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EPA is attempting to expedite cleanup at thousands of hazardous waste sites across the United States by directing its corrective action program to focus on practical cleanup strategies rather than on process. This emphasis should yield faster and more efficient cleanups for industrial facilities in that program.

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Belatedly EPA may be recognizing that the RCRA regulatory scheme was not intended to regulate secondary materials generated during retail operations, and EPA has decided to seek input from retailers on potential changes to how the Agency regulates retail operations. Retailers have been EPA enforcement targets during the last few years and EPA has collected substantial penalties. Recently EPA announced that it was releasing a retail sector specific Notice of Data Availability (NODA). EPA is asking the retail industry for comments on retail operations data collected by the Agency including the quantity of hazardous waste generated during such operations.

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