

(The revised information on lead and cadmium) - Iran

STANDARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIA maximum acceptable cadmium concentration for different media

Water quality standard, natural water:

Maximum level of cadmium and lead concentration in water resources (surface and groundwater):

Lead: <0.05 mg/L.

Cadmium: < 0.01 mg/L.

Maximum level of cadmium discharged to;

Surface water: 0.2 mg/L.

Absorbent well (ground water): 0.2 mg/L.

Agriculture and irrigation: 0.05 mg/L.

ACTIONS AND REGULATIONS ON PRODUCTS that contain cadmium

Current actions, strategies and future plans at national level for preventing and controlling releases and limiting exposure, including waste management Practices:

-Recycling of Lead batteries

OTHER STANDARDS, ACTIONS AND PROGRAMMES relevant to cadmium

Current actions, strategies and future plans at national level for preventing and controlling releases and limiting exposure, including waste management practices:

1) According to the Basel Convention, the government has been implementing suitable measures on the control of trans-boundary movement and transportation of Hazardous wastes including lead and cadmium and their compounds.

2) DoE has started a national plan of "Site Selection for hazardous disposal" that the first step of this plan is being implemented by universities in each 30 provinces;

meanwhile, the executive rules for disposal of mercury wastes in these sites will be determined.

3) Preparation of comprehensive national plan regarding "Pollution reduction for major rivers of Iran".

At the present it is being initiated in provinces with supervision of the Bureau of Water and Soil Pollution Investigation of DoE" (Monitoring of lead and cadmium concentration in water and sediment samples and identifying of the pollution sources in the water sheds of the rivers has been considered in this plan)

4) Legislation of "Waste Management Law" which approved by parliament in 2004. Regarding to Article 11, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Mines and Industries, Ministry of Petroleum and Ministry of Energy are obligated to compile a national rule and regulation and implementation of this law.

5) Preparation of the guideline for the "Waste studies" in provinces.

6) Establishment of landfills for urban waste province center (new cities and cities with a population above 20,000).

7) Ongoing implementation of waste water collection and treatment plan in Tehran, Ahvaz and other big cities in the country.

8) It has been requested that "Bureau of Air Pollution Investigation " of DoE to specify maximum acceptable cadmium and lead concentrations for air especially to set out air emission limit values for waste incineration and stationary combustion of fossil fuels

9) Review of the existing environmental specifications of industrial units at a national level, monitor of wastewater (in which lead and cadmium are one of the chemical parameter that should be determined) and planning for future on the basis of new and updated data and information

10) DoE has considered establishing standards for solid waste as below:

- Standard for disposal of residue of ash in incinerations
- Standard for disposal of residue sludge in industrial and municipal wastewater treatment Systems
- Standard for hazardous waste disposal
- Standards for chemical waste recycling

11) Bureau of Soil and Water Pollution investigation, has considered developing a special division on heavy metals including lead and cadmium on the organization webpage that scientific, technical information and implemented measures related to lead and cadmium.

12) Heavy metals such as Cadmium and Lead have been monitoring in sea water within the framework of ROPME Program for Persian Gulf.

-Bureau of the Marine Environment is responsible for conservation of marine ecosystems in the Persian Gulf, Sea of Oman and Caspian Sea.

-ROPME undertakes promotion of environmental policy, research and the implementation of joint projects in the Persian Gulf area Pollution prevention, emergency response, biodiversity conservation and improved coastal zone management are major policies pursued. Iran has performed 2 regional research cruise programs for ROPME.