

December 30, 1999

The Honorable James M. Talent
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2502

Dear Congressman Talent:

Thank you for your letter of December 6, 1999 to Carol Browner regarding your constituent Mr. Arthur Turman's inquiry on the management of used oil. Specifically, you ask whether the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) levies a fee for the collection and recycling of used motor oil. Your letter was forwarded to my office for response.

The Used Oil Management Standards promulgated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the statute that governs the management of solid and hazardous waste, do not include provisions for the assessment of fees for the collection and recycling of used motor oil. We contacted Mr. John Beard from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and he indicated that the State of Missouri does not assess this type of fee either. It is important to note that the State of Missouri is authorized to implement the RCRA solid and hazardous waste program, which means that the authorized Missouri solid and hazardous waste regulations apply in Missouri instead of the equivalent federal regulations. EPA has only an oversight role in the implementation of Missouri's solid and hazardous waste program.

I appreciate your interest in the safe and effective management of used motor oil. If you have any questions or need additional information, your staff may contact Mr. Mike Svizzero, of my staff, at (703) 308-0046.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth A. Cotsworth, Director
Office of Solid Waste

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