## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land Management Administration • Hazardous Waste Program
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## GUIDELINES FOR TRANSPORTATION OF SPECIAL MEDICAL WASTES

- A. The Special Medical Wastes (SMW) must be transported in a suitable container that will preclude the loss of any of the materials to the environment.
- B. The container must be properly labeled (identified) with a label approved by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) except as may be in conflict with other State and Federal law. U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) labels may be used.
- C. A completed shipping paper must accompany a shipment of SMW as required by the Department of Transportation.
- D. Transfer of the SMW from the generator to the transporter to the facility shall be conducted in an environmentally safe manner. Competent personnel must attend the vehicle at all times during the loading and unloading operations. If for any reason the vehicle operator is compelled to leave the equipment, all loading and/or unloading operations shall cease until the operator returns.
- E. Certified vehicles shall display a Special Medical Waste Transporter Vehicle Certification Sticker on the outside of the left door of the cab, either on the door immediately below the window or immediately forward of the door approximately at the same elevation. If the vehicle is a combination vehicle, the sticker shall be prominently displayed on the left side of the trailer and must not be obstructed from view by other markings, attachments, or equipment.
- F. The vehicle operator shall compare labels and shipping paper to insure that the contents and quantities listed on the manifest are the same as those listed on the containers. Any discrepancies must be corrected.
- G. In the event of a spill or loss of SMW to the environment, any person engaged in the transportation of SMW shall not knowingly fail to report the incident immediately (within one hour) to MDE by phoning 1-866-633-4686, including holidays and weekends. The person and vehicle involved must remain at the scene and available until clearance to leave is given by the appropriate officials. A copy of the *Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Procedures* brochure must be carried in the vehicle transporting SMW.

Form Number: MDE/LMA/CER.019 Page 1 of 1

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