

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN EPCRA

Four major parts:

- < Emergency Planning for Hazardous Substances (EPCRA §301/302/303)
- < Reporting Chemical Accidents & Releases (EPCRA §304)
- < Hazardous Substances Inventory & Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA §311/312)
- < Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (EPCRA §313)

There are four terms used to describe CHEMICALS subject to this law:

- < **Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS)** (§302/304) chemicals determined to be of significant hazard to health & safety; they require more stringent reporting requirements and are listed in the EPA *Title III List of Lists*;
- < **Hazardous Substances** covered by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 (§304 of EPCRA); they are listed in the EPA *Title III List of Lists*;
- < **Hazardous chemicals** regulated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) (§304/311/312); stated simply: ALL MATERIALS FOR WHICH YOU MAINTAIN MSDS SHEETS including fuel, oil, lubricants, & other hydrocarbon products. There is no specific list of Hazardous Chemicals. Under OSHA standards any substance for which an MSDS is required is considered hazardous, including petroleum products;
- < **Toxic Chemicals** (§313) listed in the EPA *Title III List of Lists*; A consolidated list of the Title III toxic chemicals with the quantities subject to specific requirements is available from the EPA (Document Distribution Center 1-800-424-9346 or <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/tools.htm#lol>). Up-to-date information may also be obtained from libraries that subscribe to the Federal Register.

QUANTITIES of chemicals subject to reporting:

- < Threshold Planning Quantity or TPQ refers to amounts of chemicals used, stored, or produced. Extremely Hazardous Substances have TPQs of 500 pounds or less. All others have a TPQ of 10,000 pounds.
- < Reportable Quantity or RQ refers to amounts of the chemicals released in accidents, spills, federally permitted releases, etc.

In order for this law to apply to your business or agency, the chemicals you use must be included in the lists or categories specified above, and must also be stored, produced, used or released in the quantities determined by the federal government. A consolidated *Title III List of Lists* of the chemicals and their quantities that are subject to EPCRA requirements is available from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Refer to page 18 for additional details.