



Solar Photovoltaic Panel Universal

Can solar panels be managed as universal waste?

Management as universal waste will improve management of all solar panel waste whether hazardous waste or not. This change in the RCRA regulations would provide a clear, practical system for handling discarded solar panels.

How should solar PV panels be managed?

According to NYSDEC guidance, solar PV panels that have reached their EOL should be managed following the state's universal waste regulations. This includes labeling and storing the waste properly and transporting it only to authorized universal waste handlers or recycling facilities.

Will EPA add hazardous waste solar panels to Universal Waste Regulations?

EPA is working on a proposal to add hazardous waste solar panels to the universal waste regulations found at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 273 and to establish a new, distinct category of universal waste specifically tailored to lithium batteries.

What will streamlined universal waste regulations mean for solar panels?

The streamlined universal waste regulations are expected to promote the collection and recycling of solar panels and encourage the development of municipal and commercial programs to reduce the quantity of these wastes going to municipal solid waste landfills.

Are PV modules a universal waste?

PV modules are a separate waste category under the universal waste standards and are prohibited from being commingled with other universal wastes, such as electronic devices, due to the need to comply with the specific requirements associated with each waste stream.

Can solar panels be managed as household hazardous waste?

As a reminder, PV modules can only be managed as universal waste in California. Once the waste is transported out of California, the waste must be managed according to respective local and state laws and regulations. Can a household who generates PV modules (such as solar panels) manage the waste as household hazardous waste (HHW)?

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