

Two long appendices are included that will allow one to more effectively seek out the chemical of interest:

- (a) Appendices A — Synonyms.
- (b) CAS — access number to different chemicals.

GARY F. BENNETT

Used Oil: Disposal Options, Management Practice and Potential Liability, J.J. Nolan, C. Harris and P.O. Cavanaugh, Government Institutes, Rockville, MD, 1988, ISBN 0-86587-744-0, 145 pp., US \$39.

The concluding page of this well-written and comprehensive book (whose contents are nicely described by the title) notes the following:

“It is apparent from even a brief overview of this book that the used oil recycling system in the United States is in a state of transition, primarily because Congress and the (US) EPA have, since 1980, focused their attention on issues of environmental liability and management standards for used oil recycling. Despite the enactment of several statutory provisions directly affecting used oil — and the promulgation by (the US) of regulations governing used oil as fuel — the future use of oil remains uncertain. The controversies, whether recycled oil should be listed as a hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, is presently before the U.S. Court of Appeals from the District of Columbia Circuit”.

Meanwhile, the wide net of liability is being spread for used oil generators in several impending enforcement actions under the Superfund statutes and environmental laws. Regardless of the outcome of used oil liability in these cases, it is certain the transaction costs (lawyer's fees) that will be incurred in preparing and defending such suits will be significant. To avoid future liability, used oil generators should consider a comprehensive evaluation of their management's practice and undertake preventative measures to reduce their exposure and liability. And a good way to do this is to thoroughly read this short, but excellent treatise on the topic. The authors have successfully reviewed the history of used oil regulations and its generation, disposal and treatment. Included also is a sobering chapter on the generator's liability (or potential liability) under CERCLA. After reading that, one is encouraged to reuse and recycle but not dispose of oil.

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Handbook of Hazardous Waste Management, R.W. Phifer and W.R. McTigue, Jr., Lewis Publishers, Chelsea, MI, 1988, ISBN No. 0-87371-102-5, 284 pp., US \$39.95.

There are few less complicated laws (and the regulations associated with them) than the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and the 1984