

INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Entry Date/Time	03/09/2023 01:10 PM (AKT)	Announced: No	
Inspection Exit Date/Time	03/09/2023 03:31 PM (AKT)	Access: Granted	
Regulatory Program	RCRA		
Type of Inspection	Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI)		
Company Name	Costco Wholesale Corporation		
Facility or Site Name	Costco Wholesale #1342		
Facility/Site Identifier	AKR000207423		
Facility/Site Physical Address	48 College Road		
City, State, Zip Code	Fairbanks, AK 99701		
County/Borough	Fairbanks North Star Borough		
Generator Status	Small Quantity Generator (SQG)		
NAICS	452311 447190		
Type of Operation	Warehouse Club and Supercenter		
Geographic Coordinates	64.853184, -147.706751		
Mailing Address/Secondary Address	Ms. Brittne Welsh, Administrative Supervisor w01342fe13@costco.com 48 College Road Fairbanks, AK 99701 Cc: Mr. Jason Soule, Warehouse Manager w01342mgr@costco.com		
City, State, Zip Code	Fairbanks, AK 99701		
Permit Number (If Applicable)	Not Applicable		
Lead Inspector:			
Jon Jones	JONATHAN JONES	Digitally signed by JONATHAN JONES Date: 2023.07.07 13:48:23 -08'00'	
	EPA REGION 10	Jones.Jon@epa.gov	(907) 227-4316
Supervisor Review:			
Matt Quarterman	MATTHEW QUARTERMAN	Digitally signed by MATTHEW QUARTERMAN Date: 2023.07.07 15:20:26 -07'00'	
	EPA REGION 10	Quarterman.Matthew@epa.gov	(206) 553-2146

SECTION I – INTRODUCTION

Site Entry and Purpose of the Inspection

Type of inspection: Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI)

EPA REGION 10 Lead Inspector, Jon Jones, arrived at the Costco Wholesale #1342 Facility (the “Site” or “Facility”), located at 48 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, at 01:10 PM (AKT) on 03/09/2023 for an unannounced inspection.

This was a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) inspection. The facility was inspected to ensure compliance with standards for hazardous waste generators and universal waste management (40 C.F.R. Part 262 through 273). The inspection was conducted as part of a Core Program requirement for FY 2023.

EPA REGION 10 Lead Inspector presented credentials to and informed Ms. Brittnie Welsh that this was an EPA REGION 10 inspection to determine compliance with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). This report is based on information supplied by Costco Wholesale #1342 Facility representatives, observations made by the EPA REGION 10 inspector, and records and reports maintained by the facility and its HQ including, but not limited to: direct observations made by the EPA REGION 10 Inspector(s), photographs taken by EPA REGION 10 inspector(s), physical evidence collected by the EPA REGION 10 inspector(s), measurements or samples taken by EPA REGION 10 inspector(s), verbal or written statements made by information supplied by the facility representatives during or subsequent to the on-site Inspection, and materials, processes, data, photographs, or documents shown, demonstrated, or submitted to the EPA REGION 10 inspector(s) by the facility representatives during or subsequent to the on-site Inspection. In addition, information gathered prior to or subsequent to the Inspection from a review of USEPA, State, and public records may be included in this report.

Attendees

Title/Organization	Name	Phone	Email	Opening Conf.	Closing Conf.
Lead Inspector/EPA REGION 10	Jon Jones	(907) 271-6329	Jones.Jon@epa.gov	Yes	Yes
Administrative Supervisor/Costco	Brittnie Welsh	(907) 205-3615	w01342fe13@costco.com	Yes	Yes
Staff Manager/Costco	Payton Faulkner		w01342frn@costco.com	Yes	No
Hazardous Waste Program Specialist/ADEC	Ashley Streveler	(907) 269-4556	ashley.streveler@alaska.gov	Yes	Yes

Opening Conference

Shortly after arriving at Costco Wholesale #1342, we were met by Ms. Welsh, Administrative Supervisor and Mr. Faulkner, Staff Manager. I held the opening conference, presented my inspector credentials, and informed them that this was an EPA Region 10 inspection to determine compliance with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

During the opening conference, I explained that the focus of the RCRA inspection was to identify types of wastes generated, points of waste generation, methods of waste management, and review relevant documents.

Only those areas in which I observed potential compliance concerns or noted other pertinent issues are discussed in Section III of this inspection report.

Facility/Site Information

Number of employees	Approximately 260 employees
Length of Facility at Location	Since 2018
Operating Hours	10:00 am to 8:30 pm on weekdays and 9:30 am to 6:00 pm on weekends

Safety Training Provided to Inspector(s)?	No
Size of Facility	160,851 square feet
What type of generator facility notified?	Small Quantity Generator (SQG)
What type of generator facility verified as?	Small Quantity Generator (SQG) verified by facility personnel

Process Description

During the opening conference, Ms. Welsh told us the wastes generated at the facility were generated either due to product being damaged as it enters the store through receiving, damaged on the shelf at the store, or customer returns that cannot be resold.

We were accompanied during the inspection by Ms. Welsh. I looked at the facility's processes, hazardous waste management practices, generation points, and accumulation areas. I looked for wastes that facility representatives had not yet identified or designated as hazardous. I also observed the facility's universal waste.

Building(s)

Building/Area/Sub-area	Process Description	Area of Concern
Costco Wholesale Warehouse		No
Hearing Aid Department	Universal waste batteries	No
Pharmacy	Generation of Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals (HWPharms)	No
Return to Vendor (RTV)	Central Accumulation Area (CAA)	No
Tire Shop	Generation of waste aerosol cans and waste gas	No

SECTION II – OBSERVATIONS

I inspected the areas of the facility, listed in the table above, and observed no areas of concern.

SECTION III – RECORDS REVIEW

Record: Manifests		AOC: Yes
Ref #: JJ1-RR-001	Reviewed By: Jon Jones	Reviewed Date: 03/09/2023
While inspecting the facility's hazardous waste manifests, I saw that the facility had authorized the first transporter to sign the generators certification "on behalf of" the generator (Costco Wholesale #1342). During this review of the manifests, covering the period of 3/9/20 through 3/9/23, I saw nine hazardous waste manifests where the generators certification had not been signed by their authorized official. The following		

hazardous waste manifests were missing a generator certification signature:

Manifest # Date of shipment

004899336FLE 11/9/21
 004899337FLE 11/9/21
 004899258FLE 4/28/22
 004899297FLE 4/28/22
 004899298FLE 4/28/22
 004899299FLE 4/28/22
 004899296FLE 4/28/22
 004899234FLE 7/18/22
 004899235FLE 7/18/22

Document(s)

1. 004899234FLE-9-23-2022-10-31-54-AM.pdf
2. 004899235FLE-9-12-2022-11-40-32-AM.pdf
3. 004899258FLE-6-14-2022-12-50-14-AM (1).pdf
4. 004899296FLE-6-14-2022-12-15-46-AM.pdf
5. 004899297FLE-6-14-2022-1-00-10-AM.pdf
6. 004899298FLE-6-14-2022-12-16-33-AM.pdf
7. 004899299FLE-8-1-2022-12-03-59-AM.pdf
8. 004899336FLE-1-11-2022-12-33-23-PM.pdf
9. 004899337FLE-1-11-2022-12-59-48-PM.pdf

Photo(s)

1. [IMG_0668.jpg](#)
2. [IMG_0669.jpg](#)
3. [IMG_0670.jpg](#)
4. [IMG_0671.jpg](#)

Record: Inspections

AOC: Yes

Ref #: JJ1-RR-002

Reviewed By: Jon Jones

Reviewed Date: 03/09/2023

While inspecting the facility's weekly hazardous waste inspection logs, covering the period of 3/9/20 through 3/9/23, I saw that no inspection was conducted for the week of December 26, 2021, through January 1, 2022. There was no record of an inspection for that week in the inspection log.

SECTION IV – AREA OF CONCERN

The presentation of Area(s) of Concern does not constitute a formal compliance determination or violation.

Record: Manifests

JJ1-RR-001

I saw nine hazardous waste manifests where the generators certification had not been signed by their authorized official. The following hazardous waste manifests were missing a generator

Regulations:

Sections:

certification signature:		
<u>Manifest # Date of shipment</u>		
004899336FLE 11/9/21		
004899337FLE 11/9/21		
004899258FLE 4/28/22		
004899297FLE 4/28/22		
004899298FLE 4/28/22		
004899299FLE 4/28/22		
004899296FLE 4/28/22		
004899234FLE 7/18/22		
004899235FLE 7/18/22		
Record: Inspections		
JJ1-RR-002		
No inspection was conducted for the week of December 26, 2021, through January 1, 2022. There was no record of an inspection for that week in the inspection log.	Regulations:	Sections:

SECTION V – CLOSING CONFERENCE AND FOLLOW UP**Closing Conference**

At the conclusion of the inspection, I conducted a closing conference that was attended by those listed in the Attendees table, in Section I of this report. I thanked everyone for their time and cooperation during the inspection and began a review of the areas of concern (listed in Section III – Areas of Concern) that I observed during my inspection of the facility. I then explained the follow-up process that would take place once I finished the report. I explained they would receive a copy of the report as would a case officer. I told them the case officer would review the report to determine if any of my areas of concern documented violations.

Follow Up

N/A

Communication Log

N/A

SECTION VI – SAMPLING ACTIVITIES AND ANALYTICAL RESULTS - No sampling was conducted.**SECTION VII – LIST OF APPENDICES**

1. Photo Log
2. Document Log

APPENDIX 1: PHOTO LOG

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANIFEST

Page 1 of 1 (Form designed for use on 03/01/2019)

Form Approved OMB No. 2050-0055

1. Generator Name: **US ECOLOGY ALASKA LLC**
 2. Generator Address: **20400 LEMLEY ROAD, GRANDVIEW, ID 83824**
 3. Generator Phone: **(208) 224-1546**

4. Transporter Name: **WEAVER BROTHERS**
 5. Transporter Address: **48 COLLEGE RD, FAIRBANKS, AK 99701**
 6. Transporter Phone: **(907) 295-3667**

7. Waste Description: **RO, UN1824, Volatile Medication, Liquid, Flammable, Toxic, Corrosive, Reproductive, etc.**

8. Waste Quantity: **001**

9. Waste Hazard: **001**

10. Waste Code: **001**

11. Manifest Number: **001**

12. Manifest Date: **03/09/2023**

13. Manifest Time: **02:23 PM**

14. Manifest Location: **001**

15. Manifest Status: **001**

16. Manifest Type: **001**

17. Manifest Category: **001**

18. Manifest Subcategory: **001**

19. Manifest Detail: **001**

20. Manifest Action: **001**

21. Manifest Result: **001**

22. Manifest Error: **001**

23. Manifest Warning: **001**

24. Manifest Message: **001**

25. Manifest Note: **001**

26. Manifest Comment: **001**

27. Manifest Footer: **001**

28. Manifest Page: **001**

29. Manifest Total: **001**

30. Manifest Count: **001**

31. Manifest Sum: **001**

32. Manifest Product: **001**

33. Manifest Brand: **001**

34. Manifest Model: **001**

35. Manifest Year: **001**

36. Manifest Color: **001**

37. Manifest Material: **001**

38. Manifest Finish: **001**

39. Manifest Weight: **001**

40. Manifest Height: **001**

41. Manifest Width: **001**

42. Manifest Depth: **001**

43. Manifest Volume: **001**

44. Manifest Area: **001**

45. Manifest Perimeter: **001**

46. Manifest Surface: **001**

47. Manifest Edge: **001**

48. Manifest Corner: **001**

49. Manifest Joint: **001**

50. Manifest Seam: **001**

51. Manifest Groove: **001**

52. Manifest Ridge: **001**

53. Manifest Hole: **001**

54. Manifest Pin: **001**

55. Manifest Nail: **001**

56. Manifest Screw: **001**

57. Manifest Bolt: **001**

58. Manifest Nut: **001**

59. Manifest Washer: **001**

60. Manifest Gasket: **001**

61. Manifest Seal: **001**

62. Manifest O-ring: **001**

63. Manifest Hose: **001**

64. Manifest Cable: **001**

65. Manifest Wire: **001**

66. Manifest Rope: **001**

67. Manifest Belt: **001**

68. Manifest Strap: **001**

69. Manifest Tie: **001**

70. Manifest Cord: **001**

71. Manifest Chain: **001**

72. Manifest Link: **001**

73. Manifest Pin: **001**

74. Manifest Bolt: **001**

75. Manifest Nut: **001**

76. Manifest Washer: **001**

77. Manifest Gasket: **001**

78. Manifest Seal: **001**

79. Manifest O-ring: **001**

80. Manifest Hose: **001**

81. Manifest Cable: **001**

82. Manifest Wire: **001**

83. Manifest Rope: **001**

84. Manifest Belt: **001**

85. Manifest Strap: **001**

86. Manifest Tie: **001**

87. Manifest Cord: **001**

88. Manifest Chain: **001**

89. Manifest Link: **001**

90. Manifest Pin: **001**

91. Manifest Bolt: **001**

92. Manifest Nut: **001**

93. Manifest Washer: **001**

94. Manifest Gasket: **001**

95. Manifest Seal: **001**

96. Manifest O-ring: **001**

97. Manifest Hose: **001**

98. Manifest Cable: **001**

99. Manifest Wire: **001**

100. Manifest Rope: **001**

[Title]			IMG_0668.jpg
03/09/2023 02:23 PM	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Jon Jones
[Building/Area]			64.852975, -147.7060555
View of a hazardous waste manifest (generator copy) that is missing the certification signature.			

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANIFEST

Page 1 of 1 (Form designed for use on 03/01/2019)

Form Approved OMB No. 2050-0055

1. Generator Name: **US ECOLOGY ALASKA LLC**
 2. Generator Address: **20400 LEMLEY ROAD, GRANDVIEW, ID 83824**
 3. Generator Phone: **(208) 224-1546**

4. Transporter Name: **WEAVER BROTHERS**
 5. Transporter Address: **48 COLLEGE RD, FAIRBANKS, AK 99701**
 6. Transporter Phone: **(907) 295-3667**

7. Waste Description: **RO, UN1824, Volatile Medication, Liquid, Flammable, Toxic, Corrosive, Reproductive, etc.**

8. Waste Quantity: **001**

9. Waste Hazard: **001**

10. Waste Code: **001**

11. Manifest Number: **001**

12. Manifest Date: **03/09/2023**

13. Manifest Time: **02:27 PM**

14. Manifest Location: **001**

15. Manifest Status: **001**

16. Manifest Type: **001**

17. Manifest Category: **001**

18. Manifest Subcategory: **001**

19. Manifest Detail: **001**

20. Manifest Action: **001**

21. Manifest Result: **001**

22. Manifest Error: **001**

23. Manifest Warning: **001**

24. Manifest Message: **001**

25. Manifest Note: **001**

26. Manifest Comment: **001**

27. Manifest Footer: **001**

28. Manifest Page: **001**

29. Manifest Total: **001**

30. Manifest Count: **001**

31. Manifest Sum: **001**

32. Manifest Product: **001**

33. Manifest Brand: **001**

34. Manifest Model: **001**

35. Manifest Year: **001**

36. Manifest Color: **001**

37. Manifest Material: **001**

38. Manifest Finish: **001**

39. Manifest Weight: **001**

40. Manifest Height: **001**

41. Manifest Width: **001**

42. Manifest Depth: **001**

43. Manifest Volume: **001**

44. Manifest Area: **001**

45. Manifest Perimeter: **001**

46. Manifest Surface: **001**

47. Manifest Edge: **001**

48. Manifest Corner: **001**

49. Manifest Joint: **001**

50. Manifest Seam: **001**

51. Manifest Groove: **001**

52. Manifest Ridge: **001**

53. Manifest Hole: **001**

54. Manifest Pin: **001**

55. Manifest Nail: **001**

56. Manifest Screw: **001**

57. Manifest Bolt: **001**

58. Manifest Nut: **001**

59. Manifest Washer: **001**

60. Manifest Gasket: **001**

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63. Manifest Hose: **001**

64. Manifest Cable: **001**

65. Manifest Wire: **001**

66. Manifest Rope: **001**

67. Manifest Belt: **001**

68. Manifest Strap: **001**

69. Manifest Tie: **001**

70. Manifest Cord: **001**

71. Manifest Chain: **001**

72. Manifest Link: **001**

73. Manifest Pin: **001**

74. Manifest Bolt: **001**

75. Manifest Nut: **001**

76. Manifest Washer: **001**

77. Manifest Gasket: **001**

78. Manifest Seal: **001**

79. Manifest O-ring: **001**

80. Manifest Hose: **001**

81. Manifest Cable: **001**

82. Manifest Wire: **001**

83. Manifest Rope: **001**

84. Manifest Belt: **001**

85. Manifest Strap: **001**

86. Manifest Tie: **001**

87. Manifest Cord: **001**

88. Manifest Chain: **001**

89. Manifest Link: **001**

90. Manifest Pin: **001**

91. Manifest Bolt: **001**

92. Manifest Nut: **001**

93. Manifest Washer: **001**

94. Manifest Gasket: **001**

95. Manifest Seal: **001**

96. Manifest O-ring: **001**

97. Manifest Hose: **001**

98. Manifest Cable: **001**

99. Manifest Wire: **001**

100. Manifest Rope: **001**

[Title]			IMG_0669.jpg
03/09/2023 02:27 PM	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Jon Jones
[Building/Area]			64.85296666, -147.70614722
View of a hazardous waste manifest (generator copy) that is missing the certification signature.			

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANIFEST

Generator: US ECOLOGY ALASKA LLC
 Transporter: NEWEN BROTHERS
 Waste: UN 1903, Volatile Fluorocarbon Liquids, n.s.s. (Benzene, Isobutane, 3, PGB, ERO, DHA, ERO #126)
 Manifest Number: 004889336
 Date: 03/09/2023

GENERATOR CERTIFICATION: I hereby declare that the contents of this manifest are true and accurate and that the waste is properly labeled, packaged, and stored in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Hazardous Waste Regulations (40 CFR 261.11-261.16). I am a large quantity generator or a small quantity generator.

Signature: [Signature of Jon Jones]

DESIGNATED FACILITY TO GENERATOR

[Title]			IMG_0670.jpg
03/09/2023 02:29 PM	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Jon Jones
[Building/Area]			64.85296666, -147.70620833
View of a hazardous waste manifest (generator copy) that is missing the certification signature.			

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANIFEST

Generator: US ECOLOGY ALASKA LLC
 Transporter: NEWEN BROTHERS
 Waste: UN 1903, Volatile Fluorocarbon Liquids, n.s.s. (Benzene, Isobutane, 3, PGB, ERO, DHA, ERO #126)
 Manifest Number: 004889337
 Date: 03/09/2023

GENERATOR CERTIFICATION: I hereby declare that the contents of this manifest are true and accurate and that the waste is properly labeled, packaged, and stored in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Hazardous Waste Regulations (40 CFR 261.11-261.16). I am a large quantity generator or a small quantity generator.

Signature: [Signature of Jon Jones]

DESIGNATED FACILITY TO GENERATOR

[Title]			IMG_0671.jpg
03/09/2023 02:30 PM	No CBI	No PII	Photographer: Jon Jones
[Building/Area]			64.85291388, -147.70677222
View of a hazardous waste manifest (generator copy) that is missing the certification signature.			

APPENDIX 2: DOCUMENT LOG

Document Type	Document Name	Contains CBI	Contains PII	Uploaded By	Date Received
Records Review	004899234FLE-9-23-2022-10-31-54-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899235FLE-9-12-2022-11-40-32-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899258FLE-6-14-2022-12-50-14-AM (1).pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899296FLE-6-14-2022-12-15-46-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899297FLE-6-14-2022-1-00-10-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899298FLE-6-14-2022-12-16-33-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899299FLE-8-1-2022-12-03-59-AM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899336FLE-1-11-2022-12-33-23-PM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Records Review	004899337FLE-1-11-2022-12-59-48-PM.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Other - Manifest and BOL for alcohol exempt waste	Liquor Carboy US Ecology 03.15.2023.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Other - Pharmacy RD Reports	CLS Documents Costco Fairbanks #1342.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Other - Email from Interstate Battery to Costco Wholesale #1342	Email From Interstate Batteries (Vendor) Recycling Procedures.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Other - BOLs for battery recycling	Interstate Batteries BOL Sourdough Express 03.23.23.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Communications	EPA Visit Thank You Letter.pdf	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023
Communications	Visit on March 7th.msg	No	No	Jon Jones	06/29/2023