

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460**

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

The Honorable Charles Grassley
United States Senate
206 Federal Building
101 1st Street SE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401-1227

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of October 16, 1996 regarding your constituent Kirk Gary's concerns about his company experiencing difficulty in complying with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) requirement to keep containers of hazardous waste closed when the containers are not in use. Mr. Gray explains that the lids of the containers he uses to store Spent tetrachloroethylene are difficult to secure so that the containers remain closed during storage.

Mr. Gray stores Spent tetrachloroethylene in one of several available packagings that meet the performance oriented standards set by the Department of Transportation (DOT). There are more than 16 packagings authorized by DOT that can be used to transport and store this spent material and Mr. Gray may select from any of the packagings specified in the regulations at 49 de of Federal Regulations, Part 173.203 to find a container to meet his needs.

As Mr. Gray stated in his letter to you, Safety Kleen, a solvent reclaimer, picks up the spent Tetrachloroathylene from Duchess Cleaners. Mr. Gray purchases the containers he uses to store the Spent tetrachloroethylene from Safety Kleen. Safety Kleen sells the containers to dry cleaners throughout the state and is aware that the containers are difficult to close. Safety Kleen has informed us that their branch offices have already begun distributing replacement rings for the containers in question. If Mr. Gray has not already received replacement rings from Safety Kleen during a regularly scheduled waste pick-up, then Mr. Gray may contact his Safety Kleen branch office to

RO 14140

request replacement rings. Should Mr. Gray continue to experience problems with the container, he may want to select another type of container to store his waste.

Thank you for your interest in the safe management of hazardous wastes.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Shapiro, Director
Office of Solid Waste