

Technical Guidelines on Used Cooking Oils Trading Activity



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**Waste Strategy and Projects Department
Dubai Municipality**

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

DET	Department of Economy & Tourism
DM	Dubai Municipality
FFA	Free Fatty Acid
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
NOC	No Objection Certificate
UCO	Used Cooking Oil
WSPD	Waste Strategy and Project Department
WTS	Waste Treatment Section
RASID	Dubai Municipality has introduced the RASID waste management monitoring system to regulate operations of registered waste management companies by streamlining and monitoring waste management transportation and associated activities – from collection through transit and till disposal, from analysis review to end-user solutions and by controlling illegal and unauthorized dumping practices.
Non-hazardous waste	is a waste or mixture of wastes that does not pose a substantial threat to public health or the environment and is safer to handle, store, and dispose of compared to hazardous waste. However, it can be harmful to the environment if left untreated. This category includes everyday household items like food waste, paper, cardboard, plastics, glass, metals, and textiles, as well as non-toxic industrial waste, uncontaminated construction and demolition debris, organic waste like yard trimmings and agricultural residues, and certain electronic waste.
Waste Trading	Waste trading activities include purchasing, wholesaling, and retailing of waste to commercial and industrial firms, craftsmen, various bodies and enterprises, and the public for personal and domestic consumption. The sale is carried out before the execution of any converting manufacture on such wastes. This also includes brokering activities to facilitate transactions between the waste generators and suitable waste treatment facilities by a service markup or a commission from the waste treatment facility.
Waste Collection	Collection within the meaning of this guideline is the loading, transport & any interim storage of waste for the purpose of transportation to a waste disposal and/or treatment plant.

1 INTRODUCTION

In general, this guideline underscores adherence to the specified legal and regulatory framework, ensuring that used cooking oils trading activity is conducted in compliance with established laws, circulars, and guidelines. This serves to standardize practices across the industry, promoting sustainable waste management practices, safeguarding public health, and preserving the environment within the Emirate of Dubai. The objectives of this guideline are:

- To guide and ensure that all companies engaged in used cooking oils trading activity are operating in the Emirate of Dubai in accordance with this guideline.
- To reduce the volume of waste for disposal to landfill sites.

2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK, CIRCULARS, AND GUIDELINES

The relevant provisions of the following laws and regulations were used as guidance and references in the preparation of this technical guideline.

- Federal Law (No.) 24 of 1999 and modified by Federal Law (No.) 11 for 2006 regarding Protection & Development of the Environment.
- Local Order No. 11 of 2003 on Public Health and Safety of the Society in the Emirate of Dubai
- Local Order (No.) 61 of 1991 on the Environment Protection Regulations in the Emirate of Dubai
- Local Order (No.) 7 of 2002 on Management of Waste Disposal Sites in the Emirate of Dubai; as amended by Local Order No. (5) of 2003
- Executive Council Resolution (No.) 58 of 2017 Concerning the Approval of Fees and Fines of Waste Disposal in the Emirate of Dubai.
- Executive Council Resolution No. (14) of 2015 Amending the Schedule of Public Hygiene-related Violations and Penalties Attached to the Implementing Bylaw of Local Order No. (11) of 2003 Concerning Public Health and Community Safety in the Emirate of Dubai.
- Procedures and guidelines for implementing and implementing Administrative Order No. 30/2003, in accordance with Local Order No. 11/2003
- UAE Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS) National Standard
- Technical Guideline No. 4. on Duty of Care
- Technical Guideline No. 5. on Waste Classification
- Technical Guideline on Transport of Garbage Trucks
- Technical Guideline on Organic Waste Collecting Services

The related circulars and posted information bulletin of this guideline are posted on Dubai Municipality's website – www.dm.gov.ae link to the Waste Department.

The Duty of Care Program is a management tool to control the waste generated in Dubai. The regulation requires that all transfers of waste are appropriately recorded in order to assist in tracking the quantity generated and movements of waste. Waste collection & transport companies, as primary actors in the duty of care, need to ensure that the waste is safely & properly collected and that the complete waste transport is recorded in the waste manifest along with any other records required by DM. This will ensure that the waste is properly managed at the source, transported by licensed waste management companies, and delivered to an approved facility and/or disposed of at proper sites.

3 SCOPE AND COVERAGE

These guidelines and procedures are applicable to the used cooking oils trading within Dubai. The scope is restricted to companies planning to obtain or already holding a business license for activity 4669113 Used Cooking Oils Trading from the Department of Economy & Tourism (DET) or licenses from the Free Zone Authorities in Dubai as applicable to conduct used cooking oils trading activity in Dubai. It also permits companies to engage with third-party entities through formal contracts for waste transportation, provided these third parties fully comply with the standards set by the Waste Strategies and Projects Department (WSPD) as mentioned in the Technical Guideline on Transport of Garbage Trucks.

4 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Industrial and manufacturing establishments operating in the Emirate of Dubai produce significant amounts of waste from their various activities. Some of these wastes can be traded to commercial and industrial firms and can be reused, recycled, and/or reprocessed into a new product or for any beneficial purposes. Waste dealers/traders are all companies who acquire waste under their own responsibility and resell it without changing its nature or composition, i.e. pass it on to other companies for the purpose of carrying out or arranging for the carrying out of a treatment/disposal procedure. Whether the waste has a positive market value is also irrelevant to the definition of traders since they can also be companies who accept and pass on waste with a negative market value as well. Traders can sometimes be considered "waste brokers" who arrange waste management measures for third parties. Their responsibility would, therefore, be to bring together the demander (waste generator) and the supplier (waste transporter and/or waste treatment facility) of waste management measures into a contract concluded only between these companies, but they are not contractually responsible to either of these two companies for the implementation of the treatment/recycling measure or process. Their status can, therefore, also exist if the person receives a fee from the previous owner when taking over the waste and pays the recipient a fee for the treatment/disposal or arranging the disposal when passing it on. Such dealers/traders are, in particular, companies who contractually promise waste generators to arrange for the disposal of their waste and who, in order to fulfil this contract, conclude contracts with a disposal/treatment company and possibly also with a transporter in order to have the waste collected, transported and fed into a disposal/treatment process. Waste traders can also play a crucial role within the context of a take-back of waste by the original producer or distributor.

Registration Requirements:

- a) All waste trading companies applying for permits shall secure approval from DET prior to operation by accessing the [Invest Dubai Portal](#).
- b) All companies engaged in waste trading activities or planning to start in such activities shall apply for a prior permit from the WSPD.
- c) All trading companies must have a Dubai Office, a working contact number (mobile and landline), and an email address.

- d) All vehicles used in transporting waste materials shall be required to secure a Permit from the WSPD. Vehicles that will be utilized in all Waste Trading Activities must comply with all the general provisions mentioned in the Technical Guideline on Organic Waste Collecting Services.
- e) A third-party transporting company can be contracted, provided that a formal contract is made. Any activity or accident caused by the third-party transporter shall be the responsibility of the "hiring" company unless otherwise contractually specified between the two parties.
- f) Companies may engage in importing, collecting, and transporting waste/recyclable materials from other Emirates in the UAE or other countries, provided that the local authority where the waste originated approves the same.
- g) Companies engaged in the business of waste trading shall be required to submit on a monthly basis all details of the business activity, including source of material, type of material, weight of material and end-use facility (including export of materials). In summary, it is mandatory to maintain the following records:
- Type of material traded
 - Total quantity of the material traded per day
 - Details of the Source of the Waste Material
 - Destination of the waste material

A template of the minimum information necessary can be found in Annex 1

- h) The third-party transporter companies shall submit the same to the WSPD - Permits and Awareness Section on a monthly basis and upon request in the prescribed formats, including electronic formats, if any.
- i) Companies are not allowed to collect waste from communal bins provided by DM or from bins of private companies.
- j) Installation of cages or bins for waste collection purposes shall not be allowed except in circumstances wherein the company obtains an NOC from relevant Authorities, including the WSPD and from the owner of the plot or land from which the waste is being collected.

The following table summarizes the administrative requirements necessary for the trading activity:

Table 1 Administrative requirements for trading activities.

Activities	Requirements
Brokering within Dubai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valid Waste Trading License from WSPD for the specific waste type - Valid Contract with Waste Generator and with the Waste Treatment/Recycling Facility - Brokers active within a take-back Scheme need to provide valid contract with the manufacturing or distribution company.
Transport within Dubai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valid Waste Trading License from WSPD for the specific waste type - Valid RASID Certificate for the Vehicles used according to the procedures mentioned in the <u>Technical Guideline on Organic Waste Collecting Services.</u>
Inter-Emirate Import or Export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valid Waste Trading License from DET for the specific waste type - Export of hazardous waste to other Emirates for reasons other than disposal must have prior written approval from the Waste Treatment Section (WTS). - Import of non-hazardous waste (e.g. Metal waste & Recyclables) must have the necessary approvals of the local authority where the waste originated.

Technical Requirements:

Companies conducting used cooking oils trading activities must adhere to the following compliance requirements:

- It must be ensured that the Used Cooking Oil (UCO) generators such as catering establishments and industries are providing the waste oils regularly along with any information it has been treated, and not just occasionally with little control over storage times and conditions. All this information is required to ensure traceability and also serves as a guide for the purification process to be used.
- Storage at the waste generators must be leak-proof, airtight containers made of materials that are resistant to oil and chemical reactions, such as HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) with clear labelling. It must also be ensured that the UCO containers are stored in a secure, shaded, and cool area to prevent degradation of the oil and reduce the risk of spills or leaks.
- Collection must be done in spill-proof cans or drums that are no older than five years. Appropriate sizing of containers includes smaller containers (e.g., 20-litre drums) typically used for small-scale collection, while larger tanks (e.g., 1000-litre IBCs) are used for bulk storage and transportation.
- If a tanker truck or a trailer is used it must be equipped with a pump to transport the oil and the oil must be filtered to remove any solid particles or impurities to prevent clogging of the pump and ensure a smooth transportation process.

- Storage containers for used cooking oils must be corrosion-resistant and easy to clean.
- Ensure containers are kept in well-ventilated areas to prevent odors from accumulating.
- Containers should be securely fastened during transport.
- During transportation, UCO must be maintained at temperatures between 15°C and 25°C to prevent solidification or degradation and avoid exposure to extreme temperatures.
- Regular sampling and analysis should be conducted to evaluate the quality of the traded used cooking oil. At least one representative sample per batch should be taken, with analyses for Free Fatty Acid (FFA) content and water content being mandatory and according to the receiving facility's requirements.
- Provide comprehensive staff training involved in UCO handling, storage, and transport. Training should cover safety procedures, proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and emergency response (e.g. Spill Containment).
- Digital documentation of the quantities and qualities of UCO waste received and traded must be maintained and presented during inspections. For UCO, this includes particular details observed at the time of collection, irregularities observed in the appearance of the oil, and the date & estimated quantity collected.
- Selection of vehicles suitable to transport waste under these technical guidelines are listed in Annex 2.
- Selection of suitable containers to handle waste under these technical guidelines are listed in Annex 3.

5 REFERENCES


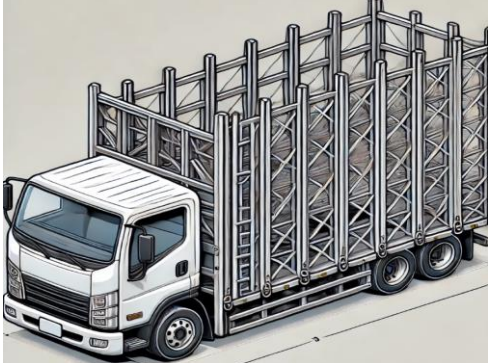
- 1 European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC
- 2 DIRECTIVE 2010/75/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions.
- 3 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC). United Nations Series M No. 4, Rev. 4.
- 4 RECYCLED COOKING OILS: ASSESSMENT OF RISKS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH. European Parliament
[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2000/289889/DG-4-JOIN_ET\(2000\)289889_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2000/289889/DG-4-JOIN_ET(2000)289889_EN.pdf)

ANNEX 1: VALIDITY OF PERMITS

Permits	Validity of Permits
Permit for Waste Collection or Transport or Trading Activity (WCTT)	Valid for the same duration as the license issued by Concerned authorities in Dubai.
Permit for Vehicles to Transport Hazardous Waste (HWTP)	Valid for the same duration as per vehicle registration validity in RASID which is one year.


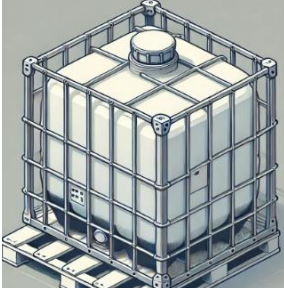
ANNEX 2: SELECTION OF SUITABLE VEHICLES

Table 2: Selection of Suitable Vehicles

Vehicle type	Brief Description	Image
Road Tankers/small and large	Hydrocarbon transport tankers provided with safety requirements as per RTA regulations	
Pickup trucks with steel drums/Plastic car buoys(for used cooking oil only)	Steel drums loaded into pickup trucks provided with side barricades according to safety requirements as per RTA regulations	

ANNEX 3: SELECTION OF SUITABLE CONTAINERS

Table 3: Selection of Suitable Containers

Container Type	Brief Description	Image
Drums and Barrels	Cylindrical containers made of metal or HDPE, used for liquid waste storage and transport.	
Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs)	Large containers up to 1,000 liters, often used for transporting liquid waste.	
Plastic Jerry Cans	Portable containers made of HDPE, used for small amounts of liquid waste.	