



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

JAN 28 2010

Mr. James V. Lovitz
PSC Environmental Services, LLC
6405 Thornridge Dr.
Avon, IN 46123

Ref. No. 09-0307

Dear Mr. Lovitz:

This responds to your letter requesting clarification of the criteria used to select the appropriate proper shipping name or names (PSN) for multiple compatible waste hazardous materials of various hazard classes and divisions contained within one outer package under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). You ask whether one generic PSN from the § 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table may be used to describe all the different materials contained in the package or if the PSN must first be determined based on the Precedence of Hazard Table in § 173.2a(b).

According to your letter, the waste materials are compatible and comingling of the materials in transportation would not result in a dangerous evolution of heat, flammable or poisonous gases or vapors or corrosive materials (§ 173.21 (e)).

You may package inner containers of different compatible hazard classes in the same outer packaging. The materials must be described separately using the PSN, UN identification number, and hazard class for each material contained in the outer packaging. Thus, the outer package must display the PSN, identification number and hazard label, as appropriate, for **each** hazardous material contained therein. See §§ 172.301 and 172.404. Additionally, all descriptions must be described in the same manner on a shipping paper, if one is required.

I trust this satisfies your inquiry. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Hattie L. Mitchell
Chief, Regulatory Review and Reinvention
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards

U.S. DOT
PHMSA Office of Hazardous Materials Standards
Attn: PHH-10
East Building
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE.
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Stevens
§ 173.2a
§ 173.21
Package
09-0307

December 10, 2009

Re: Proper Packaging of Different Hazard Classes of Waste Pharmaceuticals

Dear Director;

I am inquiring about the proper guidance in properly packaging waste pharmaceuticals.

In 49 CFR 173.21(e) it identifies that "A material in the same package, freight container, or overpack with another material, the mixing of which is likely to cause a dangerous evolution of heat, or flammable or poisonous gases or vapors, or to produce corrosive materials" is forbidden from transport.

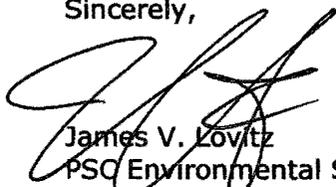
Assuming through generator knowledge, all inner container materials within a single outer package, regardless of hazard class, would be considered to be compatible and would NOT create "...a dangerous evolution of heat, or flammable or poisonous gases or vapors, or to produce corrosive materials".

Is it permissible to package inner containers containing materials of different hazard classes (In this case pharmaceuticals or other medical debris/waste (Non-Infectious, Non-Biohazardous)) into the same outer packaging?

And, if so, is it permissible to use:

1. The Proper Shipping Name (PSN) – UN3248, Waste Medicine, Liquid, Flammable, Toxic, N.O.S., 3 (6.1), PG II (Proper technical descriptors); or,
2. Should we assign the PSN by identifying the two highest priority hazard classes per the Precedence of Hazards table in 49CFR 173.2a? If so, would we need to identify the remaining hazard classes in the shipping description?

Sincerely,



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