EMERGENCY PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RIGHT-TO-KNOW (EPCRA) POLICY

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the university to protect the campus community and general environment from potentially hazardous materials that may be stored, produced, or used on The George Washington University campuses. In addition, this policy complies with 42 USC Sections 11001-11050, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

Reason for Policy/Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the campus community and general environment by informing university operations of the community right-to-know laws.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

Faculty and staff

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Policy/Procedures

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was enacted in 1986 in response to growing concerns about the effect of chemical releases on communities.

EPCRA mandates that industry make information publicly available about its chemical processes, storage and emissions, and safety procedures. This regulation is intended to encourage and support community planning efforts at the state and local levels, and to provide citizens and local governments with information concerning potential chemical hazards present in their communities. In addition to complying with EPCRA, the George Washington University also makes its chemical hazard information known to local government agencies in case of emergency.

The George Washington University must comply with sections 311 and 312 of EPCRA and file an emergency planning inventory. The inventory allows local governments and communities to create a plan for dealing with chemical emergencies, and contributes to overall awareness.

Inventories of hazardous chemicals are required if the chemical is present in amounts at or exceeding 10,000 pounds. For this policy, “hazardous chemicals” are defined as any product or substance for which a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is required by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). If amounts meet or exceed the threshold at any time during the calendar year, a report must be filed. Substances deemed “extremely hazardous substances” by the Environmental Protection Agency must be reported if the amount is equal to or exceeds 500 pounds.

GW uses the federal Tier II chemical inventory form to submit its annual report between January 1 and March 1 of each year to the appropriate governing agency for each campus.

This policy enforces the procedures set forth in the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Policy available from the Office of Health and Safety.

Website Addresses for This Policy

GW University Policies

Contacts

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>Office of Health and Safety</td>
<td>202-994-4347</td>
<td><a href="mailto:safety@gwu.edu">safety@gwu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Definitions

MSDS  Material Safety Data Sheets. Documents which provide detailed information about a chemical's hazards and how to work with each chemical safely. Each chemical manufacturer or importer is required to provide MSDSs for all of their chemicals. Contact the Office of Health and Safety for more information on how to obtain MSDSs for your chemicals.

Related Information

EPCRA Requirements
Environmental Protection Agency

Who Approved This Policy

Louis H. Katz, Executive Vice President and Treasurer

History/Revision Dates

Origination Date:  March 3, 2003
Last Amended Date:  July 1, 2006
Next Review Date:  May 31, 2014