

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure			
Originating Office: MCAS Miramar Environmental Management Department	Revision: Original	Prepared By: Environmental Management Department	Approved By: William Moog
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Title: MRE (Meal, Ready-to-Eat) Heater Disposal

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to provide environmental guidelines for the handling and disposal of MRE (Meal, Ready-to-Eat) heaters.

2.0 APPLICATION

This guidance applies to those individuals who handle or dispose of MRE heaters onboard Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar.

3.0 REFERENCES

- MCO P5090.2A (USMC Environmental Compliance and Protection Manual)
- NSN (National Stock Number): 8970-01-321-9153

4.0 PROCEDURE

4.1 Discussion:

MRE heaters that have not been properly activated must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Disposing of an un-activated MRE heater in a solid waste container is against the law. Un-activated MRE heaters pose a potential fire hazard if they become wet when turned in at a landfill site. MRE heaters must be disposed of in approved solid waste containers aboard the installation after they have been properly activated.

4.2 Operational Controls:

The following procedures apply:

1. Ensure MSDSs are readily available and current.
2. Individual user will only use and activate the MRE heater for its intended purpose and will discard the heater properly after activation.

3. Ensure that un-activated MRE heaters are stored and disposed of as unused hazardous waste (HW).
4. Label HM containers with its common name (i.e. Windex, Bleach, etc.).
5. Do not store MRE heaters with or near any liquids. MRE heaters are a water-reactive hazardous material.
6. Do not place MRE heaters near an open flame. Vapors released from activated heaters contain hydrogen, a flammable gas.
7. Only activate MRE heaters in a well ventilated area. Vapors released from activated MRE heaters can disperse oxygen.
8. Ensure a compatible fire extinguisher is readily available.
9. Ensure turnover folder information is kept for this Standard Operating Procedure.

4.3 Documentation and Record Keeping:

The following records must be maintained:

1. MSDSs for Hazardous Material being stored.
2. Inspection and training records.

4.4 Training:

All affected personnel must be trained in this Standard Operating Procedure and the following:

1. Hazard Communication training.
2. General Environmental Awareness training.

4.5 Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures:

All personnel are to be trained by Environmental Compliance Coordinator in the proper implementation of the unit's Hazardous Material Business Plan Emergency Response Procedures and the Oil and Hazardous Substances Spill Contingency Plan.

4.6 Inspection and Corrective Action:

The Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) shall designate personnel to perform inspections. The ECC shall ensure deficiencies noted during the inspections are corrected immediately. Actions taken to correct each deficiency shall be recorded on the inspection sheet.

MRE Heaters Disposal– Inspection Checklist	
Date:	Time:
Installation:	Work Center:
Inspector’s Name:	Signature:

Inspection Items	Yes	No	Comments
1. Are MSDSs for MRE Heaters readily available and current? (29 CFR 1910)			
2. Are MRE heaters being properly activated before being disposed of as solid waste? (MRE MSDS)			
3. If MRE heaters are not activated, are they being properly disposed of as hazardous waste?			
4. Are all hazardous waste requirements being properly followed as they pertain to MRE heaters?			
5. Are training and inspection records maintained and available for inspection? (MCO P5090.2A 9104.1(k)(5)- inspection only)			
6. Is a compatible fire extinguisher readily available? (MCO P5090.2A)			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

CORRECTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

Environmental Compliance Coordinator

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____