



## RCRA COMPLIANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION

Clara Maass Medical Center  
1 Clara Maass Drive  
Belleville, New Jersey

NJD075153882

July 27, 2023

**Report Prepared by:**

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MORRELL**

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Robert Morrell, Geologist  
Monitoring Operations Section

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Report Approved by:**

**PHILIP COCUZZA**

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Philip Cocuzza, Supervisor  
Monitoring Operations Section

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



### Objective

A RCRA Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at Clara Maass Medical Center on July 27, 2023. The purpose of the inspection was to obtain information on the facility's hazardous waste management program. This information will be used to determine compliance with regulations pertaining to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

### Survey Participants

#### Clara Maass Medical Center

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#### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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### Facility Description

Clara Maass Medical Center is located at 1 Clara Maass Drive in Belleville, New Jersey. The acute care hospital was founded in 1958 and is affiliated with RWJ Barnabas Health. There are 2200 employees, including 700 physicians. The hospital provides a wide variety of healthcare services including cardiac care, cancer treatment, general surgeries, and emergency services. The hospital is open 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

### Water and Wastewater

Water for the hospital is provided by the Township of Belleville. There is no process wastewater discharge. Sanitary wastewater is discharged to the local POTW.

### Solid and Hazardous Waste Management

Hazardous waste is generated at three locations: the Chemistry/Histology Laboratory, the Pharmacy, and the Morgue.

In the Chemistry/Histology Laboratory, there are two immunostainers that are used to detect specific proteins and antigens. Waste flammable liquids (ethanol, stains, and dyes) are collected in 5-gallon

plastic containers at this satellite accumulation area. On the day of the inspection, there were three 5-gallon containers with hazardous waste labels marked as D001 hazardous waste. When the containers are full, they are transferred to a 55-gallon drum in the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area. Waste formalin is treated in the laboratory with a certified neutralizer known as "Neutralex".

In the Pharmacy, expired and unused pharmaceuticals are placed in a 55-gallon plastic drum and transferred to the Pharmaceutical Waste Room. On the day of the inspection, there were two 55-gallon plastic drums being stored in the Pharmaceutical Waste Room. The drums contained waste medicine (liquid, flammable, toxic) and hazardous waste labels were affixed to the containers. The waste codes on the labels were D001, D005, D007, D008, D009, D010, D011, D013, D018, D022, and D024. Accumulation start dates were on the drums.

In the Morgue, specimens in formalin are stored in plastic containers until the pathology reports are completed. The waste formaldehyde solutions with specimens (flammable) are placed in a 55-gallon plastic drum and transferred to the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area. The waste code is D001. On the day of the inspection, there were no containers of waste formaldehyde solutions being stored.

In the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area, there was one 55-gallon drum of waste flammable liquids (ethanol, stains, and dyes). The drum was one-third full and contained a hazardous waste label marked with a waste code of D001.

Medical waste is managed by Stericycle Environmental Solutions. Hazardous waste is also managed by Stericycle and is shipped to one of two treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs). The waste formaldehyde solutions (with specimens) from the Morgue and the waste flammable liquids from the Laboratory are shipped to Republic Environmental Systems in Hatfield, Pennsylvania. The waste medicine liquids from the Pharmacy are shipped to Northland Environmental in Providence, Rhode Island.

### Findings

A review of the hazardous waste manifests indicates that Clara Maass Medical Center is a small quantity generator of hazardous waste. On a monthly basis, the hospital generates approximately 416 pounds of waste formaldehyde solutions, 245 pounds of waste flammable liquids, and 203 pounds of waste medicine liquids.

The facility maintains weekly inspection logs of the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area and the Pharmaceutical Waste Room.

Hazardous materials safety training is provided to the employees at orientation and refresher training is provided every three years. Department of Transportation (DOT) hazardous materials transportation training is provided every three years.

There were no issues on noncompliance on the day of the inspection.

### Attachments

Photographs (#1 - #5)



Photo #2: One 5-gallon container of waste flammable liquids in the Laboratory.



Photo #3: A 55-gallon drum of waste medicine liquids in the Pharmaceutical Waste Room.

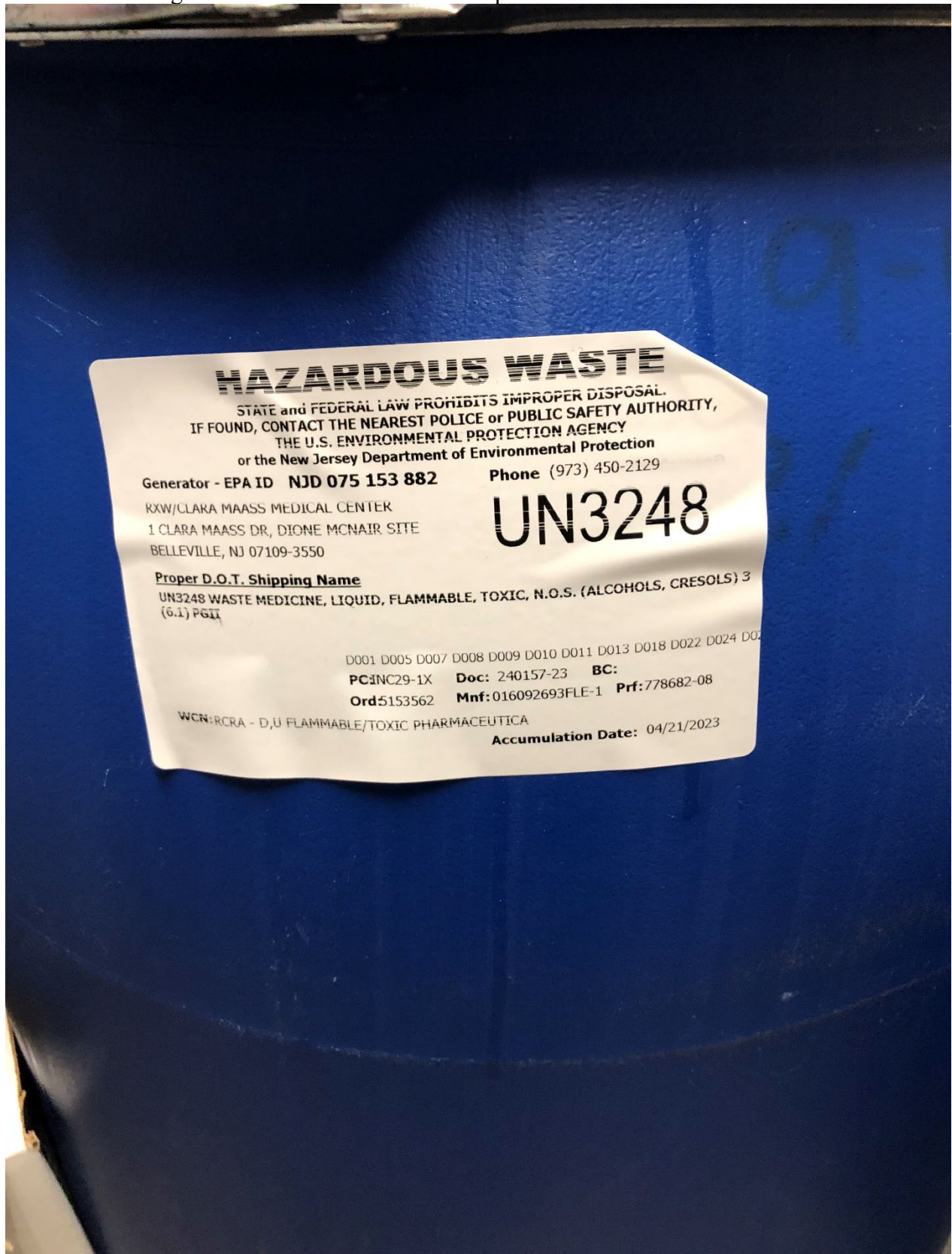


Photo #4: Another 55-gallon drum of waste medicine liquids in the Pharmaceutical Waste Room.

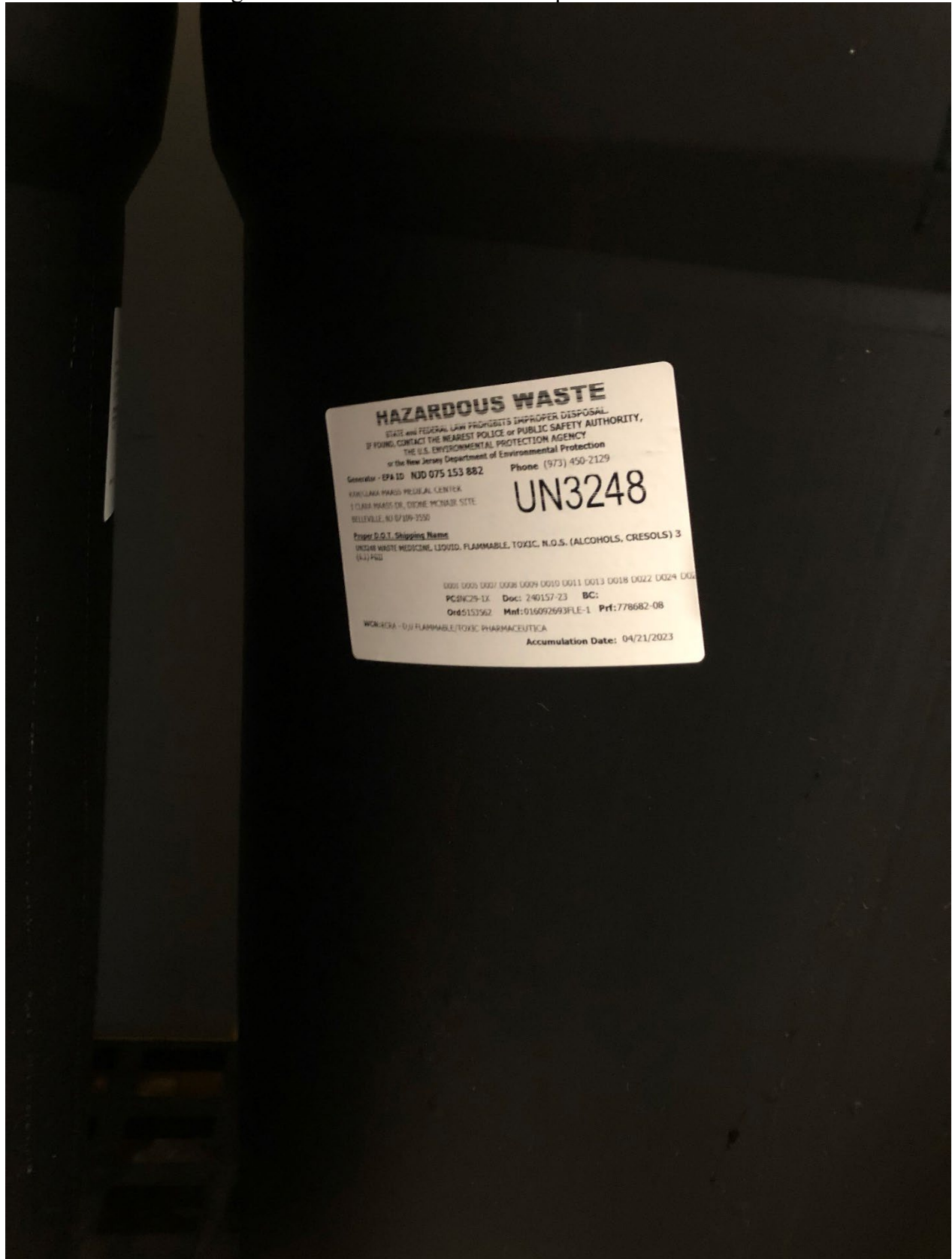


Photo #5: A 55-gallon drum of waste flammable liquids in the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area.

