Cost-effective disposal solution for smoke detectors

**Background**

Depending on where you live and what type of smoke detector you need to dispose of, there may be regulations that apply to the disposal of scrap detectors.

The two types of smoke detectors most commonly encountered in the United States are ionization detectors and photoelectric detectors. Ionization-type smoke detectors contain a small amount of radioactive material.

Photoelectric-type smoke detectors do not contain any radioactive material. Combination smoke detectors, which contain both ionization and photoelectric smoke sensors, also contain a small amount of radioactive material.

**Why proper disposal**

Smoke detectors are one of the most widely used and regulated safety products in the United States. As smoke detectors are replaced, the result is a staggering amount of radioactive waste entering the solid waste stream in America’s landfills. Solid waste facilities are not designed to manage radioactive waste and hazardous wastes. The integrity of the Am-241 foil can be significantly compromised during solid waste collection and processing. It is when the radioactive material is crushed and compromised that exposure becomes concerning.

The second concern is the printed circuit boards. Printed circuit boards routinely fail toxicity tests for heavy metals. Heavy metals in smoke detectors may cause the equipment to be considered a hazardous waste. Under Subtitle C of the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), hazardous waste must be properly identified, stored, transported, treated and disposed of. A waste generator is responsible for proper disposal of its hazardous waste and for cleaning up the effects of improper disposal. Recycling reduces the potential for future liability.

**The Veolia solution**

ReturnPak makes proper disposal easy. One price includes everything you need to begin — packaging, prepaid shipping from your facility, processing and certificates of disposal. Simply order, fill, seal and ship with the prepaid shipping label.
Solutions designed to fit your needs
We have developed disposal solutions for large and small quantities of smoke detectors. Whether you need service for one facility or multiple locations across the country, we can offer a combination of mail-back, prepaid recycling containers for small quantities or arrange for a pick up for larger quantities.

Packaging & transportation
Our ReturnPak kit comes with an attached return shipping label and UN2911 DOT label, 4 mil liner, liner tie, instructions, terms and conditions, proof of purchase and a Smoke Detector Inventory Form to be completed and returned with filled ReturnPak box.

After you receive the kit, simply follow the instructions to fill, seal and ship the box using the prepaid return shipping label. Your box of smoke detectors will be delivered to our approved processor within 3-5 business days. A confirmation letter of receipt and disposal is available upon request.

Benefits
• Compliance with local, state and federal regulations
• Reduced administrative burden
• No contracts
• Wide selection of containers
• Cost-effective
• Easy to use

Available containers
Supply-359 Extra Small Smoke Detector
Dimensions: 8”x8”x8”
Capacity: Holds up to 6 intact exempt radioactive smoke detectors.

Supply-347- Small Smoke Detector Disposal Box
Dimensions: 18”x12”x6”
Capacity: Holds up to 18 intact exempt radioactive smoke detectors.

Supply-348- Medium Smoke Detector Disposal Box
Dimensions: 12”x12”x12”
Capacity: Holds up to 24 intact exempt radioactive smoke detectors.

Supply-349- Large Smoke Detector Disposal Box
Dimensions: 18”x18”x12”
Capacity: Holds up to 54 intact exempt radioactive smoke detectors.

Why Veolia?

Environmental compliance
We maintain an excellent record of compliance with regulations governing health and safety and the environment. We follow procedures meticulously with our on-site teams, and continue to focus on the details throughout transportation, treatment and disposal.

Financial strength
Veolia is the international leader in providing environmental services for waste, water, and energy. With over $29 billion in revenue, it is the largest environmental services company in the world.

Technical expertise
Our account, project and technical representatives understand hazardous and nonhazardous waste and the related regulatory requirements. Over 1,500 Veolia employees are ready to assist you in any way - from providing information about government regulations and answering technical questions regarding treatment alternatives, to training your employees and setting up disposal programs that save you time and money.

Order today!
Call 800-669-9725 or click www.prepaidrecycling.com

About us
From onsite pick-up to final treatment or disposal, Veolia North America’s Environmental Solutions and Services group assures safety, environmental responsibility and regulatory compliance by channeling hazardous waste through our network of over 400 company-owned or certified service centers nationwide. These service centers include treatment, recovery and disposal facilities, sales offices and transportation locations.

Key facts
• 1,500 employees
• 400+ company owned or certified service centers
• 39 10-day in-transit facilities
• 14 permitted TSDFs
• 13 OSHA VPP and/or ISO certified facilities

Waste managed
• Lamps and ballast
• Batteries
• E-waste
• Mercury waste
• PCB & non-PCB electrical equipment
• Specialty medical devices and diagnostic equipment
• Medical waste sharps
• Tritium exit signs

For a full list of hazardous and non-hazardous waste services, visit: www.veolianorthamerica.com
twitter: @veolia_na

Resourcing the world