



Physics Division ESH Bulletin 95-9

LIGHTBULBS

Burned out or broken incandescent lightbulbs are RCRA hazardous wastes (lead and cadmium) and must be managed properly for disposal. Please do not throw incandescent lightbulbs in the trash. Turn them in to the P&E Foreman or the Electricians for disposal.

Burned out or broken fluorescent lightbulbs are also RCRA hazardous wastes (mercury). Energy Systems has negotiated a contract to recycle spent fluorescent lightbulbs. This means that spent fluorescent lightbulbs do not have to be managed in a RCRA Satellite or 90-Day Area for disposal, but can be accumulated for recycle. Please do not throw fluorescent lightbulbs in the trash. Turn them in to the P&E Foreman or the Electricians for recycle.

Fluorescent lightbulbs from rad-areas can be recycled if they are green-tagged. Electricians will not remove lightbulbs from rad-areas until they have been green-tagged. Any lightbulb that is rad-contaminated must be managed as RCRA hazardous waste and cannot be sent off-site for recycle.

In some places at the laboratory, lighting fixtures are being replaced with a new "T-8" ballast and fixture. The new fixture uses only two bulbs, and the new ballast has no oil (no PCBs). However, the lightbulbs are still hazardous for mercury - the same as the other fluorescent lightbulbs.

Phillips Lighting Company claims that it has developed a new fluorescent lightbulb that will not have to be managed as RCRA hazardous waste. This would be great for use in radiological areas where contamination is probable. Phillips will use this technology in its TL 80 Series of T-8 lamps, T-12 SPEC Econ-o-Watt, and T-12 Ultralume Econ-o-Watt fluorescent lamps. These products should be available by the end of the year. For more information, contact Steve Goldmacher, Phillips Lighting, (908) 563-3039.