

Waste Management

Position Statement



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| <p>Background</p> | <p>According to the World Bank, more than two billion metric tons of waste are generated each year, and global annual waste generation is expected to increase by 70% by 2050 due to growing populations and rapid urbanization.¹ Waste, if not properly addressed, can have significant impacts on the environment and public health. Effective waste management practices can minimize the impacts on the environment and public health while reducing company exposure and potential liabilities, which can be severe.</p> |
| <p>Approach</p> | <p>Waste generation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial gas production does not generate significant waste due to the raw materials used to make the gases (e.g., air and energy) and the use of long-life, reusable packaging for product distribution. • Routine hazardous wastes generated by plant operations include spent catalysts, used oils and spent solvents, waste paint-related materials, and materials used to clean up small spills. Acetylene manufacturing results in a by-product lime slurry that is regulated as a hazardous waste in some jurisdictions. This slurry is often beneficially reused in other processes, such as water neutralization, brick production, and in stabilizing materials at landfills. • Non-hazardous wastes related to plant operations typically include trash, cardboard, wood, and construction/demolition debris. Offices may also generate non-hazardous waste, particularly trash and recyclables. <p>Waste minimization and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Products' waste management procedures are aimed at adopting practices that prevent pollution, generate less waste, comply with relevant legislation and Air Products' policies and procedures, minimize third-party offsite disposal liability, and promote the use of environmentally friendly technologies and products. • Company facilities are required to identify each type of waste generated, classify the waste according to applicable regulations, maintain a hazardous waste inventory (as applicable), and safely and appropriately manage waste. • Air Products' facilities are required to identify and implement best management practices for reducing the volume and/or toxicity of waste generated. Facilities are encouraged to periodically evaluate waste for reduction opportunities considering the following hierarchy: 1) reduce at source; 2) reduce or recycle; 3) treatment and/or energy recovery; and 4) disposal. • All waste is managed and treated in accordance with the regulatory requirements of the jurisdiction in which the waste is generated. Only Air Products-approved suppliers may be used for treatment, storage, disposal, and recycling of waste. • Facilities in jurisdictions with mandatory recycling programs are required to comply with program requirements. |

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| <p>Commitments</p> | <p>We contribute to UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 “Responsible consumption and production” through our waste management programs.</p> <p>Ongoing commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Products will continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strive to continually improve our Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) performance and reduce the impacts of our activities as outlined in our EHS policy and codified in our EHS Management System procedures. ○ Comply with applicable waste regulations, requirements and Company policies and procedures, applying the higher standard when our requirements are more stringent than applicable regulations. ○ Publicly report on our waste management programs and performance as we have since 1994. |
| <p>Administration</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Products' management routinely evaluates our sustainability commitments and progress. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of Air Products' Board of Directors has oversight responsibility over public policy issues, including sustainability, and the full Board has oversight responsibility for our environmental, health and safety performance.² • Air Products’ Sustainability Leadership Council routinely reviews our sustainability programs, position statements, performance, and reporting. • We report on our sustainability commitments and progress in our annual Sustainability Report as well as through other external communications channels, including our website and social media. • This position statement and related statements and policies are maintained on Air Products’ public website. |

¹Kaza, Silpa; Yao, Lisa C.; Bhada-Tata, Perinaz; Van Woerden, Frank. 2018. What a Waste 2.0: A Global Snapshot of Solid Waste Management to 2050. Urban Development;. © Washington, DC: World Bank. <http://hdl.handle.net/10986/30317> License: CC BY 3.0 IGO

²See our most recent [Proxy statement](#) for responsibilities of the Board of Directors.