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CSP EXAMINATION PREPARATION

DOMAIN 5

Environmental Management

Exam Practice Quiz

Exam Weight: 6% of Total Score

Covering 05 Blueprint Objectives | 2×20 Practice Questions with Full Answer Key

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Quiz 1 Questions

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 1

Elements of a hazardous waste manifest include all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) Liability insurance company
- B) Manifest number
- C) EPA identification number
- D) Total quantity of waste generated

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 2

Which of the following common law causes of action is NOT used to pursue legal remedies in hazardous waste/hazardous materials, or “toxic tort”, damage suits?

- A) Negligence
- B) Nuisance and trespass
- C) Strict liability for ultra-hazardous activities
- D) Corpus delicti

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 3

A Phase I environmental site assessment typically includes the following activities EXCEPT:

- A) Inspect the property, review environment records, and assess chemical handling and disposal practices
- B) Aerial photo search and review of past ownership
- C) Determine whether the subject or surrounding properties are identified on any government lists of contaminated sites, or lists of sites requiring investigation, clean-up, and/or enforcement

D) Aerial hydrogeologic analysis

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 4

Phase I environmental assessments should include, but are not limited to:

A) Historical review of the use(s) and improvement(s) made to the subject site

B) An investigation of subject and neighboring properties with respect to environmental enforcement actions and/or listing on federal or state contaminated property lists

C) Evaluation of whether present or past owners or tenants have managed hazardous materials or wastes on-site

D) All of the above

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 5

In the RCRA program, UTS refers to:

A) Underlying treatment standards

B) Universal treatment standards

C) Universal technology standards

D) Universal technical standards

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 6

Hazardous waste determinations are to be performed at what point in time?

A) Prior to seeking off-site disposal approvals

B) After any on-site treatment activities

C) At the point of generation

D) None of the above

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 7

The EPA considers all of the following pollutants “criteria pollutants” EXCEPT:

A) Carbon monoxide

B) Oxides of nitrogen

C) Oxides of sulfur

D) Hydrogen sulfide

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 8

Acronyms are used extensively in the various regulatory programs as a form of shorthand. Which of the following acronyms is NOT associated with the CWA program?

A) POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)

B) SPCC (Spill Prevention Control and Counter Measures)

C) NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards)

D) BAT (Best Available Treatment)

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 9

The “Superfund” law primarily addresses:

A) Worker safety

B) Toxic waste sites

C) PCB's

D) Carcinogens

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 10

Which of the following agencies has an interest in safety and health matters and regulates selected chemical substances and mixtures?

A) NIOSH

B) EPA

C) DOT

D) NACOSH

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 11

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is enforced by the:

A) OSHA

B) EPA

C) NIOSH

D) DOT

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 12

The key element of RCRA designed to track hazardous waste from “cradle to grave” is the:

A) CERCLA database

B) OSHA recordkeeping system

C) Manifest system

D) NPL listing

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 13

A manifest serves the following purposes:

A) Acts as shipping paper under DOT regulations only

B) Acts as a tracking document under RCRA regulations only

C) Absolves the generator of CERCLA liabilities

D) Serves both shipping paper requirements under DOT regulations and acts as a tracking document under RCRA regulations

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 14

The mandatory shipping document for hazardous waste purposes is:

A) EPA Form 9000-14

B) DOT Form 1234

C) The uniform hazardous waste manifest (EPA Form 8700-22)

D) A Bill of Lading

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 15

Secondary containment is considered:

A) A best management practice

B) Necessary to effective wastewater treatment

C) Provided by compacted soil barriers

D) Unnecessary if hazardous waste tanks and containers are frequently inspected and when releases are directed away from storm sewers

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 16

How is asbestos disposed of?

A) Landfill

B) Incinerated

C) Chemically dissolved

D) Deep well injection

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 17

Maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) are regulatory thresholds for:

A) Effluent quality under the Clean Water Act

B) Air emissions under the Clean Air Act

C) Heavy metal contamination under RCRA

D) Allowable drinking water pollutant concentrations under the Safe Drinking Water Act

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 18

Primary MCL's refer to:

A) Concentrations of regulated drinking water contaminants that are protective of human health with a margin of safety

B) Groundwater quality standards

C) Maximum levels of contaminants allowable in public water systems

D) Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 19

MCLG's refer to:

A) Enforceable drinking water quality standards

B) Non-enforceable concentrations of drinking water contaminants that are protective of health with a margin of safety

C) Non-enforceable standards addressing the aesthetic qualities of drinking water, such as appearance, odor, and taste

D) Regulatory standards for small public water supply systems

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 20

Industrial dischargers to a POTW should be concerned when a POTW violates its NPDES permit because:

A) Potential bans on new sewer connections

B) Potential additional or more stringent pretreatment requirements

C) Potential liability for contamination of sewage treatment plant sludge

D) All of the above

Your Answer: _____

Quiz 1 Answers & Explanations

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 1

Elements of a hazardous waste manifest include all of the following EXCEPT:

✓A) Liability insurance company

B) Manifest number

C) EPA identification number

D) Total quantity of waste generated

CORRECT ANSWER: A | Topic: Managing Waste

A manifest does not require an insurance company number. It does require manifest number, EPA ID number, and total quantity of waste.

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 2

Which of the following common law causes of action is NOT used to pursue legal remedies in hazardous waste/hazardous materials, or “toxic tort”, damage suits?

A) Negligence

B) Nuisance and trespass

C) Strict liability for ultra-hazardous activities

✓D) Corpus delicti

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Hazardous Materials

Negligence, nuisance and trespass, and strict liability for ultra-hazardous activities are all legal instruments available to plaintiffs in toxic tort suits for damages from hazardous materials/wastes releases or exposure.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 3

A Phase I environmental site assessment typically includes the following activities EXCEPT:

A) Inspect the property, review environment records, and assess chemical handling and disposal practices

B) Aerial photo search and review of past ownership

C) Determine whether the subject or surrounding properties are identified on any government lists of contaminated sites, or lists of sites requiring investigation, clean-up, and/or enforcement

✓D) Aerial hydrogeologic analysis

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Phase I environmental site assessments include property inspection, review of environmental records, aerial photo search, and evaluation of government contaminated site lists. They do not involve aerial hydrogeologic analysis.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 4

Phase I environmental assessments should include, but are not limited to:

A) Historical review of the use(s) and improvement(s) made to the subject site

B) An investigation of subject and neighboring properties with respect to environmental enforcement actions and/or listing on federal or state contaminated property lists

C) Evaluation of whether present or past owners or tenants have managed hazardous materials or wastes on-site

✓D) All of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Phase I environmental site assessments should include each of the above listed activities — historical review of the site, investigation of enforcement actions, and evaluation of past hazardous material management — as well as others.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 5

In the RCRA program, UTS refers to:

A) Underlying treatment standards

✓B) Universal treatment standards

C) Universal technology standards

D) Universal technical standards

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

Universal treatment standards (UTS) are a key regulatory element of the Land Disposal Restrictions program (40 CFR 268). They establish a single maximum allowable concentration for each regulated constituent in wastes that are hazardous at the point of generation, regardless of waste code.

Topic Area: Managing Waste**Question 6**

Hazardous waste determinations are to be performed at what point in time?

A) Prior to seeking off-site disposal approvals

B) After any on-site treatment activities

✓C) At the point of generation

D) None of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Managing Waste

The EPA's position is clear: hazardous waste determinations must be performed at the point of generation. Treatment on-site may necessitate a re-determination, but does not eliminate the need for the initial point-of-generation determination.

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues**Question 7**

The EPA considers all of the following pollutants “criteria pollutants” EXCEPT:

A) Carbon monoxide

B) Oxides of nitrogen

C) Oxides of sulfur

✓D) Hydrogen sulfide

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Impact of Environmental Issues

Hydrogen sulfide is not a criteria pollutant. The six criteria air pollutants under the Clean Air Act are: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs**Question 8**

Acronyms are used extensively in the various regulatory programs as a form of shorthand. Which of the following acronyms is NOT associated with the CWA program?

A) POTW (Publicly Owned Treatment Works)

B) SPCC (Spill Prevention Control and Counter Measures)

✓C) NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards)

D) BAT (Best Available Treatment)

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) is associated with the Clean Air Act program. POTW, SPCC, and BAT are all terms associated with the Clean Water Act program.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 9

The “Superfund” law primarily addresses:

A) Worker safety

✓B) Toxic waste sites

C) PCB's

D) Carcinogens

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

The Superfund law (CERCLA) was written to force clean-up of sites contaminated with toxic materials. Sites are prioritized and the highest priority ones are listed on the NPL (National Priorities List). Money is set aside to clean these sites up if responsible parties cannot be found or refuse to do so.

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 10

Which of the following agencies has an interest in safety and health matters and regulates selected chemical substances and mixtures?

A) NIOSH

✓B) EPA

C) DOT

D) NACOSH

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Hazardous Materials

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established by the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) in 1976 to regulate selected chemical substances and mixtures being manufactured, processed, distributed, imported, and disposed of, if they are considered an unreasonable risk to health and the environment.

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials**Question 11**

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is enforced by the:

A) OSHA

✓B) EPA

C) NIOSH

D) DOT

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Hazardous Materials

The EPA enforces TSCA, which gives the EPA the ability to require reporting, record-keeping, testing requirements, and restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures.

Topic Area: Managing Waste**Question 12**

The key element of RCRA designed to track hazardous waste from “cradle to grave” is the:

A) CERCLA database

B) OSHA recordkeeping system

✓C) Manifest system

D) NPL listing

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Managing Waste

The manifest system was developed by RCRA to track hazardous waste from the point of origination to its final resting place.

Topic Area: Managing Waste**Question 13**

A manifest serves the following purposes:

A) Acts as shipping paper under DOT regulations only

B) Acts as a tracking document under RCRA regulations only

C) Absolves the generator of CERCLA liabilities

✓D) Serves both shipping paper requirements under DOT regulations and acts as a tracking document under RCRA regulations

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Waste

The manifest serves dual purposes: it fulfills shipping paper requirements under DOT regulations and acts as a tracking document under RCRA regulations. However, it is not a fail-safe document and does not absolve the generator of CERCLA liabilities.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 14

The mandatory shipping document for hazardous waste purposes is:

A) EPA Form 9000-14

B) DOT Form 1234

✓C) The uniform hazardous waste manifest (EPA Form 8700-22)

D) A Bill of Lading

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Managing Waste

The uniform hazardous waste manifest (EPA Form 8700-22) is the mandatory format for hazardous waste shipping documents, with a minimum of 4 pages.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 15

Secondary containment is considered:

✓A) A best management practice

B) Necessary to effective wastewater treatment

C) Provided by compacted soil barriers

D) Unnecessary if hazardous waste tanks and containers are frequently inspected and when releases are directed away from storm sewers

CORRECT ANSWER: A | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Regardless of regulatory requirements, secondary containment is recommended as a best management practice. It manages risks and costs associated with chemical releases. Requirements are found in both RCRA and CWA regulations.

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues**Question 16**

How is asbestos disposed of?

✓A) Landfill

B) Incinerated

C) Chemically dissolved

D) Deep well injection

CORRECT ANSWER: A | Topic: Impact of Environmental Issues

Asbestos waste is commonly landfilled. It must be properly wetted, sealed in leak-tight containers or wrapped in plastic, and taken to a landfill approved to accept asbestos waste.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs**Question 17**

Maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) are regulatory thresholds for:

A) Effluent quality under the Clean Water Act

B) Air emissions under the Clean Air Act

C) Heavy metal contamination under RCRA

✓D) Allowable drinking water pollutant concentrations under the Safe Drinking Water Act

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

MCL's represent maximum permissible levels of specified contaminants in water delivered to any user of a public water supply system, established under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs**Question 18**

Primary MCL's refer to:

A) Concentrations of regulated drinking water contaminants that are protective of human health with a margin of safety

B) Groundwater quality standards

✓C) Maximum levels of contaminants allowable in public water systems

D) Workplace exposure limits for airborne contaminants

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Primary MCL's are the maximum permissible levels of specific contaminants in water delivered to users of a public water supply system. Answer 1 describes MCLGs (maximum contaminant level goals). MCL's are sometimes used as groundwater cleanup goals in RCRA and CERCLA programs.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 19

MCLG's refer to:

A) Enforceable drinking water quality standards

✓B) Non-enforceable concentrations of drinking water contaminants that are protective of health with a margin of safety

C) Non-enforceable standards addressing the aesthetic qualities of drinking water, such as appearance, odor, and taste

D) Regulatory standards for small public water supply systems

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Maximum contaminant level goals (MCLG's) under the Safe Drinking Water Act are non-enforceable health-based standards used in developing legally enforceable MCL's. Aesthetic qualities of drinking water are addressed by non-enforceable secondary MCL's.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 20

Industrial dischargers to a POTW should be concerned when a POTW violates its NPDES permit because:

A) Potential bans on new sewer connections

B) Potential additional or more stringent pretreatment requirements

C) Potential liability for contamination of sewage treatment plant sludge

✓D) All of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

All the listed concerns apply: potential bans on new sewer connections, additional pretreatment requirements, and liability for sludge contamination. Additionally, increased scrutiny, enforcement, and citizen suits are likely to follow.

Quiz 2 Questions

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 1

Which activity requires the higher level of personal protection?

A) Spill containment

B) Spill stoppage

C) Decontamination

D) Spill clean-up

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 2

In responding to a spill of hazardous materials, which of the following is NOT a good source of information for prompt hazard recognition?

A) MSDS

B) Hazardous waste manifest

C) Manufacturer label

D) Symbolic labels

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 3

In the last 15 years, air pollution emissions have:

A) Increased slightly

B) Doubled

C) Stayed the same

D) Decreased

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 4

The greatest single contributor to urban air pollution is:

A) Electric utilities burning oil

B) Electric utilities burning coal

C) Automobiles

D) Process manufacturing plants

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 5

An EMS, referred to in ISO 14004, is a system for:

A) Emergency Medical

B) Energy Management

C) Environmental Management

D) Emergency Management

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 6

Under the citizen suit provisions of RCRA, citizens are directly allowed to:

A) Sue for punitive damages

B) File suit in federal district court to enforce RCRA waste management regulations

C) Intervene in the siting of new treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities

D) Both 1 and 3

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 7

The “cradle-to-grave” aspects of the RCRA program refer to:

- A) Regulation of hazardous wastes from the point of generation through their ultimate disposal
- B) An extensive network of government-owned and operated treatment facilities
- C) Requirements to pay federal environmental taxes on the purchase of hazardous chemicals and the land disposal of hazardous wastes
- D) Extensive requirements for health and safety, including medical monitoring, of those employees handling hazardous chemicals and/or hazardous wastes

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 8

Failure to adequately clean-up chemical releases can result in:

- A) The spill area being considered an unpermitted land disposal unit
- B) Extensive soil and ground water contamination
- C) Enforcement actions
- D) All of the above

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 9

Viable reasons for incineration of air pollutants include all of the following EXCEPT:

- A) Odor control
- B) Reduce VOC emissions
- C) Reduce explosion hazard
- D) Reduce ozone emissions

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 10

What is the most important potential consequence of mixing different waste materials together?

- A) Unexpected/unwanted chemical reactions
- B) Increased cost and difficulty of waste characterization and treatment/disposal arrangements
- C) Decreased feasibility of reuse or recycling
- D) Injuries

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 11

Equipment that monitors leachate is used with:

- A) Air scrubbers
- B) Hazardous waste disposal
- C) Incinerators
- D) Gas fired boilers

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 12

You would use a cartridge respirator during chemical spill cleanup operations when the following conditions apply EXCEPT:

- A) The oxygen content is above 19.5%
- B) The concentration of airborne material is less than the protection factor for the respirator
- C) Hazards and concentrations of materials are known
- D) The odor threshold of the material is greater than the TLV

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 13

Acronyms are used extensively in the various regulatory programs as a form of shorthand. Which of the following acronyms is NOT defined by the RCRA program?

A) TCLP

B) RQ

C) SQG

D) LQG

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 14

The Bhopal tragedy was directly responsible for this major Federal law:

A) TSCA

B) SARA Title III

C) EPA

D) CERCLA

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 15

An excellent way to reduce hazardous material inventory in manufacturing is:

A) JIT

B) CAD

C) CAM

D) QA

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 16

A thorough evaluation of environmental threats present at a particular property includes all EXCEPT:

- A) Evaluation of adjoining properties for high risk activities
- B) Identification of activities of past landowners, tenants, and relevant third parties
- C) Identification of adjoining and nearby sites that appear on any state or federal lists of hazardous waste sites (NPL, CERCLIS, HWDMS)
- D) Severity rate

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 17

Which party has the ultimate liability/responsibility for the disposition and environmental impact of hazardous waste (mis-) management?

- A) Transporters
- B) Generators
- C) Brokers
- D) TSD facilities

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 18

Good operating practices as a waste minimization measure are intended to:

- A) Maximize the useful lifetime of process solutions
- B) Minimize inadvertent releases or wastage
- C) Incorporate preventative maintenance and spill containment measures

D) All of the above

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 19

Waste minimization measures are driven by:

A) Statutory and regulatory requirements

B) Economic considerations

C) Legal liabilities

D) All of the above

Your Answer: _____

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 20

PRP is an acronym for:

A) Perpetually Responsible Party

B) Potentially Responsible Party

C) Principal's Responsibility Provision

D) Person Receiving Prison (Sentence)

Your Answer: _____

Quiz 2 Answers & Explanations

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 1

Which activity requires the higher level of personal protection?

A) Spill containment

✓B) Spill stoppage

C) Decontamination

D) Spill clean-up

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

The potential exposure during spill stoppage is greater since the situation is not controlled and the responder must go to the source of the spill, which may have the greatest exposure potential.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 2

In responding to a spill of hazardous materials, which of the following is NOT a good source of information for prompt hazard recognition?

A) MSDS

✓B) Hazardous waste manifest

C) Manufacturer label

D) Symbolic labels

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

The hazardous waste manifest does not contain hazard information. MSDS sheets, manufacturer labels, and symbolic/warning labels are all useful sources for hazard recognition.

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 3

In the last 15 years, air pollution emissions have:

A) Increased slightly

B) Doubled

C) Stayed the same

✓D) Decreased

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Impact of Environmental Issues

Many air pollutants have been substantially reduced. A 1990 automobile emitted approximately 4% of what a similar 1970 model did. Sulfur dioxide emissions from coal-burning utilities are now 20% lower compared to 1977, attributed to regulations requiring afterburners and scrubbers.

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 4

The greatest single contributor to urban air pollution is:

A) Electric utilities burning oil

B) Electric utilities burning coal

✓C) Automobiles

D) Process manufacturing plants

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Impact of Environmental Issues

Cars and trucks are major sources of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds that interact with sunlight to produce ground-level ozone (smog). Automobiles are responsible for approximately 40% of urban smog nationally.

Topic Area: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

Question 5

An EMS, referred to in ISO 14004, is a system for:

A) Emergency Medical

B) Energy Management

✓C) Environmental Management

D) Emergency Management

CORRECT ANSWER: C | Topic: Environmental Protection & Pollution Prevention Programs

ISO 14004 discusses guidelines for an Environmental Management System (EMS), which provides a framework for organizations to manage their environmental responsibilities.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 6

Under the citizen suit provisions of RCRA, citizens are directly allowed to:

- A) Sue for punitive damages
- ✓B) File suit in federal district court to enforce RCRA waste management regulations
- C) Intervene in the siting of new treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities
- D) Both 1 and 3

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

The citizen suit provisions of RCRA (Section 7002) are limited to enforcement of the regulations. Punitive damages are not specifically allowed. Intervention in siting would be allowed only indirectly through mandatory public participation in the RCRA permitting process.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 7

The “cradle-to-grave” aspects of the RCRA program refer to:

- ✓A) Regulation of hazardous wastes from the point of generation through their ultimate disposal
- B) An extensive network of government-owned and operated treatment facilities
- C) Requirements to pay federal environmental taxes on the purchase of hazardous chemicals and the land disposal of hazardous wastes
- D) Extensive requirements for health and safety, including medical monitoring, of those employees handling hazardous chemicals and/or hazardous wastes

CORRECT ANSWER: A | Topic: Managing Waste

The RCRA regulations establishing “cradle-to-grave” control of hazardous wastes are found at 40 CFR 260-271, covering generation, transportation, treatment, storage, and disposal.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 8

Failure to adequately clean-up chemical releases can result in:

- A) The spill area being considered an unpermitted land disposal unit
- B) Extensive soil and ground water contamination

C) Enforcement actions

✓D) All of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Waste

All listed consequences can result from failure to adequately remediate chemical releases: the spill area may be considered an unpermitted land disposal unit, extensive soil and groundwater contamination may occur, enforcement actions may follow, and property values may decrease.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 9

Viable reasons for incineration of air pollutants include all of the following EXCEPT:

A) Odor control

B) Reduce VOC emissions

C) Reduce explosion hazard

✓D) Reduce ozone emissions

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Waste

Incineration reduces odors, effectively removes most VOCs, and reduces explosion hazards by preventing buildup of flammables. However, reducing ozone emissions is not a primary reason for incineration of air pollutants.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 10

What is the most important potential consequence of mixing different waste materials together?

A) Unexpected/unwanted chemical reactions

B) Increased cost and difficulty of waste characterization and treatment/disposal arrangements

C) Decreased feasibility of reuse or recycling

✓D) Injuries

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Waste

The consequences of mixing incompatible chemicals are most severe from a health and safety perspective. From a disposal perspective, mixing can also create severe cost impacts due to Land Disposal Restrictions, sometimes requiring sequential treatment using different technologies at different facilities.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 11

Equipment that monitors leachate is used with:

A) Air scrubbers

✓B) Hazardous waste disposal

C) Incinerators

D) Gas fired boilers

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

Leachate is groundwater or surface water that has infiltrated hazardous solid waste, containing suspended solids, microbial waste products, heavy metals, and chemicals from a hazardous waste landfill. Analysis equipment determines types of contaminants found in the leachate.

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 12

You would use a cartridge respirator during chemical spill cleanup operations when the following conditions apply EXCEPT:

A) The oxygen content is above 19.5%

B) The concentration of airborne material is less than the protection factor for the respirator

C) Hazards and concentrations of materials are known

✓D) The odor threshold of the material is greater than the TLV

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Managing Hazardous Materials

A cartridge respirator cannot be used when the material has poor warning properties. If the odor threshold is greater than the TLV, the warning properties are poor — the worker cannot smell the substance at dangerous concentrations and therefore has no warning of breakthrough.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 13

Acronyms are used extensively in the various regulatory programs as a form of shorthand. Which of the following acronyms is NOT defined by the RCRA program?

A) TCLP

✓B) RQ

C) SQG

D) LQG

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

RQ (Reportable Quantity) is defined under the CERCLA program. TCLP (toxicity characteristic leaching procedure), SQG (small quantity generator), and LQG (large quantity generator) are all RCRA-defined terms.

Topic Area: Managing Hazardous Materials

Question 14

The Bhopal tragedy was directly responsible for this major Federal law:

A) TSCA

✓B) SARA Title III

C) EPA

D) CERCLA

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Hazardous Materials

The Bhopal and Institute, West Virginia incidents caused the federal government to enact SARA Title III, which requires industry to notify local municipalities of their toxic chemicals, mandates emergency planning, and requires reporting of releases of specific chemicals to the EPA.

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 15

An excellent way to reduce hazardous material inventory in manufacturing is:

✓A) JIT

B) CAD

C) CAM

D) QA

CORRECT ANSWER: A | Topic: Sustainability Principles and Practices

JIT (Just-In-Time) inventory control only delivers hazardous materials when actually needed by the process, allowing for reduced hazardous materials storage requirements and minimizing associated risks.

Topic Area: Impact of Environmental Issues

Question 16

A thorough evaluation of environmental threats present at a particular property includes all EXCEPT:

- A) Evaluation of adjoining properties for high risk activities
- B) Identification of activities of past landowners, tenants, and relevant third parties
- C) Identification of adjoining and nearby sites that appear on any state or federal lists of hazardous waste sites (NPL, CERCLIS, HWDMS)

✓D) Severity rate

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Impact of Environmental Issues

A thorough evaluation should include: evaluation of adjoining properties for high-risk activities, identification of activities of past landowners/tenants, and identification of nearby sites on hazardous waste lists. Severity rate is related to workplace injuries, not environmental site assessment.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 17

Which party has the ultimate liability/responsibility for the disposition and environmental impact of hazardous waste (mis-) management?

A) Transporters

✓B) Generators

C) Brokers

D) TSD facilities

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

Generators bear the ultimate and perpetual responsibility/liability for the disposition and environmental impact of their hazardous wastes under RCRA and CERCLA programs. Commercial TSD facilities and transporters may also face liability, but generators hold the primary long-term responsibility.

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 18

Good operating practices as a waste minimization measure are intended to:

- A) Maximize the useful lifetime of process solutions
- B) Minimize inadvertent releases or wastage
- C) Incorporate preventative maintenance and spill containment measures

✓D) All of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Good operating practices as waste minimization measures can achieve all of the above objectives: maximizing useful lifetime of process solutions, minimizing inadvertent releases, and incorporating preventative maintenance and spill containment measures.

Topic Area: Sustainability Principles and Practices

Question 19

Waste minimization measures are driven by:

A) Statutory and regulatory requirements

B) Economic considerations

C) Legal liabilities

✓D) All of the above

CORRECT ANSWER: D | Topic: Sustainability Principles and Practices

All considerations drive waste minimization/pollution prevention efforts: statutory/regulatory requirements (e.g., Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, RCRA waste minimization certifications), economic considerations, and legal liabilities.

Topic Area: Managing Waste

Question 20

PRP is an acronym for:

A) Perpetually Responsible Party

✓B) Potentially Responsible Party

C) Principal's Responsibility Provision

D) Person Receiving Prison (Sentence)

CORRECT ANSWER: B | Topic: Managing Waste

PRP (Potentially Responsible Party) is a common term in the discussion of responsibility for environmental contamination. Under CERCLA, the EPA uses this term to identify parties who may bear responsibility for cleanup costs at contaminated sites.

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