

August 4, 2025

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules Illinois General Assembly 700 Stratton Building Springfield, Illinois 62706 (217) 785-2254

Submitted by email to jcar@ilga.gov

RE: R 2025 -22, Standards for Universal Waste Management (35 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 703, 720, 721, 724, 725, 728 and 733)

Dear Joint Committee on Administrative Rules:

The American Coatings Association (ACA) submits the following brief comment to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules regarding the proposed rulemaking to add paint and paint-related waste to the universal waste regulations in Illinois, R25-022 - Standards for Universal Waste Management (35 Ill. Adm. Code Parts 703, 720, 721, 724, 725, 728, and 733).

Statement of Interest

ACA is a voluntary, nonprofit trade association working to advance the needs of the paint and coatings industry and the professionals who work in it. The organization represents paint and coatings manufacturers, raw materials suppliers, distributors, and technical professionals. ACA serves as an advocate and ally for members on legislative, regulatory, and judicial issues, and provides forums for the advancement and promotion of the industry through educational and professional development services.

ACA established PaintCare Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, to plan and operate post-consumer paint stewardship programs in U.S. jurisdictions that enact paint stewardship laws. To date, PaintCare has launched such programs in 11 jurisdictions across the country, including California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and New York, and is preparing to launch programs in Illinois and Maryland. Through these programs, PaintCare has collected over 77 million gallons of paint, thereby removing them from the municipal waste stream, helping local communities reduce their waste management costs, and ensuring that the leftover paints are managed in an environmentally protective way.

Comments

ACA applauds the Illinois Pollution Control Board's (PCB) proposed revisions to the standards for universal waste management. In particular, ACA appreciates the inclusion of exceptions from the proposed 50-foot setback requirements under Section 733.113(f)(4), and the notification requirement under Section 733.118(g) for small quantity handlers at retail sites that serve as drop-off/collection sites for universal waste paint under an approved paint stewardship program. These exemptions will be instrumental to the successful implementation of the PaintCare program in Illinois. As indicated in our earlier comments, the retail network of drop-off/collection sites is a vitally important component for the program and removal of these regulatory requirements will encourage more retailers to participate.

ACA and PaintCare would also like to take this opportunity to clarify a few statements in PCB's July 10, 2025 Opinion and Order. The July 10, 2025 order states the following:

"Finally, ACA noted that retail drop-off/collection sites serving as 'PaintCare service providers are required to provide a report of the NPP [non-program products] sorted from co-mingled latex and oil-based collection bins." (page 9)

"This plan also requires retail sites to log NPP items received by material type and source for reporting to PaintCare." (page 10)

To clarify, PaintCare transporters are required to log NPP and provide the report to PaintCare, not the retail drop-off/collection sites.

Conclusion

ACA looks forward to continuing working with the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, the Illinois Pollution Control Board, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency throughout the rulemaking process.

If you have questions regarding ACA's comments or would like to discuss any of the comments in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heidi K. McAuliffe

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