



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

## **NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION REGARDING TRANSPORTATION OF CERTAIN SANITIZING AND DISINFECTING MATERIALS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is aware of the challenges that transportation companies are facing in providing personnel with necessary materials, such as hand sanitizers, that provide for protection of their health and safety and comply with government guidelines. Workplace locations like package sorting facilities, airport ramps, stations, and delivery vehicles often lack ready access to soap and water, resulting in an urgent need for sanitizing and disinfecting products. These companies are in many instances essential businesses that support the U.S. economy and the public interest through the shipment and delivery of packages. Companies have been exploring alternate ways to transport materials to locations in their network so they can continue to provide this essential resource in a safe manner. Given that these companies frequently have their own effective transportation distribution networks in place, focused relief from certain requirements of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) has supported the efficient and streamlined movement of needed materials in this time of emergency.

On April 20, 2020, PHMSA published a notice of enforcement discretion stating that it intends to provide temporary relief from certain HMR requirements for persons transporting sanitizing and disinfecting materials on a motor vehicle for the purposes of protecting the health and safety of employees directly supporting the logistical operations of the carrier provided certain criteria were met.<sup>1</sup>

PHMSA gives notice that it will continue to not take enforcement action against any carrier transporting sanitizing and disinfecting materials carried on a motor vehicle for the purposes of protecting the health and safety of employees of the carrier in accordance with the April 20, 2020, Notice of Enforcement Discretion. This document is a temporary notice of enforcement discretion. Regulated entities may rely on this notice as a safeguard from departmental enforcement as described herein. To the extent this notice includes guidance on how regulated entities may comply with existing regulations, it does not have the force and effect of law and is not meant to bind the regulated entities in any way. This Notice of Enforcement Discretion is effective through October 31, 2020.

Issued July 9, 2020, in Washington D.C.

William S. Schoonover Associate  
Administrator  
for Hazardous Materials Safety

---

<sup>1</sup> See April 20, 2020, enforcement discretion at: <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/phmsa-enforcement-discretion-transporting-sanitizing-and-disinfecting-materials>