

SUMMARY OF CASE LAW ON WASTE PRODUCER LIABILITY

SINGAPORE

We were not able to locate specific court cases in Singapore on waste producer liability. The national provisions that affect waste producer liability are set out below.

Summary of the National Law

General duties of waste generators are contained in the Environmental Public Health Act, Chapter 95, Section 113. Part II, Section 5, requires that only licensed facilities be utilized. Part IV, section 16, requires only licensed parties can collect waste. A general duty is imposed on waste generators by the same act:

"Every generator or toxic industrial waste collector and every agent or employee of such person shall, when storing, using or otherwise dealing with toxic industrial waste, do so in such a manner as not to threaten the health or safety of any person or to cause pollution to the environment." Part VII, section 36.

This general obligation is interpreted to specifically require due diligence on selected waste venders.

In the government summary of hazardous waste rules and policies, the National Environmental Agency refers to waste generators responsibility to audit waste facilities"

Waste Audit: NEA [National Environmental Agency] encourages those industries that generate large quantities of wastes to carry out waste audit. A waste audit is designed to achieve maximum resource optimisation and improved process performance. The audit enables one to take a comprehensive look at the process to understand the material flows and to focus on areas where waste reductions are possible. The waste audit can be carried out to cover a complete process or to concentrate on a selection of unit operations within a process.

Besides legal liability in official instruments, The Singapore Chemical Industry Council Limited (SCIC) has published <u>industry standards</u> that require audit of hazardous waste management facilities used by industry:

"11 Auditing requirements, 11.3 Frequency of audits

Sites should be audited at a frequency appropriate to their activity and risk, or as prescribed by local regulatory requirements." SS 603:2014 Code of Practice for hazardous waste management (April 21, 2015).

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