US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Bureau of Waste Management Policy 2013-P2

related to

Solvent-Contaminated Wipes

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to remedy the current conflict between Kansas and federal regulations concerning solvent-contaminated wipes.

Background

Many businesses use wipes (wipes, cloth towels, paper wipes, wipers, and other absorbent materials) to clean up in areas where solvents, paints, inks, or petroleum products are used. These wipes may be used in conjunction with solvents as part of the cleaning process, and then either cleaned and reused or sent for disposal. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has addressed the management of solvent-contaminated wipes in its rule, "Conditional Exclusions From Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste for Solvent-Contaminated Wipes" (herein referred to as the Solvent-Contaminated Wipes rule). The rule was published in the Federal Register on July 31, 2013 with an effective date of January 31, 2014. Under this rule, solvent-contaminated wipes may be excluded from regulation under RCRA Subtitle C if certain conditions are met.

Action

Kansas intends to adopt EPA's Solvent-Contaminated Wipes rule. The rule does not become effective in Kansas until the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) formally adopts the rule into Kansas regulations. However, because Kansas' previous regulatory interpretation for solvent-contaminated wipes was not significantly different from the new federal rule, KDHE will allow generators of solvent-contaminated wipes to comply with the federal July 31, 2013 Solvent-Contaminated Wipes rule starting on January 31, 2014.

This policy shall remain in effect until it is revoked or is rendered obsolete by adoption of the solvent-contaminated wipes rule in the Kansas hazardous waste regulations.

William L. Bider

William L. Bider
Director, Bureau of Waste Management

12-4-13

Date