

# **Kansas Department of Health and Environment Bureau of Waste Management Policy 04-01**

**Related to**

## **Disposal Requirements For TSE Tested Livestock Carcasses**

**June 9, 2004**

(revised August 3, 2004)

### **Purpose**

This Bureau of Waste Management policy is intended to clarify the requirements for the disposal of livestock carcasses, which have been tested by the Kansas Animal Health Department (KAHD) for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs), in a municipal solid waste landfill (MSWLF) The TSEs being tested for by KAHD include Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in domestic deer and elk.

### **Background**

Under U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines the KAHD will test approximately 7,000 animals between June 1, 2004 and December 31, 2005 for TSE. KAHD will test any animal which has been condemned at a slaughter facility in Kansas or which shows central nervous system disease signs and is above the age of 30 months. Since the test must be performed on a portion of the brain, all animals to be tested will be killed and the carcass disposed. The preferred method of disposal is placing the carcasses in a MSWLF.

These carcasses, which are considered to be at low risk of having TSEs, will require a special waste disposal authorization to be disposed in a Kansas MSWLF. Regulatory requirements applicable to this disposal activity are listed below.

1. K.A.R. 28-29-3(iii) "Special Waste" means any solid waste that, because of physical, chemical, or biological characteristics, requires special management standards due to concerns for owner or operator safety regarding handling, management, or disposal.
2. K.A.R. 28-29-109 "Special Waste" lists the requirements for obtaining and using a special waste disposal authorization.

### **Action**

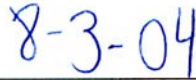
Based on the regulations and interpretations summarized above, the following requirements are established by the Bureau:

1. Obtain a copy of the special waste disposal authorization (SWDA) before accepting any carcasses from the KAHD TSE testing program. A state-wide SWDA will be issued to KAHD allowing for disposal at all MSWLFs approved by the Bureau of Waste Management.

2. All carcasses must be buried on the day received and will remain in place even if a positive test result is obtained.
3. A minimum layer of 5 feet of municipal solid waste (MSW) must be maintained below the carcasses to absorb the liquids that are released as the carcass decomposes. A thickness greater than 5 feet of MSW is preferable below the carcasses and where feasible, a 6 inch to 1-foot layer of non-compacted clay should be placed directly below the carcasses for added absorptive capacity.
4. All carcasses must have a minimum of 3 feet of cover material placed on them. The material used for cover can be municipal solid waste or soils.



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Director, Bureau of Waste Management



Date