**Section 722.124 Use of the Electronic Manifest**

a) Legal Equivalence to Paper Manifests. E-Manifests that are obtained, completed, and transmitted in accordance with Section 722.120(a)(3), and used in accordance with this Section in lieu of USEPA Forms 8700-22 and 8700-22A are the legal equivalent of paper manifest forms bearing handwritten signatures, and satisfy for all purposes any requirement in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 720 through 728 to obtain, complete, sign, provide, use, or retain a manifest.

1) Any requirement in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 721 through 728 to sign a manifest or manifest certification by hand, or to obtain a handwritten signature, is satisfied by signing with or obtaining a valid and enforceable electronic signature within the meaning of Section 722.125.

2) Any requirement in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 721 through 728 to give, provide, send, forward, or return to another person a copy of the manifest is satisfied when an e-Manifest is transmitted to the other person by submission to the e-Manifest System.

3) Any requirement in any provision of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 721 through 728 for a generator to keep or retain a copy of each manifest is satisfied by retention of a signed e-Manifest in the generator's account on the national e-Manifest System, provided that such copies are readily available for viewing and production if requested by any USEPA or authorized Agency inspector.

4) No generator may be held liable for the inability to produce an e-Manifest for inspection under this Section if the generator can demonstrate that the inability to produce the e-Manifest is due exclusively to a technical difficulty with the e-Manifest System for which the generator bears no responsibility.

BOARD NOTE: The Board has rendered the language "and requirement in these regulations" in corresponding 35 Ill. Adm. Code 722.124(a) and (a)(1) through (a)(3) as "any requirement in any provision of 35 Ill. Adm. Code 720 through 728" in the appropriate segments of this subsection (a). The Board intends that use of the e-Manifest System have the same effect in Illinois as it would where the federal requirements directly apply.

b) A generator may participate in the e-Manifest System either by accessing the e-Manifest System from its own electronic equipment, or by accessing the e-Manifest System from portable equipment brought to the generator's site by the transporter who accepts the hazardous waste shipment from the generator for off-site transportation.

c) Restriction on Use of e-Manifests. A generator may use an e-Manifest for the tracking of waste shipments involving any hazardous waste only if it is known at the time the manifest is originated that all waste handlers named on the manifest participate in the use of the electronic manifest, except that a generator may sign by hand and retain a paper copy of the manifest signed by hand by the initial transporter, in lieu of executing the generator copy electronically, thereby enabling the transporter and subsequent waste handlers to execute the remainder of the manifest copies electronically.

d) Requirement for One Printed Copy. To the extent the hazardous materials regulation on shipping papers for carriage by public highway requires shippers of hazardous materials to supply a paper document for compliance with 49 CFR 177.817, incorporated by reference in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 720.111, a generator originating an e-Manifest must also provide the initial transporter with one printed copy of the e-Manifest.

e) Special Procedures When e-Manifest Is Unavailable. If a generator has prepared an e-Manifest for a hazardous waste shipment, but the e-Manifest System becomes unavailable for any reason prior to the time that the initial transporter has signed electronically to acknowledge the receipt of the hazardous waste from the generator, the generator must obtain and complete a paper manifest and if necessary, a continuation sheet (USEPA Forms 8700-22 and 8700-22A) in accordance with the manifest instructions, and use these paper forms from this point forward in accordance with the requirements of Section 722.123.

f) Special Procedures for Electronic Signature Methods Undergoing Tests. If a generator has prepared an e-Manifest for a hazardous waste shipment, and signs this manifest electronically using an electronic signature method that is undergoing pilot or demonstration tests aimed at demonstrating the practicality or legal dependability of the signature method, the generator must also sign with an ink signature the generator or offeror certification on the printed copy of the manifest provided under subsection (d).

g) This subsection (g) corresponds with 40 CFR 262.24(g), which USEPA has removed and marked "reserved". This statement maintains consistency with the corresponding federal rules.

h) Post-Receipt Manifest Data Corrections. After a facility has certified to the receipt of hazardous wastes by signing Item 20 of the manifest, any post-receipt data corrections may be submitted at any time by any interested person (e.g., waste handler) named on the manifest. A generator may participate electronically in the post-receipt data corrections process by following the process described in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 724.171(l), which applies to corrections made to either paper or electronic manifest records.

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 563, effective December 6, 2018)