



**Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Hazardous Waste Inspection Report**

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**FACILITY INFORMATION:**

**Facility Name:** Doctor Battery Inc  
**On-Site Inspection Start Date:** 10/27/2022 **On-Site Inspection End Date:** 10/27/2022  
**ME ID#:** 135066 **EPA ID#:** FLR000232595  
**Facility Street Address:** 9900 NW 79th Ave , Miami Lakes, Florida 33016-2406  
**Contact Mailing Address:** 9900 NW 79 Avenue, Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016  
**County Name:** Miami-Dade **Contact Phone:** (305) 887-1823

**NOTIFIED AS:**

Non-Handler, Transporter

**WASTE ACTIVITIES:**

**Generator:** Non-Handler **Transporter:** Commercial Waste **Other:** SLAB Importer, SLAB Exporter **Universal Waste:** Indicate types of UW generated and/or accumulated at the facility: **Transport:** Batteries

**INSPECTION TYPE:**

Routine Inspection for Hazardous Waste Transporter Facility

**INSPECTION PARTICIPANTS:**

**Principal Inspector:** Johanna Polycart, Inspector  
Tarin Tischler, Environmental Specialist III; Michele DeFreitas, Environmental Specialist  
**Other Participants:** II; Gustavo Perez, Owner

**LATITUDE / LONGITUDE:** Lat 25° 51' 51.1092" / Long 80° 19' 33.6648"

**NAIC:** 423120 - Motor Vehicle Supplies and New Parts Merchant Wholesalers

**TYPE OF OWNERSHIP:** Private

**Introduction:**

On October 27, 2022 Johanna Polycart with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection at Doctor Battery Inc. (hereinafter DBI or "facility"), located at 9900 NW 79th Avenue, Hialeah Gardens, 33016. DBI was inspected to determine the facility's compliance with the state and Federal hazardous waste regulations described in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 260-268 and 273, adopted and incorporated by reference in Rule 62-730, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The inspector was accompanied by Tarin Tischler, Environmental Specialist III, and Michele DeFreitas, Environmental Specialist II from the FDEP.

The inspectors were escorted around the facility by Gustavo Perez, Owner. Upon arrival at the facility the inspectors presented their credentials and explained the purpose of the inspection.

DBI occupies 10,000 square feet and is connected to the city of Hialeah water and sewer system. The facility has been operating at its current location since 1990 and employs approximately 18 staff including 2 drivers. The facility operates from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday to Friday, and 9:00 AM to 3PM.

**Notification History:**

The facility notified with the Department as a Hazardous Waste Transporter on 06/27/2019 and was assigned the EPA Identification (EPAID) Number FLR000232595. The facility renewed their Hazardous Waste Transporter registration most recently on 09/15/2022.

**Inspection History:**

The facility was inspected by the Department on 08/19/2020 and was in compliance at that time.

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Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was not required to enter the facility. Department personnel were equipped with steel-toed boots, and face masks.

### Process Description:

Doctor Battery purchases and sells new and used batteries, and transports used lead acid batteries to a smelter for recycling. The batteries received at the facility are generated from vehicles, trucks, marine vessels, and golf carts. Customers also return their used batteries to the facility, and receive a discount towards their new purchase.

The facility consists of one building, with one side serving as customer service area, where clients come in to trade or purchase batteries from the facility. The new and used batteries for sale are also stored on shelves in that area. The inspectors were welcomed in that area and had to wait for the owner before touring the facility.

The facility uses three trucks for transport. No maintenance is done onsite on the trucks, so no used oil, used oil filters and used antifreeze is generated at the facility.

### Warehouse Area:

The warehouse is where the batteries are dropped off, packaged, and stored. The representative informed the inspectors that the facility buys some used batteries from scrap metal yards, and the trucks pick up the used batteries on their various routes before bringing them back to the warehouse for classification by type and size, and then a battery test is conducted to determine the battery health. Once the test is complete a determination is made as to what is to be done with the battery either for re-sale, re-charge or recycling. The batteries going for recycling are stacked in columns of four on pallets, then wrapped in plastic ready for shipment. The spent batteries are then transported to the smelter on a weekly basis. No disassembly or processing is done at the facility.

Per 40 CFR 266.80 Subpart G the facility is exempt from certain hazardous waste management requirements including 40 CFR parts 262 (except for § 262.11), 263, 264, 265, 266, 270, 124 because the facility collects and transports spent lead acid batteries that will be reclaimed other than through regeneration by the smelter.

The inspectors observed in the warehouse area five 55-gallon drums where the facility separates by type and stores smaller aluminum transformers, plates, nickel cadmium batteries, and copper transformers. The representative informed the inspectors that the different parts arrive in the battery shipments sometimes, they get classified and are also sent to the recycler.

The representative informed the inspectors that some batteries that are coming to the facility are imported to the US from the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic. For the purpose of import/export laws, the pallets of used batteries need to be marked with a "Corrosive" label.

Fire extinguishers could be observed in the area, and the last inspection date was March 2022. The representative informed the Department that if they have a minor acid spill from a battery, they have three 55-gallon drums of absorbent and baking soda to neutralize the acid.

### Record Review

#### Shipping/Receiving Records:

Records for shipping/transporting of spent batteries to the smelter Gopher Resources LLC (FLD004092839) located in Tampa was available for review during the inspection. The last shipment of 14 pallets was on 10/14/2022.

Invoices for spent batteries that the facility bought from various scrap metal yards including S&A Holdco in Broward and Pinar Del Rio in Miami were available for review, and the last purchase date is 10/26/2022.

Import documents for spent lead acid batteries from the Bahamas were also available for review. The vessel that imports the spent batteries is Tropic Tide 1571, and the facility that takes them from the vessel is Tropical Shipping USA, then Doctor Battery receives their shipments of spent batteries from the company. To stay in compliance with import/export rules the facility documents chain of custody with Dangerous Cargo Manifests (DCM), Hazardous Material Declaration Form, and Bill of Lading. The last pick up from Tropical was from 9/1/2022.

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### Liability Insurance:

The facility is insured by Western World Insurance Company for their commercial general liability (Policy number NPP8404897), and Pollution prevention liability (Policy number G71514377003) in the amount of \$1,000,000, expiration date 4/10/2023.

Training:

The facility was able to provide the OSHA completion cards for Hazmat, Hazwoper and SDS Training for all the employees that handle the spent batteries at the facility. The training gets renewed every 3 years.

## Hazardous Waste Transporter Certificate:

DBI maintains a copy of the approval issued by the DEP to operate as a Hazardous Waste Transporter, expiration date 11/30/2023.

**PHOTO ATTACHMENTS:**

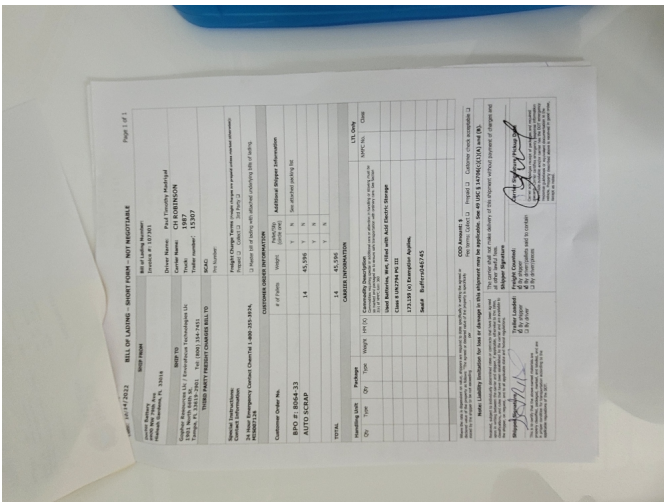
## Packaged Batteries



## Charging Batteries



## Shipping to Recycler receipt



### Conclusion:

Doctor Battery Inc. was inspected as a Hazardous Waste and Universal Waste Transporter and was found to be In-compliance at the time of the inspection.

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## 6.0: Transporters Checklist

### Requirements:

The requirements listed in this section provide an opportunity for the Department's inspector to indicate the conditions found at the time of the inspection. A "Not Ok" response to a requirement indicates either a potential violation of the corresponding rule or an area of concern that requires more attention. Both potential violations and areas of concern are discussed further at the end of this inspection report.

**Note: Checklist items with shaded boxes are for informational purposes only.**

Item No.	Transporter Requirements	Yes	No	N/A
6.1	Has the transporter notified the Department as a transporter and received an EPA identification number? 62-730.150(2)(a), 263.11(a)	✓		
6.2	Does the transporter repackage wastes with different USDOT shipping descriptions?			
6.3	If YES, does the transporter comply with 40 CFR 262 Generator Standards? 263.10(c)			✓
6.4	Does the transporter transport waste into the US from abroad?			
6.5	If YES, does the transporter comply with 40 CFR 262 Generator Standards? 263.10(c)	✓		
6.6	Does the transporter obtain a signed and dated manifest prior to accepting a hazardous waste for transport?			
6.7	If NO, is the waste exempt from the manifest requirement? 263.20(a)(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Exemption Type - Tolling Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Exemption Type - VSQG Bill-of-Lading			✓
6.8	Does the transporter sign and date the manifest upon acceptance? 263.20(b)			✓
6.9	Does the transporter leave a signed copy of the manifest acknowledging acceptance of the waste? 263.20(b)			✓
6.10	Does the transporter ensure the manifest and, in the case of exports the Acknowledgment of Consent, accompany the waste during transport? 263.20(c)			✓
6.11	Does the transporter obtain the signature and date of delivery of the receiving (designated) facility or other transporter upon transferring custody of the waste? 263.20(d)(1)			✓
6.12	Does the transporter retain one copy of the manifest signed and dated by the designated facility or other transporter? 263.20(d)(2)			✓
6.13	Does the transporter give the remaining copies of the manifest to the designated facility or accepting transporter? 263.20(d)(3)			✓
6.14	If the entire quantity of hazardous waste cannot be delivered, does the transporter contact the generator for further direction and revise the manifest in accordance with the generator's instructions? 263.21(b)			✓
6.15	For a partial load rejection, while the transporter is on the facility's premises, does the transporter obtain a new manifest for the rejected material, accompanied by a copy of the original manifest that includes the manifest tracking number of the new manifest? 263.21(b)			✓
6.16	Does the transporter retain a copy of the manifest signed by the generator, himself, and the next designated transporter or designated facility for a period of three years from the date the hazardous waste was accepted by the initial transporter? 263.22(a)			✓
Item No.	Rail Transporters	Yes	No	N/A
6.17	If initial rail transporter, when accepting hazardous waste from a non-rail transporter does the rail transporter sign and date the manifest acknowledging receipt of the hazardous waste? 263.20(f)(1)(i)			✓
6.18	If initial rail transporter, does the rail transporter return a signed copy of the manifest to the non-rail transporter? 263.20(f)(1)(ii)			✓

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6.19	If initial rail transporter, does the rail transporter forward at least three copies of the manifest to the next designated non-rail transporter or facility? 263.20(f)(1)(iii)			✓
6.20	If initial rail transporter, does the rail transporter retain one copy of the manifest and rail shipping paper? 263.20(f)(1)(iv)			✓
6.21	Does the rail transporter ensure the shipping paper and, in the case of exports the Acknowledgment of Consent, accompany the waste during transport? 263.20(f)(2)			✓
6.22	Does the final rail transporter obtain the date of delivery and handwritten signature of the designated facility on the manifest or shipping paper? 263.20(f)(3)(i)			✓
6.23	Does the final rail transporter retain a copy of the manifest or signed shipping paper? 263.20(f)(3)(ii)			✓
6.24	When delivering hazardous waste to a non-rail transporter, does the rail transporter obtain the date of delivery and handwritten signature of the next non-rail transporter on the manifest and retain one copy of the manifest? 263.20(f)(4)			✓
Item No.	Water (Bulk) Transporters	Yes	No	N/A
6.25	Does the water (bulk) transporter obtain the date of delivery and handwritten signature of the designated facility on the manifest or shipping paper? 263.20(e)(3)			✓
6.26	Does the water (bulk) transporter retain a copy of the manifest or signed shipping paper? 263.20(e)(5)			✓
Item No.	SQG Waste	Yes	No	N/A
6.27	For SQG waste, if a manifest is not used is the waste being transported pursuant to a recalculation (tolling) agreement per 262.20(e)? 263.20(h)(1)			✓
6.28	Is the following information recorded on a log or shipping paper for each shipment? (Check items below that are NOT in compliance): 263.20(h)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Name, address, and EPA identification number of the generator of the waste <input type="checkbox"/> Quantity of waste accepted <input type="checkbox"/> All DOT-required shipping information <input type="checkbox"/> The date the waste is accepted			✓
6.29	Does the transporter carry the shipping paper/log when transporting waste to the reclamation facility? 263.20(h)(3)			✓
6.30	Does the transporter retain shipping papers/logs for a period of at least three years after termination or expiration of the tolling agreement? 263.20(h)(4)			✓
6.31	If hazardous waste was discharged during transport, did the transporter give notice, if required by 49 CFR 171.15, to the National Response Center (800-424-8802)? 263.30(c)(1)			✓
6.32	If hazardous waste was discharged during transport, did the transporter report in writing as required by 49 CFR 171.16 to the Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Regulations, Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590? 263.30(c)(2)			✓
6.33	If hazardous waste was discharged during transport, did the transporter clean up the discharge so that it no longer presents a hazard to human health or the environment? 263.31			✓
6.34	Has the transporter demonstrated the financial responsibility required under 62-730.150(2)(a)? 62-730.150(2)(a)			✓
6.35	Does the transporter verify the evidence of financial responsibility annually? 62-730.150(3)			✓

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**Signed:**

A hazardous waste compliance inspection was conducted on this date, to determine your facility's compliance with applicable portions of Chapters 403 & 376, F.S., and Chapters 62-710, 62-730, 62-737 & 62 -740 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Portions of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) 260 - 279 have been adopted by reference in the state rules under Chapters 62-730 and 62-710, F.A.C

Johanna Polycart	Inspector	
<b>Principal Investigator Name</b>	<b>Principal Investigator Title</b>	
	DEP	11/08/2022
<b>Principal Investigator Signature</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Date</b>
Tarin Tischler	Environmental Specialist III	
<b>Inspector Name</b>	<b>Inspector Title</b>	
	DEP	
	<b>Organization</b>	
Michele DeFreitas	Environmental Specialist II	
<b>Inspector Name</b>	<b>Inspector Title</b>	
	DEP	
	<b>Organization</b>	
Gustavo Perez	Owner	
<b>Representative Name</b>	<b>Representative Title</b>	
	Doctor Battery Inc.	
	<b>Organization</b>	

NOTE: By signing this document, the Site Representative only acknowledges receipt of this Inspection Report and is not admitting to the accuracy of any of the items identified by the Department as "Potential Violations" or areas of concern.

**Report Approvers:**

<b>Approver:</b>	<u>Alannah B Irwin</u>	<b>Inspection Approval Date:</b>	<u>11/08/2022</u>
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