Elementary Neutralization

EPA and most state authorities clearly allow elementary neutralization (i.e., pH adjustment) of hazardous wastes. Elementary neutralization units (as defined in 40 CFR 260.10) may be used to neutralize D002 (corrosive) wastes without any worry of RCRA permitting requirements. Two important points to remember are (1) elementary neutralization only refers to pH adjustment and (2) neutralized waste should only be discharged down the drain if it meets all applicable discharge standards (i.e., local, state and EPA limits).