

**U. S. Department of Justice** Drug Enforcement Administration 8701 Morrissette Drive Springfield, Virginia 22212

www.dea.gov

December 20, 2023

Dear DEA Registrant,

On October 31, 2023, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) in the *Federal Register* entitled, "Controlled Substance Destruction Alternatives to Incineration." <u>88 FR 74379</u> (Oct. 31, 2023). The ANPRM solicits public comments from DEA registrants, stakeholders, and interested persons engaged in the destruction of controlled substances. Specifically, the ANPRM requests comment responses to 10 questions to identify destruction methods or technology currently being utilized or developed to render controlled substances non-retrievable.

The ANPRM established a 60-day comment period, which currently closes on January 2, 2024. DEA has received stakeholder comments requesting an extension of the comment period due to the holidays creating difficulties for interested persons to adequately respond to the ANPRM.

DEA will publish a notice in the *Federal Register* extending the comment period until April 1, 2024 to allow registrants, stakeholders, and interested persons to respond to the ANPRM.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Prevoznik Assistant Administrator Diversion Control Division