§ 310.11 What costs are allowable?

(a) Reimbursement under this part does NOT supplant funds you normally provide for emergency response. Allowable costs are only those necessary for you to respond effectively to a specific incident that is beyond what you might normally respond to.

(b) Examples of allowable costs are:

(1) Disposable materials and supplies you acquired and used to respond to the specific incident;

(2) Payment of unbudgeted wages for employees responding to the specific incident (for example, overtime pay for response personnel);

(3) Rental or leasing of equipment you used to respond to the specific incident (for example, protective equipment or clothing, scientific and technical equipment) (Note: rental costs are only allowable for the duration of your response; once you complete the response to the specific incident, further rental costs are NOT allowable);

(4) Replacement costs for equipment you own that is contaminated or damaged beyond reuse or repair, if you can demonstrate that the equipment is a total loss and that the loss occurred during the response (for example, self-contained breathing apparatus irretrievably contaminated during the response);

(5) Decontamination of equipment contaminated during the response;

(6) Special technical services specifically required for the response (for example, costs associated with the time and efforts of technical experts/specialists that are not on your staff);

(7) Other special services specifically required for the response (for example, utilities);

(8) Laboratory costs of analyzing samples that you took during the response;

(9) Evacuation costs associated with the services, supplies, and equipment that you procured for a specific evacuation; and

(10) Containerization or packaging cost and transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes.

(c) To be allowable, costs must:

(1) NOT be higher than what a careful person would spend for similar products or services in your area; and

(2) Be consistent with CERCLA and the federal cost principles outlined in OMB Circular A–87, ''Cost Principles for State and Local Governments.'' (Copies of the circular are available from the Office of Administration, Publications Office, New Executive Office Building, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 2200, Washington, DC 20503.)

(d) EPA will make final determinations on whether your costs are reasonable.

§ 310.12 What costs are NOT allowable?

(a) Costs that are NOT allowable are expenditures you incur in providing what are traditionally local services and responsibilities. Examples include:

(1) Routine firefighting;

(2) Preparing contingency plans;

(3) Training; and

(4) Response drills and exercises.

(b) Costs that are NOT allowable also include items such as supplies, equipment, and services that you routinely purchase to maintain your ability to respond effectively to hazardous releases when they occur. Examples of other costs that are NOT allowable are:

(1) Purchase or routine maintenance of durable equipment expected to last one year or more, except when contaminated or damaged as described in § 310.11(b)(4) and (b)(5);

(2) Materials and supplies you did NOT purchase specifically for the response;

(3) Rental costs for equipment that you own or that another unit of local government owns;

(4) Employee fringe benefits;

(5) Administrative costs for filing reimbursement applications;

(6) Employee out-of-pocket expenses normally provided for in your operating budget (for example, meals or fuel);

(7) Legal expenses you may incur due to response activities, including efforts to recover costs from PRPs; and

(8) Medical expenses you incur due to response activities.

HOW TO GET REIMBURSED

§ 310.13 Do I need to notify anyone while the response is underway?

No. You should notify EPA, the National Response Center, or use another