

PERMIT FACT SHEET

Applicant: University of Vermont and State Agricultural College
Environmental Safety Facility
UVM BioResearch Complex
667 Spear Street
Burlington, Vermont 05405

EPA ID No.: VTD000636563

Facility: University of Vermont and State Agricultural College
Environmental Safety Facility
UVM BioResearch Complex
667 Spear Street
Burlington, Vermont 05405

Issuing Agency: Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Environmental Conservation

INTRODUCTION

As required under Section 7-506 of the Vermont Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR), this fact sheet reviews the factual, legal, methodological, and policy questions considered in preparing the draft permit renewal for storage of hazardous waste at the Burlington facility owned and operated by University of Vermont and State Agricultural College (UVM).

A permit for this facility is required under VHWMR Section 7-504(a) which states, in part, "...certification from the Secretary (of the Agency of Natural Resources) is required for the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste as identified or listed under Subchapter 2 of the VHWMR." UVM has operated a hazardous waste management facility at the Burlington site since 1991.

REGULATORY CONTEXT

In 1976, the United States Congress passed the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which amended the Solid Waste Disposal Act. RCRA was passed to "provide technical and financial assistance for the development of management plans and facilities for the recovery of energy and other resources from discarded materials and for the safe disposal of discarded materials, and to regulate the management of hazardous waste." RCRA mandated the development of regulations governing the actions of owners or operators who generate, transport, treat, store, or dispose of solid (and hazardous) wastes.

On May 19, 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published hazardous waste management regulations. These regulations became effective on November 19, 1980, and are

designed to protect human health and the environment from the improper management of hazardous waste. RCRA Subtitle C addresses this issue, mandating the proper management of hazardous waste from its point of generation to its ultimate disposal. Subtitle C sets forth performance standards applicable to hazardous waste generators; transporters; and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. On July 18, 1980, the State of Vermont promulgated its own hazardous waste management regulations (Regulations) under the authority of 10 V.S.A. Chapter 159.

On January 7, 1985, Vermont received final authorization (50 FR 775) to administer and enforce a hazardous waste program pursuant to section 3006(b) of RCRA. EPA approved Vermont's hazardous waste program which was determined to be equivalent to and no less stringent than federal requirements. This authorization allowed Vermont to carry out its program in lieu of the federal program.

States with final authorization have a continuing obligation to maintain hazardous waste programs equivalent to and no less stringent than federal requirements. Vermont has since become authorized for program revisions in August of 1993 (58 FR 31911), November of 1999 (64 FR 51702 and 64 FR 56174), October of 2000 (65 FR 64164), August of 2001 (66 FR 42962), June of 2005 (70 FR 36350), May of 2007 (72 FR 12568), March of 2014 (78 FR 79615), June 2015 (80 FR 21650), and March 2023 (88 FR 13034).

PERMIT REVIEW PROCESS

In order to meet the requirements of EPA and State of Vermont Regulations, UVM is seeking to renew its hazardous waste storage facility permit for its Burlington facility. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has completed its review of the UVM application for renewal of its permit, and a copy of the draft permit is now available for public review and comment. Following a 45-day period for public review and comment and a public hearing (see below for additional information) on this request for a permit, DEC will again review the record. A report will be prepared which summarizes all significant comments raised during the comment period and DEC's response to those comments. Any changes made to the draft permit will be enumerated and the reasons for those changes given. After completion of the revisions made in response to public comment, the permit will take effect upon signature of the DEC Commissioner or their duly authorized representative.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment Period: August 14, 2023, through September 28, 2023

Public Hearing: September 21, 2023, at 5 PM
Waterman Building, Room 338
85 S Prospect Street
University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont

Review the Draft Permit: To request a paper copy of the draft permit or to make an appointment to review the draft permit and supporting documentation at the permitting agency's office in Montpelier, VT, please contact Michael Nucci (see below). To review the draft permit online, please visit:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/waste-management/hazardous/permit-facilities>

Direct Comments and Questions to:

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