

455B.305 Issuance or renewal of permits by director.

1. The director shall issue, revoke, suspend, modify, or deny permits for the construction and operation of sanitary disposal projects.

A permit shall be issued by the director or at the director's direction, by a local board of health, for each sanitary disposal project operated in this state. The permit shall be issued in the name of the city or county or, where applicable, in the name of the public or private agency operating the project. Each sanitary disposal project shall be inspected annually by the department or a local board of health. The permits issued pursuant to this section are in addition to any other licenses, permits or variances authorized or required by law, including, but not limited to, chapter 335. A permit may be suspended or revoked by the director if a sanitary disposal project is found not to meet the requirements of part 1 or rules issued under part 1. The suspension or revocation of a permit may be appealed to the department.

2. Beginning July 1, 1988, the director shall not issue a permit for the construction or operation of a new sanitary disposal project unless the permit applicant, in conjunction with all local governments using the sanitary disposal project, has filed a plan as required by section 455B.306. For those sections for which the department has not developed rules, the permit shall contain conditions and a schedule for meeting all applicable requirements of section 455B.306.

3. Beginning July 1, 1988, the director shall not renew or reissue a permit which had been initially issued prior to that date for a sanitary disposal project, unless the permit applicant, in conjunction with all local governments using the sanitary disposal project, has filed a plan as required by section 455B.306. For those sections for which the department has not developed rules, the permit shall contain conditions and a schedule for meeting all applicable requirements of section 455B.306.

4. Beginning July 1, 1994, the director shall not renew or reissue a permit which had been initially issued or renewed prior to that date for a sanitary disposal project, unless and until the permit applicant, in conjunction with all local governments using the sanitary disposal project, documents that steps are being taken to begin implementing the plan filed pursuant to section 455B.306. For those sections for which the department has not developed rules, the permit shall contain conditions and a schedule for meeting all applicable requirements of section 455B.306. However, a permit may be issued for the construction and operation of a new sanitary disposal project in accordance with subsection 2.

5. Beginning July 1, 1997, the director shall not renew or reissue a permit which had been renewed or reissued prior to that date for a sanitary landfill, unless and until the permit applicant, in conjunction with all local governments using the landfill, documents that alternative methods of solid waste disposal other than use of a sanitary landfill have been implemented as set forth in the plan filed pursuant to section 455B.306. However, the director may issue a permit for the construction and operation of a new sanitary landfill in accordance with subsection 2 and a permit may be renewed or reissued for a sanitary landfill which had received an initial permit but the permit had not been previously renewed or reissued prior to July 1, 1997 in accordance with subsection 3.

After July 1, 1997, however, no new landfill permits shall be issued unless the applicant, in conjunction with all local governments which will use the landfill, certifies that the landfill is needed as a part of an alternative disposal method, or unless the applicant provides documentation which satisfies the director that alternatives have been studied and are not either technically or economically feasible. The decision of the director is subject to review by the commission at its next meeting.

6. Beginning July 1, 1992, the director shall not issue a permit for a sanitary landfill unless the sanitary landfill is equipped with a leachate control system. Beginning July 1, 1994, the director shall not renew or reissue a permit for an existing sanitary landfill unless the sanitary landfill is equipped with a leachate control system. During the period from July 1, 1992, through June 30, 1994, the director may require an existing

sanitary landfill to install a leachate control system if leachate from the sanitary landfill is adversely impacting the public health or safety or the environment. During the period from July 1, 1992, through June 30, 1994, the director shall require an existing sanitary landfill to install a leachate control system if the sanitary landfill has not submitted a completed hydrogeological plan to the department. The director may exempt a permit applicant from these requirements if the director determines that certain conditions regarding, but not limited to, existing physical conditions, topography, soil, geology, and climate, are such that a leachate control system is unnecessary. The director may exempt a permit applicant from the requirements of this subsection if the permittee certifies that a risk assessment of the site indicates that a current or potential threat to environmental health does not exist such that an exposed individual has no greater than a one in one million risk of developing cancer and for noncarcinogens a hazard index of less than one. The director shall use the United States environmental protection agency's risk assessment guidance for the superfund as a basis for determining whether to grant the exemption. The exemption in this subsection shall apply only to sanitary landfill cells in existence prior to July 1, 1992, or the vertical expansion above a cell in which waste was deposited prior to July 1, 1992. A sanitary landfill permittee desiring an exemption shall apply to the director and certify a completion date for a risk assessment study by December 1, 1994. If an exemption is not granted, or if the risk assessment study concludes that a leachate control system is required, a permittee shall certify a completion date and increments of progress for the installation of a leachate control system. The department shall retain the discretion to approve or disapprove a risk assessment study or a proposed completion date under this subsection. If a schedule for a risk assessment study or the installation of a leachate control system is approved by the department and satisfactory progress is being made toward completion of the study or the installation of the leachate control system, the permittee shall not be subject to penalties for failure to meet the requirements of this subsection.

7. The director shall not issue or renew a permit for a transfer station operating as part of an agreement between two planning areas pursuant to section 455B.306, subsection 2, until the applicant, in conjunction with all local governments using the transfer station, documents that alternative methods of solid waste disposal other than final disposal in a sanitary landfill have been implemented as set forth in the plan filed pursuant to section 455B.306.

[C71, § 406.6; C73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 455B.79]

C83, § 455B.305

83 Acts, ch 136, § 4; 86 Acts, ch 1175, § 2; 86 Acts, ch 1245, § 1899, 1899B; 87 Acts, ch 225, § 409, 410; 89 Acts, ch 272, § 30; 92 Acts, ch 1215, § 6; 94 Acts, ch 1177, §3; 2005 Acts, ch 31, §1