

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) R315-15-18

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Utah's Used Oil Recycling Program



WASTE MANAGEMENT
& RADIATION CONTROL



What are PCBs?

Group of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons (C, H and Cl atoms).

Physical and chemical properties determined by number of Cl atoms and their location in molecule.

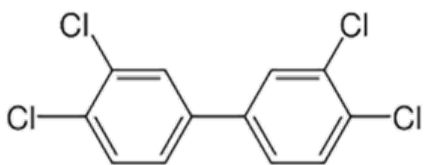
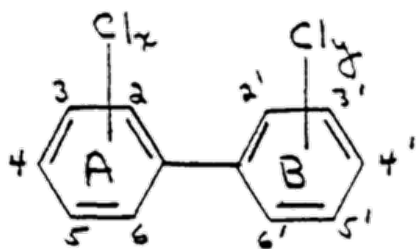
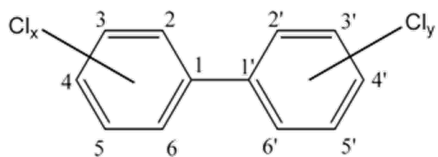
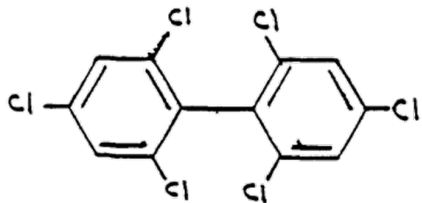
No known taste or smell.

Range of toxicity.

Consistency range from thin, light-colored liquids to yellow or black waxy solids.

Domestically manufactured from 1929 until 1979 (banned).

Used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications.



Commercial Uses for PCBs

Transformers and capacitors

Electrical equipment (e.g., voltage regulators, switches, re-closers, bushings, and electromagnets)

Oil used in motors and hydraulic systems

Old electrical devices or appliances containing PCB capacitors

Fluorescent light ballasts

Cable insulation

Thermal insulation material (e.g., fiberglass, felt, foam, and cork)



Commercial Uses for PCBs

Adhesives and tapes

Oil-based paint

Caulking

Plastics

Carbonless copy paper

Floor finish



Used oil containing PCBs

Used oil containing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations of >50 ppm is subject to TSCA regulations in 40 CFR 761.

Used oil containing PCB concentrations ≥ 2 ppm but <50 ppm is subject to both R315-15 and 40 CFR 761.



Used oil transporter PCB testing

Used oil transporters shall determine the PCB content of used oil being transported is <50 ppm prior to transferring the oil into the transporter's vehicles.

1. Dielectric oil used in transformers and other high voltage devices shall be certified to be <50 ppm prior to loading to the transporter's vehicle through laboratory testing following the procedures in R315-15-18(d).

2. Other used oils shall be certified to be <50 ppm prior to transfer through either:

- Laboratory testing, or
- Written certification from the generator that the PCB content of the used oil is <50 ppm based on manufacturing specifications and process knowledge.



Used oil marketer PCB testing

To ensure that used oil destined to be burned for energy recovery is not a regulated waste under the TSCA regulations:

1. Determine whether the PCB content of used oil being burned for energy recovery is <2 ppm.

2. Make this determination in a manner consistent with the used oil marketer's sampling and analysis plan.



Laboratory testing for PCBs

Used oil testing for total PCBs shall include the following Aroclors:

1016	1242	1260
1221	1248	
1232	1254	

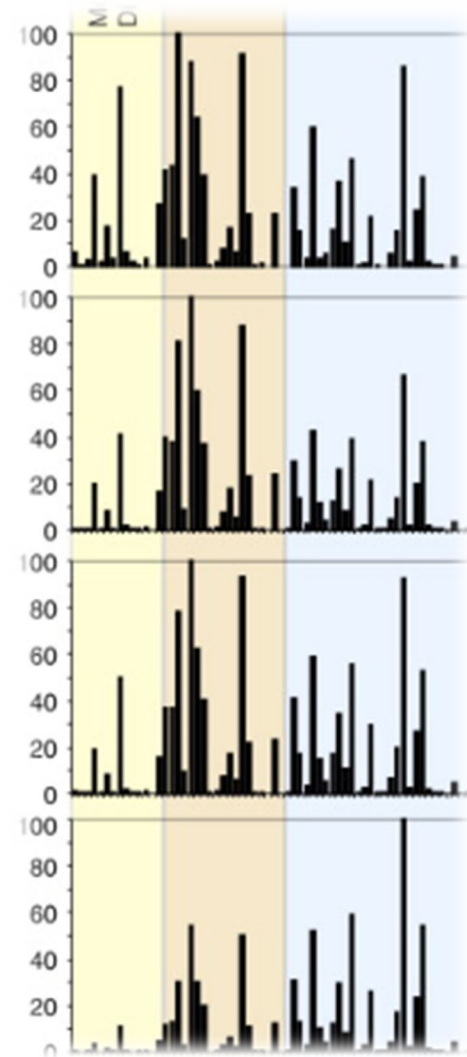
If plasticizers* are present:

1262

1268

*Used in polyvinyl chloride plastic, neoprene, chlorinated rubbers, laminating adhesives, sealants, caulk, and joint compounds, and so on.

If other Aroclors are known or suspected to be present, then the used oil shall be analyzed for those additional Aroclors.



**Utah
Certified
Laboratory
SW-846
methodologies used for
PCBs**

Preparation method 3580A

Clean up method 3665A

Analytical method 8082A

Individual Aroclors shall be reported with a reporting limit of 1 ppm or less.

Report Aroclors listed in R315-15-18(d) for Aroclors unlikely to be significantly altered in homologue composition such as weathering.

Report all 209 individual congeners or ten homologue groups, for any sample that has an altered homologue composition such as weathering.



Resources



United States Environmental Protection Agency
Learn about Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

[Website](#)

Environmental Topics ▾ Laws & Regulation

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

PCBs Home

Learn about PCBs

Policy and Guidance

Cleanups

Cleanup of PCB Waste

Facility Approval
Streamlining Toolbox (FAST)

Risk-based Disposal
Approvals

Disposal and Storage

Commercial Storage and
Disposal Facilities

PCBs in Building Materials

Regional PCB Programs

Policy Polychlorinated

On this page:

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- [Recycling Pla](#)
- [Real Estate C](#)
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- [Planning for](#)
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- [Interim Guid](#)
- [Health Emerg](#)
- [PCBs in X-ray](#)
- [Fact Sheet fo](#)
- [Fact Sheet fo](#)

Utah Office of Administrative Rules
Standards for the Management of Used Oil(15)

[Website](#)

General

Questions?



Visit Used Oil Program [Website](#)

Or

Call DWMRC Used Oil Section (801) 536-0200
