NH Wastewater Residuals: Regulatory Changes

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NH Residuals Regulations:


- **Env-Wq 1600, N.H. Septage Management Rules**

- **Env-Wq 800, N.H. Sludge Management Rules**
Env-Wq 1600, Septage Management Rules

• Septage Management Rules re-adopted November 26, 2013

• Re-adopted with limited changes
  • No substantive changes
  • Minor editorial changes or clarification

• Septage Management Rules will expire November 25, 2013
Env-Wq 800, Sludge Management Rules

• Sludge Management Rules expire on May 24, 2015
• Initiated the rulemaking process in July 2014 with public outreach through a stakeholder group
• Currently occupied with Stakeholder Committee meetings and permit process improvement
  • Stakeholder input and comment on proposed rule changes
  • Process improvement review aimed at making the sludge permitting processes more efficient
• Anticipate commencing the formal rulemaking process in January 2014
Sludge Stakeholder Committee

• Started meetings in July 2014 by soliciting participation by a diverse stakeholder group with a varied interests
• Initial meetings focused on soliciting recommendations for potential rule changes
• More recent meetings and future meetings focused on review and comment on DES proposed changes.
• Major topics of discuss:
  • Sludge quality certification testing – Scope, frequency, & cost
  • Notification and public hearing requirements
  • Soil testing requirements and cumulative loading limits
  • Regulations that are overly stringent, costly, inapplicable for certain residuals, or incompatible with federal or other state regulations
Permit Process Improvement
Lean Approach

• Lean Approach – Method for process improvement pioneered by industry and adopted by NHDES for improving internal processes
• DES Residuals Management decided to use the Lean approach to improve sludge permitting processes both internally and for the regulated community
• Lean Approach is ongoing and is being applied to the following permits issued under Env-Wq 800:
  • Sludge hauler permits
  • Sludge quality certification
  • Site permit applications
  • Facility permit applications
Next Steps

• Stakeholder committee meetings continue
• Permit process improvement (Lean approach) meetings continue
• Nov. 2014 - prepare conceptual changes to the rules based upon stakeholder comments
• December 2014 - begin revision of Env-Wq 800
• In January 2015 - initiate formal rulemaking in accordance with DES policy and state statute
• June 2015 - Re-adopt Env-Wq 800
QUESTIONS?

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