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Discussion on the Construction of Mechanisms for Medical Waste in China (Postprint)

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Abstract

As a populous nation undergoing socioeconomic development, China is experiencing rapid growth in medical waste generation. Given that medical waste is highly infectious and hazardous, its proper treatment demands greater attention. China's legal framework for medical waste management was established relatively late; the primary laws and regulations currently in force are the "Law of the People's Republic of China on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Solid Waste" and the "Regulations on the Administration of Medical Wastes". These instruments have achieved certain successes in regulating medical waste management and have placed the industry on a legal footing. However, it must be acknowledged that environmental pollution, threats to public safety, and other problems stemming from medical waste remain frequent, underscoring the critical importance of effective treatment. To address this issue and in accordance with the ecological protection requirements articulated at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, efforts must focus on legal system development, drawing upon foreign legislative experience in medical waste management while adapting to China's specific context, thereby establishing an effective legal framework that can successfully prevent environmental pollution and promote sustainable social development.

Full Text

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