Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 30  ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
PART 1  TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHAPTER 326  MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT
SUBCHAPTER D  OPERATIONS REQUIRING A NOTIFICATION
RULE §326.39  On-Site Treatment by Small Quantity Generators

(a) A small quantity generator (SQG) is required to provide written notification to the executive director of the operation of an approved treatment process unit used only for the treatment of medical waste generated on-site in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136 (relating to Approved Methods of Treatment and Disposition). Alternative treatment technologies may be approved in accordance with requirements found in 25 TAC §1.135 (relating to Performance Standards for Commercially-Available Alternate Treatment Technologies for Special Waste from Health Care-Related Facilities). This one-time notification shall include:
   (1) contact information for the generator;
   (2) if applicable, name, address, telephone number, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality authorization number of the mobile treatment operator providing treatment; and
   (3) the method/conditions of treatment.
(b) An SQG shall maintain on-site a written record that contains the information listed in subsection (a) of this section and the following:
   (1) the name (printed) and initials of the person(s) performing treatment;
   (2) the dates of treatment; and
   (3) the amounts of waste treated.
(c) A SQG shall follow the requirements listed in §326.41(c) of this title (relating to On-site Treatment by Large Quantity Generators) for disposal of medical wastes that have been treated in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136.

Source Note: The provisions of this §326.39 adopted to be effective May 26, 2016, 41 TexReg 3697
(a) A large quantity generator (LQG) that treats all or part of the medical waste generated on-site shall provide written notification to the executive director of the operation of an approved treatment process unit used only for the treatment of medical waste generated on-site in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136 (relating to Approved Methods of Treatment and Disposition). Alternative treatment technologies may be approved in accordance with requirements found in 25 TAC §1.135 (relating to Performance Standards for Commercially-Available Alternate Treatment Technologies for Special Waste from Health Care-Related Facilities). This one-time notification shall include:

(1) the contact information for the generator;
(2) if applicable, the name, address, telephone number, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality authorization number of the mobile treatment operator providing treatment; and
(3) the method/conditions of treatment.

(b) A LQG shall maintain on-site a written record that contains the information listed in subsection (a) of this section and the following:

(1) the name (printed) and initials of the person(s) performing treatment;
(2) the dates of treatment;
(3) the amounts of waste treated; and
(4) written procedure for the operation and testing of any equipment used and written procedure for the preparation of any chemicals used in the treatment.

(A) The operator shall demonstrate a minimum four log ten reduction (as defined in 25 TAC §1.132 (relating to Definitions)) on routine performance testing using appropriate Bacillus species biological indicators (as defined in 25 TAC §1.132). The operator shall conduct testing at the following intervals:

(i) for generators of more than 50 pounds but less than or equal to 100 pounds per month, testing shall be conducted at least once per month;
(ii) for generators of more than 100 pounds but less than or equal to 200 pounds per month, testing shall be conducted at least every two weeks; and
(iii) for generators of more than 200 pounds per month testing shall be conducted at least weekly.

(B) For those processes that the manufacturer has documented compliance with the performance standard prescribed in 25 TAC §1.135, based on specified parameters (for example, pH, temperature, pressure), and for previously approved treatment processes that a continuous readout and record of operating parameters is available, the operator may substitute routine parameter monitoring for biological monitoring. The operator shall confirm that any chemicals or reagents used as part of the treatment process are at the effective treatment
strength. The operator will maintain records of operating parameters and reagent strength, if applicable, for three years.

(C) The manufacturer of single-use, disposable treatment units shall be responsible for maintaining adequate quality control for each lot of single-use products. The treating facility or entity shall be responsible for following the manufacturer's instructions.

(D) Owners or operators of medical waste incinerators shall comply with the requirements in §111.123 of this title (relating to Medical Waste Incinerators) in lieu of biological or parametric monitoring.

(c) Disposal of treated medical waste. Medical wastes that have been treated in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136 may be managed as routine municipal solid waste unless otherwise specified in paragraphs (1) - (5) of this subsection.

(1) Incinerator ash shall be disposed of in a permitted landfill in accordance with Chapter 330 of this title (relating to Municipal Solid Waste).

(2) Treated microbiological waste, blood, blood products, body fluids, laboratory specimens of blood and tissue, and animal bedding may be disposed of in a permitted landfill. Any markings that identify the waste as a medical waste shall be covered with a label that identifies the waste as treated medical waste. The identification of the waste as treated may be accomplished by the use of color-coded, disposable containers for the treated waste or by a label that states the contents of the disposable container have been treated in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136.

(3) Treated carcasses and body parts of animals designated as a medical waste may, after treatment, be disposed of in a permitted landfill in accordance with Chapter 330 of this title. The collection and transportation of these wastes shall conform to the applicable local ordinance or rule, if such ordinance or rule is more stringent than this subsection.

(4) Treated recognizable human body parts, tissues, fetuses, organs, and the products of human abortions, spontaneous or induced, shall not be disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill. These items shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of 25 TAC §1.136(a)(4).

(5) Sharps treated and containerized with one of the approved methods as described under 25 TAC §1.136(a)(5) shall be disposed of in a permitted landfill in accordance with Chapter 330 of this title. Unused sharps shall be disposed of as treated sharps.

Source Note: The provisions of this §326.41 adopted to be effective May 26, 2016, 41 TexReg 3697
(a) Introduction. The following treatment and disposition methods for special waste from health care-related facilities are approved by the department for the waste specified. Where a special waste from a health care-related facility is also subject to the sections in Chapter 289 of this title (relating to Radiation Control), the sections in Chapter 289 shall prevail over the sections in this subchapter. Disposal of special waste from health care-related facilities in sanitary landfills or otherwise is under the jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and is governed by its rules found in 30 TAC Chapter 326 (relating to Medical Waste Management) and Chapter 330 (relating to Municipal Solid Waste).

(1) Animal waste. Animal waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(A) Carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
   (i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (iii) carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;
   (iv) carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be sent to a rendering plant;
   (v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(B) Body parts of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
   (i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (ii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (iii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (iv) body parts of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;
   (v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(C) Bulk whole blood, serum, plasma, and/or other blood components from animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(iii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(vi) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vii) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(viii) bulk blood, serum, plasma, and/or other blood components of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;
(ix) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(x) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(xi) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(D) Bedding of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) bedding of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;
(iv) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vi) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(2) Bulk human blood, bulk human blood products, and bulk human body fluids. Bulk human blood, blood products, and body fluids shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(A) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(B) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(C) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(D) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(E) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and flushing into a sanitary sewer system;
(F) thermal inactivation, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(G) thermal inactivation, followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(H) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(I) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(J) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(3) Microbiological waste. Microbiological waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(A) Discarded cultures and stocks of infectious agents and associated biologics shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(B) Discarded cultures of specimens from medical, pathological, pharmaceutical, research, clinical, commercial, industrial and veterinary laboratories shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(C) Discarded live and attenuated vaccines, but excluding the empty containers thereof shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(D) Discarded disposable culture dishes shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.
(i) All discarded, unused disposable culture dishes shall be disposed of in accordance with 30 TAC Chapters 326 and 330.
(ii) Discarded, used disposable culture dishes shall be subjected to the following methods of treatment and disposal:
   (I) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (III) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (IV) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(E) Discarded disposable devices used to transfer, inoculate or mix cultures shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(4) Pathological waste. Pathological waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.
(A) Human materials removed during surgery, labor and delivery, autopsy, embalming, or biopsy shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) body parts, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:
   (I) interment;
   (II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (III) steam disinfection followed by interment;
   (IV) moist heat disinfection, provided that the grinding/shredding renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (V) chlorine disinfection/maceration, provided that the grinding/shredding renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VI) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) tissues, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:
   (I) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (II) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;
   (III) interment;
   (IV) steam disinfection followed by interment;
   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(iii) organs, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:
   (I) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (II) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;
   (III) interment;
   (IV) steam disinfection followed by interment;
   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(iv) bulk human blood and bulk human body fluids removed during surgery, labor and delivery, autopsy, embalming, or biopsy:
   (I) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (II) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (III) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (IV) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (V) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (VI) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VII) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (VIII) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (IX) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (X) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.
(B) The products of spontaneous or induced human abortion other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains, shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
   (i) blood and body fluids:
      (I) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
      (II) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
      (III) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
      (IV) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
      (V) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
      (VI) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
      (VII) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
      (VIII) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
      (IX) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
      (X) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (ii) any other tissues, including placenta, umbilical cord and gestational sac:
      (I) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;
      (II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
      (III) steam disinfection followed by interment;
      (IV) interment;
      (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
      (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
      (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.
(C) Discarded laboratory specimens of blood and/or tissues shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
   (i) grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (ii) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (iii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (iv) incineration followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (vii) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.
(D) Anatomical remains shall be disposed of in a manner specified by §479.4 of this title (relating to Final Disposition of the Body and Disposition of Remains).
(5) Sharps.
   (A) All discarded unused sharps shall be disposed of in accordance with 30 TAC Chapters 326 and 330.
   (B) Contaminated sharps shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.
      (i) Hypodermic needles, and hypodermic syringes with attached needles, shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:
(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(ii) Razor blades, disposable razors, and disposable scissors used in surgery, labor and delivery, or other medical procedures; and scalpel blades shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(iii) Intravenous stylets and rigid introducers (e.g., J wires) shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.
(iv) Glass pasteur pipettes, glass pipettes, specimen tubes, blood culture bottles, and microscope slides, and broken glass from laboratories shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(v) Tattoo needles, acupuncture needles, and electrolysis needles shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(b) Records. The facility treating the wastes shall maintain records to document the treatment of the special waste from health care-related facilities processed at the facility as to method and conditions of treatment in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 326.

(c) Facility responsibility. The facility treating the wastes shall be responsible for establishing the conditions necessary for operation of each method used at the facility to insure the reduction of microbial activity of any waste treated according to the manufacturer's specifications and according to any approval granted by the department.

Source Note: The provisions of this §1.136 adopted to be effective April 4, 1989, 14 TexReg 1457; amended to be effective November 21, 1991, 16 TexReg 6482; amended to be effective December 21, 1994, 19 TexReg 9599; amended to be effective December 18, 2016, 41 TexReg 9709; amended to be effective May 24, 2018, 43 TexReg 3242

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All manufacturers of commercially-available alternate technologies, equipment, or processes designed or intended for the treatment of special waste from health care-related facilities, except those meeting the standards of §1.133(b) of this title (relating to Scope, Covering Exemptions and Minimum Parametric Standards for Waste Treatment Technologies Previously Approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services), shall apply to the department on forms prescribed by the department for approval of said technologies, equipment, or processes to ensure that established performance standards are met.

(1) Levels of microbial inactivation.

(A) All laboratory evidence submitted to the department for review shall be provided by a laboratory that meets the standards of either the NSF International, the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation, or other accrediting agencies or organizations as approved by the department.

(B) All manufacturers of commercially-available alternate technologies, equipment, or processes designed and intended for the treatment of special waste from health care-related facilities shall provide specific laboratory evidence that demonstrates:

(i) inactivation of representative samples of vegetative bacteria, mycobacteria, lipophilic/hydrophilic viruses, fungi, and parasites at a level of 6 log$_{10}$ reduction or greater, as determined by the department; and

(ii) inactivation of Bacillus stearothermophilus endospores or Bacillus subtilis endospores at a level of 4 log$_{10}$ reduction or greater, as determined by the department.

(C) One or more representative surrogate microorganisms from each microbial group shall be used in treatment efficacy evaluation. The department shall determine the appropriate microorganisms to serve as representative surrogate microorganisms.

(D) The department shall prescribe those categories (types) and percent composition of special waste from health care-related facilities that present the most challenge to said treatment effectiveness under normal operating conditions of the equipment or process.

(E) Protocols developed for efficacy testing shall incorporate, as applicable, recognized, standard procedures. The protocols shall be congruent with the treatment method under review. The
(2) Documentation requirements.

(A) The manufacturer of the alternate treatment technology, equipment, or process shall provide to the department the following information:

(i) a detailed description of the treatment equipment, equipment specifications, operating instructions, and parameters of normal operation, and information detailing the intended use and typical site for which the equipment is designed;

(ii) complete documentation that the alternate treatment technology, equipment, or process meets microbial inactivation criteria for all required representative microorganisms for all department-specified challenge waste load compositions, including a description of the test methods used, and, upon request, the original data from test procedures conducted by the manufacturer;

(iii) documentation on available parametric controls, and, where technically feasible, evidence that demonstrates the efficacy relationship between biological indicator data and data derived from real-time parametric monitoring equipment;

(iv) details relating to waste residues including their potential hazards/toxicities and their specific mode of disposal or recycling;

(v) documentation providing occupational health assurance, and the means of providing required training in equipment operations;

(vi) evidence of United States Environmental Protection Agency registration and Texas Department of Agriculture registration for those treatment processes that employ a chemical agent to inactivate microorganisms, or evidence of approval of the treatment process by a state other than Texas;

(vii) documentation that user verification testing protocols are workable and valid; and

(viii) documentation of approval of the alternate treatment process or technology in other state(s) utilizing performance standard review, if applicable.

(B) Documentation must be submitted to the department on forms provided by the department.

(3) Alternate treatment technology approval conditions.

(A) The alternate treatment technology approval is contingent upon the following conditions:

(i) Alternate treatment technology approval is granted only for the conditions specified in the manufacturer’s instructions, equipment specifications, and operating procedures and conditions, including but not limited to:

(I) treatment time(s);

(II) temperature(s);

(III) pressures;
(IV) chemical concentration(s);

(V) irradiation dose(s);

(VI) feed rate(s); and

(VII) waste load composition(s).

(ii) Any significant revision on the part of the manufacturer to either the operating conditions of the equipment’s existing process or technology, or the fundamental principles of the process itself, i.e., the equipment now utilizes a different technology in part or altogether, will require re-application for approval to the department.

(B) Prior approval granted by a state other than Texas that utilizes a performance standards approach to review alternate treatment technologies shall be considered as a basis for approval by the department if the department is provided with a valid and current approval, license, or permit issued by such state and substantial evidence to indicate that the performance standards upon which the approval, license, or permit was issued are equal to or more stringent than the performance standards included in this section.

(C) Facilities are not obligated to petition the department for approval for previously approved waste treatment technology they have currently on site, but the following items will apply should current equipment be replaced, regardless of reason:

(i) if the new equipment reflects a previously approved technology and is operated in accordance with §1.133(b) of this title, then purchase and installation can proceed without further action on the part of the department or the purchaser; or

(ii) if the new equipment represents an alternate treatment technology subject to prior approval by the department, based on performance standards as outlined in this section, then it is the purchaser’s responsibility to ensure that the manufacturer has obtained such approval prior to purchase.

(4) Fees and annual listing.

(A) Initial application fee.

(i) The department shall charge an initial application fee for the evaluation of an alternate treatment technology pursuant to this section in the amount of $4,000.

(ii) The initial application fee must be paid in full before the department undertakes its evaluation of the manufacturer’s alternate treatment technology.

(B) Annual listing.

(i) Alternate treatment technologies must be listed at the time of the manufacturer’s first sale of the product in Texas and prior to the product’s purchase by a health care-related facility or any other person.
(ii) Failure by the manufacturer to maintain the listing after purchase does not preclude use of the alternate treatment technology, its transfer or re-sale, so long as compliance with §1.136(c) of this title (relating to Approved Methods of Treatment and Disposition) is achieved.

(iii) The department shall maintain a list of those approved alternate treatment technologies, including manufacturer, product name, model number, or other appropriate identifying information. The list shall be made available and distributed upon request by contacting the department.

Source Note: The provisions of this §1.135 adopted to be effective December 21, 1994, 19 TexReg 9599; amended to be effective December 18, 2016, 41 TeReg 9709

Texas Administrative Code

TITLE 25
HEALTH SERVICES

PART 1
DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

CHAPTER 1
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SUBCHAPTER K
DEFINITION, TREATMENT, AND DISPOSITION OF SPECIAL WASTE FROM HEALTH CARE-RELATED FACILITIES

RULE §1.136
Approved Methods of Treatment and Disposition

(a) Introduction. The following treatment and disposition methods for special waste from health care-related facilities are approved by the department for the waste specified. Where a special waste from a health care-related facility is also subject to the sections in Chapter 289 of this title (relating to Radiation Control), the sections in Chapter 289 shall prevail over the sections in this subchapter. Disposal of special waste from health care-related facilities in sanitary landfills or otherwise is under the jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and is governed by its rules found in 30 TAC Chapter 326 (relating to Medical Waste Management) and Chapter 330 (relating to Municipal Solid Waste).

(1) Animal waste. Animal waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(A) Carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;

(iv) carcasses of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be sent to a rendering plant;

(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(B) Body parts of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(iii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(iv) body parts of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;

(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(C) Bulk whole blood, serum, plasma, and/or other blood components from animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(iii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(iv) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(v) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(vi) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(vii) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(viii) bulk blood, serum, plasma, and/or other blood components of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;
(ix) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(x) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(xi) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(D) Bedding of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(iii) bedding of animals intentionally exposed to pathogens which are not contagious may be buried on site under the supervision of a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas;

(iv) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(v) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(vi) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(2) Bulk human blood, bulk human blood products, and bulk human body fluids. Bulk human blood, blood products, and body fluids shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(A) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(B) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(C) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(D) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(E) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and flushing into a sanitary sewer system;

(F) thermal inactivation, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(G) thermal inactivation, followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

(H) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(I) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(J) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(3) Microbiological waste. Microbiological waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(A) Discarded cultures and stocks of infectious agents and associated biologics shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(B) Discarded cultures of specimens from medical, pathological, pharmaceutical, research, clinical, commercial, industrial and veterinary laboratories shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(C) Discarded live and attenuated vaccines, but excluding the empty containers thereof, shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(D) Discarded disposable culture dishes shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(i) All discarded, unused disposable culture dishes shall be disposed of in accordance with 30 TAC Chapters 326 and 330.
(ii) Discarded, used disposable culture dishes shall be subjected to the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(III) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(E) Discarded disposable devices used to transfer, inoculate or mix cultures shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(iii) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(iv) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(vii) an approved alternate treatment process followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(4) Pathological waste. Pathological waste shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(A) Human materials removed during surgery, labor and delivery, autopsy, embalming, or biopsy shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) body parts, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:

(I) interment;

(II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

(III) steam disinfection followed by interment;

(IV) moist heat disinfection, provided that the grinding/shredding renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) chlorine disinfection/maceration, provided that the grinding/shredding renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(VI) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; 

(ii) tissues, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:
   (I) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (II) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;
   (III) interment;
   (IV) steam disinfection followed by interment;
   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(iii) organs, other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains:
   (I) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (II) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;
   (III) interment;
   (IV) steam disinfection followed by interment;
   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(iv) bulk human blood and bulk human body fluids removed during surgery, labor and delivery, autopsy, embalming, or biopsy:
   (I) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (II) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (III) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
   (IV) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (V) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
   (VI) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
   (VII) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(VIII) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IX) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(X) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(B) The products of spontaneous or induced human abortion other than embryonic and fetal tissue remains, shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) blood and body fluids:
   (I) discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

   (II) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

   (III) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

   (IV) thermal inactivation followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

   (V) thermal inactivation followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

   (VI) chemical disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

   (VII) chemical disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;

   (VIII) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

   (IX) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

   (X) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(ii) any other tissues, including placenta, umbilical cord and gestational sac:

   (I) grinding and discharging to a sanitary sewer system;

   (II) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;

   (III) steam disinfection followed by interment;

   (IV) interment;

   (V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

   (VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

   (VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(C) Discarded laboratory specimens of blood and/or tissues shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(i) grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(ii) steam disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(iii) steam disinfection followed by grinding and discharging into a sanitary sewer system;
(iv) incineration followed by deposition of the residue in a sanitary landfill;
(v) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(vi) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or
(vii) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(D) Anatomical remains shall be disposed of in a manner specified by §479.4 of this title (relating to Final Disposition of the Body and Disposition ofRemains).

(5) Sharps.

(A) All discarded unused sharps shall be disposed of in accordance with 30 TAC Chapters 326 and 330.

(B) Contaminated sharps shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal.

(i) Hypodermic needles, and hypodermic syringes with attached needles, shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(ii) Razor blades, disposable razors, and disposable scissors used in surgery, labor and delivery, or other medical procedures; and scalpel blades shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(II) Steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) Incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) Encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) Moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) Chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) An approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(iii) Intravenous stylets and rigid introducers (e.g., J wires) shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) Chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) Steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) Incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) Encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) Moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) Chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) An approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(iv) Glass Pasteur pipettes, glass pipettes, specimen tubes, blood culture bottles, and microscope slides, and broken glass from laboratories shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) Chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) Steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) Incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;
(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(v) Tattoo needles, acupuncture needles, and electrolysis needles shall be subjected to one of the following methods of treatment and disposal:

(I) chemical disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(II) steam disinfection, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(III) incineration, and if the item can cause puncture wounds, placement in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(IV) encapsulation in a matrix which will solidify and significantly reduce the possibility of puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(V) moist heat disinfection followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill;

(VI) chlorine disinfection/maceration followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill; or

(VII) an approved alternate treatment process, provided that the process renders the item as unrecognizable and can no longer cause puncture wounds, followed by deposition in a sanitary landfill.

(b) Records. The facility treating the wastes shall maintain records to document the treatment of the special waste from health care-related facilities processed at the facility as to method and conditions of treatment in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 326.

(c) Facility responsibility. The facility treating the wastes shall be responsible for establishing the conditions necessary for operation of each method used at the facility to insure the reduction of microbial activity of any waste treated according to the manufacturer's specifications and according to any approval granted by the department.

Source Note: The provisions of this §1.136 adopted to be effective April 4, 1989, 14 TexReg 1457; amended to be effective November 21, 1991, 16 TexReg 6482; amended to be effective December 21, 1994, 19 TexReg 9599; amended to be effective December 18, 2016, 41 TexReg 9709; amended to be effective May 24, 2018, 43 TexReg 3242