GUIDANCE ON DIRECT TRANSFER OF INFECTIOUS WASTE AT NON-PERMITTED TRANSFER OPERATIONS

Senate Enrolled Act No. 478, passed during the 1997 regular session of the Indiana Legislature, amended the definition of “transfer station” to exclude transfer operations where:

1. infectious waste (as defined in IC 16-41-16-4) is transferred directly between two (2) vehicles;
2. infectious waste is packaged in compliance with 410 IAC 1-3-24; and
3. packages of infectious waste are not opened at any time during the transfer.

IDEM considers an infectious waste transfer operation to have qualified for this exclusion (and thus exempt from needing a transfer station permit under 329 IAC 11) if it meets the above requirements and the following criteria for direct transfer:

1. if the vehicle receiving the infectious waste is refrigerated, the vehicle is in route to a legal treatment, storage or disposal* facility within seven (7) days of the date when the vehicle began to be loaded with infectious waste, or
2. if the vehicle receiving the infectious waste is not refrigerated, the vehicle is in route to a legal
treatment, storage or disposal\* facility within 72 hours of the time when the vehicle began to be
loaded with infectious waste, and

3. only infectious waste properly packaged in accordance with 410 IAC 1-3-24 is included in the
direct transfer.

\*Please note that infectious waste can be disposed of in Indiana only after treatment in accordance with
410 IAC 1-3-26.

Compliance with the timeframes specified will be deemed as complying with prevention of rapid
microbial growth while allowing a reasonable timeframe for accumulation of a truck load of waste. In-
truck storage longer than the time frames given above is not considered direct transfer for purposes of
transportation of infectious waste in accordance with IC 13-11-2-235, and may be required to obtain a
transfer station permit.

Any in-truck storage during the allowable transfer period must comply with the storage requirements
outlined in 410 IAC 1-3-25, which requires that a person storing infectious waste before disposal shall:

1. store infectious waste in a secure area that:
   a. is locked or otherwise secured to eliminate access by or exposure to the general public;
   b. affords protection from adverse environmental conditions and vermin; and
   c. has a prominently displayed biohazard symbol;

2. store infectious waste in a manner that preserves the integrity of the container, and is not
   conductive to rapid microbial growth and putrefaction, and

3. disinfect reusable containers for infectious waste each time that they are emptied, unless the
   surfaces of the reusable containers have been protected from contamination by disposable liners,
bags or other devices that are removed with the infectious waste.

Vehicles storing infectious waste during the allowable transfer periods should thus be closed, locked and
placarded with a biohazard symbol. Infectious waste containers should be placed and stacked so as to
prevent damage during direct transfer operations and transit. Vehicles storing infectious waste during the
allowable transfer periods must be monitored for leakage of fluids and any leaks should be corrected and
reported immediately.

Infectious waste transfer operations shall not take any action in violation of IC 13-30-2-1, any applicable
requirements of 410 IAC 1-3, or any other applicable local, state and Federal regulations.

If you need additional information, or have any questions or concerns, please contact staff of the