

From: [Slavens, Shannon K.](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#); [McCambridge, Michael](#)
Subject: [External] IL EPA - Pharmaceutical Rule Adoption Comments
Date: Friday, July 17, 2020 7:33:33 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Mr. Brown and Mr. McCambridge,

This email serves to provide comment by CVS Health on Illinois EPA's draft rule regarding the management of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals. Over the past several years, CVS Health's Corporate Environmental Department has worked closely with U.S. EPA on the development of the new Pharmaceutical Waste Rule. This Rule has significant implications for CVS Health as it is a sector-specific rule aimed at addressing regulatory challenges under RCRA faced by all healthcare facilities, including retail pharmacies, hospitals and long-term care facilities. We are hopeful that States and their respective environmental agencies recognize the rational and scientific approach U.S. EPA took in crafting the final Pharmaceutical Rule and choose to adopt it in its entirety. Such an approach is protective of the environment and will foster national consistency in the management of pharmaceutical wastes, and maintains the household hazardous waste exemption to facilitate take-back programs for unused pharmaceuticals (an essential component in battling the opioid epidemic).

As you know, traditional RCRA rules were not written with applicability to retail or healthcare settings in mind. In fact, historically, they have created an unnecessary burden on states in terms of voluminous paperwork and number of inspections. At CVS, we work with regulators from across the country every day, facilitating a better understanding of the retail setting and helping inspectors close out their LQG inspections of small retail locations, so that agencies meet their obligations of their delegated RCRA programs.

Among the key provisions of this Rule which CVS supports include the sector-specific management standards for the reverse distribution of pharmaceuticals that can be classified as hazardous waste when discarded ("hazardous pharmaceutical waste") and the amendment to the P075 Listing for Nicotine patches, lozenges, and gum. This delisting profoundly impacts CVS retail locations which are LQG facilities solely due to the generation of p-listed waste from nicotine replacement therapy products.

We urge state agencies such as yours to adopt the Rule, in whole, to ensure consistent regulations for healthcare facilities across the country. We are happy to work with your team to discuss the Rule to ensure consistent understanding of the nuances applicable to health care facilities.

Please feel free to reach out directly to me, or pass along this email to your staff.

Best Regards,
Shannon

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