

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR ENGROSSED  
SENATE BILL NO. 1309

By: Easley of the Senate

and

Leist of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to solid waste; amending 27A O.S. 2001, Sections 2-7-103, 2-7-107 and 2-10-701, which relate to the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act and the Oklahoma Landfill Closure Authority; modifying definitions; adding to authority of the Environmental Quality Board; eliminating certain authority as means to satisfy certain financial assurance; repealing 27A O.S. 2001, Section 2-10-701.1, which relates to the Oklahoma Landfill Closure Authority; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2001, Section 2-7-103, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-7-103. As used in the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act:

1. "Affected property owners" means all real property owners within one (1) mile of the outer perimeter of a proposed hazardous waste site;

2. "Affiliated person" means:

- a. any officer, director or partner of the applicant,
- b. any person employed by the applicant as a general or key manager who directs the operations of the site or facility which is the subject of the application, and
- c. any person owning or controlling more than five percent (5%) of the applicant's debt or equity;

3. "Council" means the Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council;

4. "Demonstrated pattern of prohibited conduct" means a series of conduct of the same or like character in violation of state or federal environmental laws which, as a result of the applicant's or affiliated person's reckless disregard thereof, actually endangers, or reasonably has the potential to endanger, human health or the environment;

5. "Disclosure statement" means a written statement by the applicant which contains:

- a. the full name, business address, and social security number of the applicant, and all affiliated persons,
- b. the full name and address of any legal entity in which the applicant holds a debt or equity interest of at least five percent (5%), or which is a parent company or subsidiary of the applicant, and a description of the on-going organizational relationships as they may impact operations within the state,
- c. a description of the experience and credentials of the applicant, including any past or present permits, licenses, certifications, or operational authorizations relating to environmental facility regulation,
- d. a listing and explanation of any administrative, civil or criminal legal actions against the applicant or any affiliated person which resulted in a final agency order or final judgment by a court of record including, but not limited to, final orders or judgments on appeal in the ten (10) years immediately preceding the filing of the application relating to the generation, transportation, storage, treatment, recycling or disposal of "hazardous waste" as defined

by the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act or by the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Such actions shall include, without limitation, any permit denial or any sanction imposed by a state regulatory authority or the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and

- e. a listing of any federal environmental agency and any state environmental agency outside this state that has or has had regulatory responsibility over the applicant;

6. "Disposal" means the final disposition of any hazardous waste;

7. "Disposal site" means ~~the~~ any location where any final disposition of hazardous waste occurs. Disposal sites include but are not limited to injection wells and surface disposal sites;

8. "Guarantor" means any person other than the owner or operator, who provides evidence of financial responsibility for an owner or operator pursuant to the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act;

9. "Hazardous waste" means waste materials and byproducts, either solid or liquid or containerized gas, which ~~are~~ because of their quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may:

- a. ~~to be discarded by the generator or recycled cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness, or~~
- b. ~~toxic to human, animal, aquatic or plant life, and~~
- c. ~~generated in such quantity that they cannot be safely disposed of in properly operated, state-approved solid waste landfills or waste, sewage or wastewater~~

~~treatment facilities pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed.~~

The term "hazardous waste" may include but is not limited to explosives, flammable liquids, spent acids, caustic solutions, poisons, containerized gases, sludges, tank bottoms containing heavy metallic ions, toxic organic chemicals, and materials such as paper, metal, cloth or wood which are contaminated with hazardous waste.

The Environmental Quality Board shall promulgate rules to further identify those wastes or categories of waste that will be regulated as hazardous waste. The term "hazardous waste" shall not include domestic sewage;

10. "Hazardous waste facility" means and includes storage and treatment facilities and disposal sites;

11. "History of noncompliance" means any past operations by an applicant or affiliated persons which clearly indicate a reckless disregard for environmental regulation or demonstrate a pattern of prohibited conduct which could reasonably be expected to result in endangerment to human health or the environment if a permit were issued, as evidenced by findings, conclusions and rulings of any final agency order or final order or judgment of a court of record;

12. "Multi-user on-site treatment facility" means a treatment facility for hazardous waste generated by the co-owners of the facility and which meets the criteria specified by the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act;

13. "Off-site treatment, storage, recycling or disposal" means the treatment, storage, recycling or disposal at a hazardous waste facility of hazardous waste not generated by the owner of the facility;

14. "On-site treatment, storage, recycling or disposal" means the treatment, storage, recycling or disposal at a hazardous waste facility of hazardous waste generated by the owner of the facility;

15. "Person" means any individual, corporation, industry, firm, partnership, association, venture, trust, institution, federal, state or local governmental instrumentality, agency or body or any other legal entity however organized;

16. "Qualified interest group" means any organization with twenty-five or more members who must be legal residents of the State of Oklahoma, that expresses an interest in the outcome of a construction permit application;

17. "Recycling" means the reuse, processing, treating, neutralizing or rerefining of hazardous waste into a product which is being reused or which has been sold for beneficial use.

Hazardous waste which is intended for fuel is not deemed to be recycled until it is actually burned;

18. "Regeneration" or "regenerated" means the regeneration of spent activated carbon to render it reusable, and any treatment, storage or disposal associated therewith;

19. "Site" or "proposed site" means the surface area of a disposal site, or other hazardous waste facility, as applied for in the application for a permit for the facility;

20. "Storage facility" means any location where the temporary holding of hazardous waste occurs, including any tank, pit, lagoon, pond, or other specific place or area;

21. "Treatment" means the detoxification, neutralization, incineration or biodegradation of hazardous waste in order to remove or reduce its harmful properties or characteristics; and

22. "Treatment facility" means any location where treating or recycling of hazardous waste occurs.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 27A O.S. 2001, Section 2-7-107, is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-7-107. A. In addition to other powers and duties specified by law, the Environmental Quality Board shall promulgate rules to:

1. Prohibit the placement of any liquid which is not a hazardous waste in a landfill for which a permit is required or which is operating under interim status;
2. Prohibit or restrict the storage of hazardous waste for which land disposal is prohibited, except to the extent that such storage is solely for the purpose of accumulation of such quantities of hazardous wastes as are necessary to facilitate proper recovery, treatment, or disposal;
3. Prohibit or restrict the use of waste or used oil or other material used for dust suppression or road treatment, which is contaminated or mixed with dioxin or any other waste identified or listed by rules of the Board as a hazardous waste except a waste identified solely on the basis of ignitability;
4. Require such monitoring and control of air emissions at hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities, including but not limited to open tanks, surface impoundments, and landfills, as may be necessary to protect human health and the environment;
5. Regulate the production, burning, distribution, and marketing of fuel containing hazardous waste, and the commercial collection, storage, transportation, marketing, management, burning and disposal of used oil as may be necessary to protect human health and the environment including, but not limited to, labeling and recordkeeping requirements;
6. Control the listed or identified hazardous wastes which discharge through a sewer system to a publicly owned treatment works for the protection of human health and the environment;
7. Provide in accordance with Sections 3005(c) and 3005(e) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act for the automatic

termination of interim status for hazardous waste units failing to comply with applicable requirements for the submission of part B permit applications and certification of groundwater monitoring and financial responsibility compliance;

8. Require from applicants for and owners and operators of hazardous waste facilities evidence of financial responsibility for corrective action as may be required or ordered under the authority of the Oklahoma Hazardous Waste Management Act;

9. Require that generators of hazardous waste establish and implement programs to reduce the volume or quantity and toxicity of such waste to the extent economically practicable; and

10. Specify levels or methods of treatment which substantially diminish the toxicity of the waste or likelihood of its migration so as to minimize threats to human health and the environment; and

11. Regulate borrow areas for soils to be used in hazardous waste disposal sites. Regulatory authority over such borrow areas shall be exclusive to the Board and the Department of Environmental Quality.

B. The hazardous waste component of mixed waste and radioactive waste shall be regulated as hazardous waste. The radioactive waste component shall be regulated as radioactive waste. Both the hazardous waste requirements and the radioactive waste requirements shall apply if physical separation of the two components is not accomplished. If a conflict exists between the two requirements, the requirement most protective of human health and the environment shall take precedence.

C. Rules pertaining to standards for the transportation of hazardous waste and recyclable materials shall not be more stringent than those of the U.S. Department of Transportation, unless a waiver of preemption is granted pursuant to federal statutes and rules promulgated thereunder.

is amended to read as follows:

Section 2-10-701. A. All disposal site owners shall provide a closure plan to the Department of Environmental Quality for approval which defines operational phases and includes cost estimates, and plans and specifications for final closure. A site may be closed in phases according to a closure plan approved by the Department.

1. Owners of landfills that receive household solid waste, defined as Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Facilities in the federal regulations adopted under Subtitle D of the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, and owners of commercial nonhazardous industrial waste landfills shall provide for the maintenance and monitoring of such works for thirty (30) years. Provided, the owner of any landfill that stops receiving waste on or before April 9, 1994, and has completed final closure of the site on or before October 9, 1994, shall provide for the maintenance and monitoring of such site for eight (8) years after final closure has been completed. A permittee who stopped receiving waste at his permitted solid waste municipal landfill on or before April 9, 1994, may apply to the Department for a modification of his permit to operate an on-site solid waste transfer station, a yard-waste composting facility or a citizen's collection station. Provided no land disposal occurs, such site shall not require monitoring or financial assurance as a municipal solid waste landfill.

2. Generator owned and operated private industrial nonhazardous monofills shall only be required to have an eight-year postclosure period or such postclosure time period as may be mandated under the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act. Generator owned and operated private industrial nonhazardous landfill disposal sites and all construction and demolition landfill disposal sites shall only be required to have an eight-year postclosure period or such postclosure time period as may be mandated under the federal Solid

Waste Disposal Act or determined necessary by the Department on a case-by-case basis considering the nature of the waste disposed.

3. Disposal sites other than land disposal sites shall have a closure plan which would accomplish the removal and proper disposal of any remaining waste and the elimination of potential environmental health hazards.

B. The Department shall require that financial assurances be provided in an amount sufficient to cover the estimated cost of closure and any postclosure. The Department shall establish financial assurance mechanisms which will ensure that the funds necessary to meet the costs of closure, postclosure care and corrective action for known releases will be available whenever such funds are needed. An increase in financial assurance shall be required when any permittee deviates from the approved closure plan or when the cost of closure or postclosure is found to have increased. Owners of landfills that receive household solid waste shall increase financial assurance if corrective action is required.

C. 1. Disposal site owners as identified in subsection A of this section shall provide financial assurance to guarantee the performance of final closure and for any required postclosure as required by the Department pursuant to this section. Except in cases where owners utilize a financial test provided by rule, the state shall be the sole beneficiary of any such assurance solely for the cost of performance of closure and postclosure and shall have a security interest therein.

2. The financial assurance shall be in a form described in rules promulgated by the Environmental Quality Board or the owner may provide the Department with cash or certificates of deposit payable to the Department of Environmental Quality Revolving Fund for deposit with the State Treasurer's Office.

3. Disposal site owners may satisfy the financial assurance requirements of this section by creating a trust in accordance with

the federal regulations adopted under Subtitle D of the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act. Municipal solid waste disposal site owners may satisfy the financial assurance requirements of this section by creating an escrow account in accordance with Board rules adopted under the Oklahoma Solid Waste Management Act. These financial assurance mechanisms shall provide for payments by the disposal site owner which will allow for closure and corrective action obligations to be spread out over the economic life of the disposal site, but shall not exceed fifteen (15) years.

4. Owners of disposal sites which receive waste after April 9, 1994, shall provide financial assurance for closure and any applicable postclosure on or before April 9, 1995, unless such date is extended by the federal Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Subtitle D of the federal Resource, Conservation and Recovery Act. If any disposal site owner fails to provide such financial assurance by the applicable deadline, the Department shall cause the landfill disposal site permit to be summarily suspended by order. The Department shall initiate the process of revoking the permit and may require closure of the landfill. This subsection shall not apply to units of the federal government.

5. Financial assurance provided prior to June 8, 1994, as a condition of issuance of any permit or any agreement with the Department shall continue in effect unless the permittee replaces such assurance with an additional mechanism or combination of mechanisms authorized by the Department.

6. In lieu of the performance guarantee mechanisms specified in this section, owners or operators of a nonhazardous industrial solid waste landfill which is owned or operated by an industry or manufacturer for its exclusive noncommercial use may satisfy the financial assurance requirements for closure, postclosure and maintenance by meeting the requirements of a corporate financial

test and corporate guarantee similar to that applicable to hazardous waste facilities.

7. Any unit of local government or public trust of which it is a beneficiary may satisfy financial assurance requirements for closure and, when required, postclosure, by participating in a statewide trust capable of guaranteeing performance of such closure and postclosure.

8. ~~Private owners and operators of disposal sites required by this section to provide financial assurance may satisfy this obligation through participation in the Oklahoma Landfill Closure Authority, created pursuant to the provisions of Section 2-10-701.1 of this title.~~

9. Solid waste transfer stations, processing facilities, or composting facilities are exempt from the financial assurance requirements of this section if they principally manage municipal solid waste.

D. When financial assurance is required, it shall remain in effect until closure and any postclosure is completed. The amount of such assurance shall be set by the Department and shall not be less than the anticipated cost of contracting for performance of each phase of the closure plan and postclosure. The Department may allow a reduction in the amount of assurance to reflect the anticipated costs which remain.

SECTION 4. REPEALER 27A O.S. 2001, Section 2-10-701.1, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. This act shall become effective July 1, 2002.

SECTION 6. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.