

 Maricopa County Air Quality Department	Number: TG-2012-002 Title: Permitting Threshold for Bulk Material Storage Areas
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Approved by: 	
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I. Purpose

The purpose of this technical guidance is to set stationary source permitting thresholds for bulk material storage and handling. Bulk materials are a source of fugitive dust and in the case of biodegradable materials can be a source of VOCs during decomposition or particulate matter, CO, and hydrocarbons during auto-combustion.

II. Definitions

- A. **Bulk Materials** – refer to Rule 310 §203
- B. **Disturbed Surface Area** – refer to Rule 310 §206
- C. **Normal Farm Cultural Practice** – refer to Rule 310 §221

III. Guidance

A stationary source that stores and handles bulk materials will require a permit when those operations:

- A. Cover an area with a disturbed surface area of greater than 0.1 acre, or
- B. Are conducted on concrete or asphalt and emit greater than 3.0 pounds of PM10 per day.

IV. Categories of Sources Not Required to Obtain a Stationary Source Permit

- A. Normal farm cultural practices where:
 1. 50% or more of the bulk material is used in adjacent normal farm cultural operations;
 2. No shredding or grinding is done onsite;
 3. The bulk materials are not sold or provided as a product.

- B. Unintentional storage operations resulting from illegal dumping on vacant lots as indicated by a lack of business signage/solicitation (e.g. a sign indicating clean fill dirt wanted) and/or fencing; in some cases “No Trespassing” signs may be present. In this case an inspection report will be sent to the property owner. Where biodegradable materials are present, additional education should be provided to the property owner on the combustibility of improper storage as provided in Section IV below.
- C. Intentional storage and handling operations that have been abandoned for more than 12 consecutive months and meet all requirements of Rule 310.01. Where biodegradable materials are present, additional education should be provided to the property owner on the combustibility of improper storage as provided in Section IV below.
- D. Temporary storage and handling operations that will be located at a site for less than 24 consecutive months. This type of operation is required to obtain a dust control permit if it disturbs 0.1 acre or more.

IV. Additional Requirements for Sites with Potentially Combustible Material Storage

- A. Where biodegradable materials are present in Sections III. B and III. C, the following phrase should be included on an inspection report for such sites:

WARNING: Biodegradable materials stored in piles will auto-combust causing fires that are difficult to extinguish if not maintained properly or turned on a frequent basis. This includes branches, leaves, brush, processed landscape debris, or other household trash.

- B. A separate report should be sent to the applicable city, town, or county agency in coordination with the department Intergovernmental Liaison.