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Hazardous Materials/Transportation: U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Addresses Status of Sanitary Sewage/Sewage Sludge

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The United States Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration ("PHMSA") addressed the applicability of the federal Hazardous Materials Regulations ("HMR") to the transportation of sanitary sewage and sewage sludge in a May 19th letter.

The St. Johns County Utility Department (Florida) ("St. Johns") stated in February 2nd correspondence that it was considering hiring:

- ... contract hauling for the transportation of sanitary sewage and sewage sludge from one wastewater plant to another for further processing.
- St. Johns informed PHMSA that one of its potential contractors was:
- ... concerned these materials could be classified as a hazardous material under the infectious substance definition.
- St. Johns asked whether sanitary sewage and sewage sludge are regulated as a Division 6.2 infectious substance under the HMR?

The PHMSA responded in the negative stating:

As provided in § 173.134(b)(13)(ii) and (iii), any waste or recyclable material other than regulated medical waste, <u>including sanitary waste or sewage</u>, and <u>sewage sludge or compost</u>, are not subject to the requirements of the HMR as Division 6.2 materials.

Click here to download a copy of the May 19th letter.