

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

June 12, 1992

James E. Turnbach
Turnbach and Warren, P.C.
Chestnut at Second/Suite A
P.O. Box 129/200 Chestnut Street
Gadsden, AL 35902

Dear Mr. Turnbach:

We received your May 20, 1992 request for regulations and administrative provisions which apply to the disposal of bloodborne pathogens. You might find the information you require in the EPA Guide for Infectious Waste Management (EPA/530-SW-86-014, May 1986). You can request this guide by writing to National Technical Information Service (NTIS). The NTIS number for this document is PB86-199130.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) currently does not regulate the disposal of medical waste. EPA implemented a two year demonstration tracking program for medical waste in which five states participated. The program lasted from June 1989 to June 1991. Most states, including Alabama regulate medical waste under state programs.

If you are unfamiliar with Alabama's medical waste regulations contact Mr. Lindsay Mothershed of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. Direct your inquiries to:

Lindsay Mothershed
Chief, Special Waste Unit
Department of Environmental Management
1751 Congressman W.L. Dickerson Drive
Montgomery AL 36130
(205) 270-5643

Additionally, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has proposed rules concerning the mailability of sharps and other medical devices and the Department of Transportation (DOT) has published regulations on the packaging of medical wastes. The USPS Proposed Rules (39 CFR Part 111) are contained in the Federal Register/Vol. 57, No. 53/Wednesday, March 18, 1992 and the DOT Final Rules (49 CFR Part 106, et al.) are contained in the Federal Register/Vol. 56, No. 245/Friday, December 20, 1991. These may be ordered from the Government Printing Office.

Thank you for your interest in the safe and effective management of medical waste.

Sincerely,

Michael Petruska

FaxBack # 11672