

# Disposal of Tetrachloroethylene Contaminated Soils in Permitted Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

Effective Date: January 14, 1998

Soils containing low levels of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (CAS 127-18-4 or perchloroethene or “perc”) commonly generated during remediation activities at dry cleaning operations would normally be classified as hazardous waste either by characteristics or by listing in 40 Code of Federal Regulations §261.20 and §261.30, respectively. Soils with hazardous waste classification are not normally authorized for disposal in permitted municipal solid waste landfills (MSWLs). The TCEQ typically utilizes the Risk Reduction Rules (30 Texas Administrative Code 335 Subchapter A and S), in combination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Land Disposal Restriction regulations (i.e., Universal Treatment Standards {UTS}) to make contained-in policy determinations and land disposal management decisions.

For PCE, the Risk Reduction Standard (RRS) 2 value (i.e., 0.5 mg/kg) is lower than the UTS (i.e., 6 mg/kg) and therefore, will define the contained-in level for soils. Please note that all other constituents of concern in the contaminated soil should also meet the appropriate UTS and RRS 2 levels. Please note further, that soils intended for disposal in permitted MSWLs and industrial solid waste landfills must not exhibit hazardous waste characteristics, all constituents of concern must meet the appropriate UTS and RRS 1 or RRS 2 levels and are still subject to TCEQ solid waste classification criteria.