.11(d)(1).

§ 270.110 What must I include in my application for a RAP?

You must include the following information in your application for a RAP:

(a) The name, address, and EPA identification number of the remediation waste management site;
(b) The name, address, and telephone number of the owner and operator;
(c) The latitude and longitude of the site;
(d) The United States Geological Survey (USGS) or county map showing the location of the remediation waste management site;
(e) A scaled drawing of the remediation waste management site showing:
(1) The remediation waste management site boundaries;
(2) Any significant physical structures; and
(3) The boundary of all areas on-site where remediation waste is to be treated, stored or disposed;
(f) A specification of the hazardous remediation waste to be treated, stored or disposed of at the facility or remediation waste management site. This must include information on:
(1) Constituent concentrations and other properties of the hazardous remediation wastes that may affect how such materials should be treated and/or otherwise managed;
(2) An estimate of the quantity of these wastes; and
(3) A description of the processes you will use to treat, store, or dispose of this waste including technologies, handling systems, design and operating parameters you will use to treat hazardous remediation wastes before disposing of them according to the LDR standards of part 268 of this chapter, as applicable;
(g) Enough information to demonstrate that operations that follow the provisions in your RAP application will ensure compliance with applicable requirements of parts 264, 266, and 268 of this chapter;
(h) Such information as may be necessary to enable the Regional Administrator to carry out his duties under other Federal laws as is required for
§ 270.115 What if I want to keep this information confidential?
Part 2 (Public Information) of this chapter allows you to claim as confidential any or all of the information you submit to EPA under this subpart. You must assert any such claim at the time that you submit your RAP application or other submissions by stamping the words “confidential business information” on each page containing such information. If you do assert a claim at the time you submit the information, EPA will treat the information according to the procedures in part 2 of this chapter. If you do not assert a claim at the time you submit the information, EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice to you. EPA will deny any requests for confidentiality of your name and/or address.

§ 270.120 To whom must I submit my RAP application?
You must submit your application for a RAP to the Director for approval.

§ 270.125 If I submit my RAP application as part of another document, what must I do?
If you submit your application for a RAP as a part of another document, you must clearly identify the components of that document that constitute your RAP application.

GETTING A RAP APPROVED

§ 270.130 What is the process for approving or denying my application for a RAP?
(a) If the Director tentatively finds that your RAP application includes all of the information required by §270.110 and that your proposed remediation waste management activities meet the regulatory standards, the Director will make a tentative decision to approve your RAP application. The Director will then prepare a draft RAP and provide an opportunity for public comment before making a final decision on your RAP application, according to this subpart.

(b) If the Director tentatively finds that your RAP application does not include all of the information required by §270.110 or that your proposed remediation waste management activities do not meet the regulatory standards, the Director may request additional information from you or ask you to correct deficiencies in your application. If you fail or refuse to provide any additional information the Director requests, or to correct any deficiencies in your RAP application, the Director may make a tentative decision to deny your RAP application. After making this tentative decision, the Director will prepare a notice of intent to deny your RAP application (“notice of intent to deny”) and provide an opportunity for public comment before making a final decision on your RAP application, according to the requirements in this Subpart. The Director may deny the RAP application either in its entirety or in part.

§ 270.135 What must the Director include in a draft RAP?
If the Director prepares a draft RAP, it must include the:
(a) Information required under §270.110(a) through (f);
(b) The following terms and conditions:
(1) Terms and conditions necessary to ensure that the operating requirements specified in your RAP comply with applicable requirements of parts 264, 266, and 268 of this chapter (including any recordkeeping and reporting requirements). In satisfying this provision, the Director may incorporate, expressly or by reference, applicable requirements of parts 264, 266, and 268 of this chapter into the RAP or establish site-specific conditions as required or allowed by parts 264, 266, and 268 of this chapter;
(2) Terms and conditions in §270.30;
(3) Terms and conditions for modifying, revoking and reissuing, and terminating your RAP, as provided in §270.170; and
(4) Any additional terms or conditions that the Director determines are necessary to protect human health and the environment, including any terms and conditions necessary to respond to spills and leaks during use of any units permitted under the RAP; and

(c) If the draft RAP is part of another document, as described in §270.80(d)(2), the Director must clearly identify the components of that document that constitute the draft RAP.

§ 270.140 What else must the Director prepare in addition to the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny?

Once the Director has prepared the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny, he must then:

(a) Prepare a statement of basis that briefly describes the derivation of the conditions of the draft RAP and the reasons for them, or the rationale for the notice of intent to deny;

(b) Compile an administrative record, including:

(1) The RAP application, and any supporting data furnished by the applicant;

(2) The draft RAP or notice of intent to deny;

(3) The statement of basis and all documents cited therein (material readily available at the issuing Regional office or published material that is generally available need not be physically included with the rest of the record, as long as it is specifically referred to in the statement of basis); and

(4) Any other documents that support the decision to approve or deny the RAP; and

(c) Make information contained in the administrative record available for review by the public upon request.

§ 270.145 What are the procedures for public comment on the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny?

(a) The Director must:

(1) Send notice to you of his intention to approve or deny your RAP application, and send you a copy of the statement of basis;

(2) Publish a notice of his intention to approve or deny your RAP application in a major local newspaper of general circulation;

(3) Broadcast his intention to approve or deny your RAP application over a local radio station; and

(4) Send a notice of his intention to approve or deny your RAP application to each unit of local government having jurisdiction over the area in which your site is located, and to each State agency having any authority under State law with respect to any construction or operations at the site.

(b) The notice required by paragraph (a) of this section must provide an opportunity for the public to submit written comments on the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny within at least 45 days.

(c) The notice required by paragraph (a) of this section must include:

(1) The name and address of the office processing the RAP application;

(2) The name and address of the RAP applicant, and if different, the remediation waste management site or activity the RAP will regulate;

(3) A brief description of the activity the RAP will regulate;

(4) The name, address and telephone number of a person from whom interested persons may obtain further information, including copies of the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny, statement of basis, and the RAP application;

(5) A brief description of the comment procedures in this section, and any other procedures by which the public may participate in the RAP decision;

(6) If a hearing is scheduled, the date, time, location and purpose of the hearing;

(7) If a hearing is not scheduled, a statement of procedures to request a hearing;

(8) The location of the administrative record, and times when it will be open for public inspection; and

(9) Any additional information the Director considers necessary or proper.

(d) If, within the comment period, the Director receives written notice of opposition to his intention to approve or deny your RAP application and a request for a hearing, the Director must hold an informal public hearing to discuss issues relating to the approval or denial of your RAP application. The Director may also determine on his
§ 270.150 How will the Director make a final decision on my RAP application?

(a) The Director must consider and respond to any significant comments raised during the public comment period, or during any hearing on the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny, and revise your draft RAP based on those comments, as appropriate.

(b) If the Director determines that your RAP includes the information and terms and conditions required in § 270.135, then he will issue a final decision approving your RAP and, in writing, notify you and all commenters on your draft RAP that your RAP application has been approved.

(c) If the Director determines that your RAP does not include the information required in § 270.135, then he will issue a final decision denying your RAP and, in writing, notify you and all commenters on your draft RAP that your RAP application has been denied.

(d) If the Director’s final decision is that the tentative decision to deny the RAP application was incorrect, he will withdraw the notice of intent to deny and proceed to prepare a draft RAP, according to the requirements in this subpart.

(e) When the Director issues his final RAP decision, he must refer to the procedures for appealing the decision under § 270.155.

(f) Before issuing the final RAP decision, the Director must compile an administrative record. Material readily available at the issuing Regional office or published materials which are generally available and which are included in the administrative record need not be physically included with the rest of the record as long as it is specifically referred to in the statement of basis or the response to comments. The administrative record for the final RAP must include information in the administrative record for the draft RAP (see § 270.140(b)) and:

1. All comments received during the public comment period;
2. Tapes or transcripts of any hearings;
3. Any written materials submitted at these hearings;
4. The responses to comments;
5. Any new material placed in the record since the draft RAP was issued;
6. Any other documents supporting the RAP; and
7. A copy of the final RAP.

(g) The Director must make information contained in the administrative record available for review by the public upon request.

§ 270.155 May the decision to approve or deny my RAP application be administratively appealed?

(a) Any commenter on the draft RAP or notice of intent to deny, or any participant in any public hearing(s) on the draft RAP, may appeal the Director’s decision to approve or deny your RAP application to EPA’s Environmental Appeals Board under § 124.19 of this chapter. Any person who did not file comments, or did not participate in any public hearing(s) on the draft RAP, may petition for administrative review only to the extent of the changes from the draft to the final RAP decision. Appeals of RAPs may be made to the same extent as for final permit decisions under § 124.15 of this chapter (or a decision under § 270.29 to deny a permit for the active life of a RCRA hazardous waste management facility or unit).

(b) This appeal is a prerequisite to seeking judicial review of these EPA actions.

§ 270.160 When does my RAP become effective?

Your RAP becomes effective 30 days after the Director notifies you and all commenters that your RAP is approved unless:

(a) The Director specifies a later effective date in his decision;
(b) You or another person has appealed your RAP under §270.155 (if your RAP is appealed, and the request for review is granted under §270.155, conditions of your RAP are stayed according to §124.16 of this chapter); or
(c) No commenters requested a change in the draft RAP, in which case the RAP becomes effective immediately when it is issued.

§ 270.165 When may I begin physical construction of new units permitted under the RAP?

You must not begin physical construction of new units permitted under the RAP for treating, storing or disposing of hazardous remediation waste before receiving a finally effective RAP.

§ 270.170 After my RAP is issued, how may it be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated?

In your RAP, the Director must specify, either directly or by reference, procedures for future modifications, revocations and reissuance, or terminations of your RAP. These procedures must provide adequate opportunities for public review and comment on any modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination that would significantly change your management of your remediation waste, or that otherwise merits public review and comment. If your RAP has been incorporated into a traditional RCRA permit, as allowed under §270.85(c), then the RAP will be modified according to the applicable requirements in §§270.40 through 270.42, revoked and reissued according to the applicable requirements in §§270.41 and 270.43, or terminated according to the applicable requirements of §270.43.

§ 270.175 For what reasons may the Director choose to modify my final RAP?

(a) The Director may modify your final RAP on his own initiative only if one or more of the following reasons listed in this section exist(s). If one or more of these reasons do not exist, then the Director will not modify your final RAP, except at your request. Reasons for modification are:

(1) You made material and substantial alterations or additions to the activity that justify applying different conditions;
(2) The Director finds new information that was not available at the time of issuance and would have justified applying different RAP conditions at the time of issuance;
(3) The standards or regulations on which the RAP was based have changed because of new or amended statutes, standards or regulations, or by judicial decision after the RAP was issued;
(4) If your RAP includes any schedules of compliance, the Director may find reasons to modify your compliance schedule, such as an act of God, strike, flood, or materials shortage or other events over which you as the owner/operator have little or no control and for which there is no reasonably available remedy;
(5) You are not in compliance with conditions of your RAP;
(6) You failed in the application or during the RAP issuance process to disclose fully all relevant facts, or you misrepresented any relevant facts at the time;
(7) The Director has determined that the activity authorized by your RAP endangers human health or the environment and can only be remedied by modifying; or
(8) You have notified the Director (as required in the RAP under §270.30(l)(3)) of a proposed transfer of a RAP.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, when the Director reviews a RAP for a land disposal facility under §270.195, he may modify the permit as necessary to assure that the facility continues to comply with the currently applicable requirements in parts 124, 260 through 266 and 270 of this chapter.
(c) The Director will not reevaluate the suitability of the facility location at the time of RAP modification unless new information or standards indicate that a threat to human health or the environment exists that was unknown when the RAP was issued.

§ 270.180 For what reasons may the Director choose to revoke and reissue my final RAP?

(a) The Director may revoke and reissue your final RAP on his own initiative only if one or more reasons for revocation and reissuance exist(s). If one or more reasons do not exist, then the Director will not modify or revoke and reissue your final RAP, except at your request. Reasons for modification or revocation and reissuance are the same as the reasons listed for RAP modifications in §270.175(a)(5) through (8) if the Director determines that revocation and reissuance of your RAP is appropriate.

(b) The Director will not reevaluate the suitability of the facility location at the time of RAP revocation and reissuance, unless new information or standards indicate that a threat to human health or the environment exists that was unknown when the RAP was issued.

§ 270.185 For what reasons may the Director choose to terminate my final RAP, or deny my renewal application?

The Director may terminate your final RAP on his own initiative, or deny your renewal application for the same reasons as those listed for RAP modifications in §270.175(a)(5) through (7) if the Director determines that termination of your RAP or denial of your RAP renewal application is appropriate.

§ 270.190 May the decision to approve or deny a modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of my RAP be administratively appealed?

(a) Any commenter on the modification, revocation and reissuance or termination, or any person who participated in any hearing(s) on these actions, may appeal the Director's decision to approve a modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of your RAP, according to §270.155. Any person who did not file comments or did not participate in any public hearing(s) on the modification, revocation and reissuance or termination, may petition for administrative review only of the changes from the draft to the final RAP decision.

(b) Any commenter on the modification, revocation and reissuance or termination, or any person who participated in any hearing(s) on these actions, may informally appeal the Director's decision to deny a request for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination to EPA's Environmental Appeals Board. Any person who did not file comments, or did not participate in any public hearing(s) on the modification, revocation and reissuance or termination may petition for administrative review only of the changes from the draft to the final RAP decision.

(c) The process for informal appeals of RAPs is as follows:

1. The person appealing the decision must send a letter to the Environmental Appeals Board. The letter must briefly set forth the relevant facts.

2. The Environmental Appeals Board has 60 days after receiving the letter to act on it.

3. If the Environmental Appeals Board does not take action on the letter within 60 days after receiving it, the appeal shall be considered denied.

4. This informal appeal is a prerequisite to seeking judicial review of these EPA actions.

§ 270.195 When will my RAP expire?

RAPs must be issued for a fixed term, not to exceed 10 years, although they may be renewed upon approval by the Director in fixed increments of no more than ten years. In addition, the Director must review any RAP for hazardous waste land disposal five years after the date of issuance or reissuance and you or the Director must follow the requirements for modifying your RAP as necessary to assure that you continue to comply with currently applicable requirements in RCRA sections 3004 and 3005.
§ 270.200 How may I renew my RAP if it is expiring?
If you wish to renew your expiring RAP, you must follow the process for application for and issuance of RAPs in this subpart.

§ 270.205 What happens if I have applied correctly for a RAP renewal but have not received approval by the time my old RAP expires?
If you have submitted a timely and complete application for a RAP renewal, but the Director, through no fault of yours, has not issued a new RAP with an effective date on or before the expiration date of your previous RAP, your previous RAP conditions continue in force until the effective date of your new RAP or RAP denial.

OPERATING UNDER YOUR RAP

§ 270.210 What records must I maintain concerning my RAP?
You are required to keep records of:
(a) All data used to complete RAP applications and any supplemental information that you submit for a period of at least 3 years from the date the application is signed; and
(b) Any operating and/or other records the Director requires you to maintain as a condition of your RAP.

§ 270.215 How are time periods in the requirements in this subpart and my RAP computed?
(a) Any time period scheduled to begin on the occurrence of an act or event must begin on the day after the act or event. (For example, if your RAP specifies that you must close a staging pile within 180 days after the operating term for that staging pile expires, and the operating term expires on June 1, then June 2 counts as day one of your 180 days, and you would have to complete closure by November 28.)

(b) Any time period scheduled to begin before the occurrence of an act or event must be computed so that the period ends on the day before the act or event. (For example, if you are transferring ownership or operational control of your site, and wish to transfer your RAP, the new owner or operator must submit a revised RAP application no later than 90 days before the scheduled change. Therefore, if you plan to change ownership on January 1, the new owner/operator must submit the revised RAP application no later than October 3, so that the 90th day would be December 31.)

(c) If the final day of any time period falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the time period must be extended to the next working day. (For example, if you wish to appeal the Director’s decision to modify your RAP, then you must petition the Environmental Appeals Board within 30 days after the Director has issued the final RAP decision. If the 30th day falls on Sunday, then you may submit your appeal by the Monday after. If the 30th day falls on July 4th, then you may submit your appeal by July 5th.)

(d) Whenever a party or interested person has the right to or is required to act within a prescribed period after the service of notice or other paper upon him by mail, 3 days must be added to the prescribed term. (For example, if you wish to appeal the Director’s decision to modify your RAP, then you must petition the Environmental Appeals Board within 30 days after the Director has issued the final RAP decision. However, if the Director notifies you of his decision by mail, then you may have 33 days to petition the Environmental Appeals Board.)

§ 270.220 How may I transfer my RAP to a new owner or operator?
(a) If you wish to transfer your RAP to a new owner or operator, you must follow the requirements specified in your RAP for RAP modification to identify the new owner or operator, and incorporate any other necessary requirements. These modifications do not constitute “significant” modifications for purposes of §270.170. The new owner/operator must submit a revised RAP application no later than 90 days before the scheduled change along with a written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of RAP responsibility between you and the new permittees.

(b) When a transfer of ownership or operational control occurs, you as the old owner or operator must comply with the applicable requirements in
§ 270.225 What must the State or EPA Region report about noncompliance with RAPs?

The State or EPA Region must report noncompliance with RAPs according to the provisions of § 270.5.

§ 270.230 May I perform remediation waste management activities under a RAP at a location removed from the area where the remediation wastes originated?

(a) You may request a RAP for remediation waste management activities at a location removed from the area where the remediation wastes originated if you believe such a location would be more protective than the contaminated area or areas in close proximity.

(b) If the Director determines that an alternative location, removed from the area where the remediation wastes originated, is more protective than managing remediation waste at the area of contamination or areas in close proximity, then the Director may approve a RAP for this alternative location.

(c) You must request the RAP, and the Director will approve or deny the RAP, according to the procedures and requirements in this subpart.

(d) A RAP for an alternative location must also meet the following requirements, which the Director must include in the RAP for such locations:

1. The RAP for the alternative location must be issued to the person responsible for the cleanup from which the remediation wastes originated;
2. The RAP is subject to the expanded public participation requirements in §§124.31, 124.32, and 124.33 of this chapter;
3. The RAP is subject to the public notice requirements in §124.10(c) of this chapter;
4. The site permitted in the RAP may not be located within 61 meters or 200 feet of a fault which has had displacement in the Holocene time (you must demonstrate compliance with this standard through the requirements in §270.14(b)(11)) (See definitions of terms in §264.18(a) of this chapter);
Note to paragraph (d)(4): Sites located in political jurisdictions other than those listed in Appendix VI of part 264 of this chapter, are assumed to be in compliance with this requirement.

(e) These alternative locations are remediation waste management sites, and retain the following benefits of remediation waste management sites:

1. Exclusion from facility-wide corrective action under §264.101 of this chapter; and
2. Application of §264.1(j) of this chapter in lieu of part 264, subparts B, C, and D, of this chapter.

Subpart I—Integration with Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Standards

§ 270.235 Options for incinerators, cement kilns, lightweight aggregate kilns, solid fuel boilers, liquid fuel boilers and hydrochloric acid production furnaces to minimize emissions from startup, shutdown, and malfunction events.

(a) Facilities with existing permits—(1) Revisions to permit conditions after documenting compliance with MACT. The owner or operator of a RCRA-permitted incinerator, cement kiln, lightweight aggregate kiln, solid fuel boiler, liquid fuel boiler, or hydrochloric acid production furnace may request that the Director address permit conditions that minimize emissions from startup, shutdown, and malfunction events.