

**Pre-2008 RCRA Exemptions Are Responsible For The Majority Of  
Environmental Damages At Hazardous Waste Recycling Facilities<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Type of Recycled Materials</b>	<b>Count of Damage Cases (out of 208)</b>	<b>Percent of Total Damage Cases</b>	<b>Type of Water Contamination</b>
Scrap Metals	52	23.3%	Lead, mercury, spent ethylene glycol (antifreeze), brake fluid, PCB wastes, solvents, used oil, heavy metals and more
Spent Lead Acid Batteries	35	15.7%	Lead and battery acid (sulfuric acid) poison the water, air and soil.
Drums	23	10.3%	Oils and greases, paints and paint thinner, corrosive liquids, organic solvents, and pesticides
Mercury-containing Wastes	10	4.5%	Mercury
Used Oil	6	2.7%	Used oil, PCBs, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, anti-freeze, solvents
Precious Metal-Containing Wastes	5	2.2%	Cyanide, acids, toxic metals (mercury, lead, cadmium, etc.)

<sup>1</sup> US EPA, An Assessment of Environmental Problems Associated with Recycling of Hazardous Secondary Materials, Appendix 2, Profiles of Damage Cases from Hazardous Materials Recycling, 2007.