

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

324.9110 Designation as authorized public agency; application; submission of procedures; variance; approval.

Sec. 9110.

(1) Subject to subsection (4), a state agency or an agency of a local unit of government may apply to the department for designation as an authorized public agency by submitting to the department the soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures governing all earth changes normally undertaken by the agency. If the applicant is an agency of a local unit of government, the department shall submit the procedures to the county enforcing agency and the appropriate conservation district for review. The county enforcing agency and the conservation district shall submit their comments on the procedures to the department within 60 days. If the applicant is a state agency, the department shall submit the procedures to the department of agriculture for review, and the department of agriculture shall submit its comments on the procedures to the department within 60 days.

(2) Subject to subsection (4), if the department finds that the soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures of the state agency or the agency of the local unit of government meet the requirements of this part and rules promulgated under this part, the department shall designate the agency as an authorized public agency.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), after approval of the procedures and designation as an authorized public agency pursuant to subsection (2), all earth changes maintained or undertaken by the authorized public agency shall be undertaken pursuant to the approved procedures. If determined necessary by the department and upon request of an authorized public agency, the department may grant a variance from the provisions of this subsection.

(4) A state agency or an agency of a local unit of government shall not administer and enforce this part and the rules promulgated under this part as an authorized public agency unless the department has approved the agency under this section. An approval under this section is valid for 5 years, after which the department shall review the agency for reapproval. At least 6 months before the expiration of each succeeding 5-year period, the department shall complete a review of the authorized public agency for reapproval. The department shall approve a state agency or an agency of a local unit of government if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The agency has adopted soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures that are at least as restrictive as this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(b) The individuals with decision-making authority who are responsible for administering the soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures have current certificates of training under section 9123.

(c) The agency has submitted evidence of its ability to effectively administer soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures. In determining whether the agency has met the requirement of this subdivision, the department shall consider all of the following:

(i) Funding to administer the agency's soil erosion and sedimentation control program.

(ii) The agency's plans for inspections to assure minimization of soil erosion and off-site sedimentation.

(iii) The adequacy of the agency's soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures.

(iv) If the agency has previously administered soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures, the agency has effectively administered these procedures or has implemented changes in their administration that the department determines will result in the agency effectively administering the soil erosion and sedimentation control procedures. In determining whether the agency has met the requirement of this subparagraph, the department shall consider all of the following:

(A) Whether the agency has had adequate funding to administer the agency's soil erosion and sedimentation control program.

(B) Whether the agency has conducted adequate inspections to assure minimization of soil erosion and off-site sedimentation.

(C) The effectiveness of the agency's past compliance and enforcement efforts.

(D) The adequacy of the agency's soil erosion and sedimentation control plans and procedures as required by rule.

(E) The conditions at construction sites under the jurisdiction of the agency as documented by departmental inspections.

(5) If the department determines that a state agency or an agency of a local unit of government is not approved under subsection (4) or that a state agency or an agency of a local unit of government that was previously approved under subsection (4) is not satisfactorily administering and enforcing this part and the rules promulgated under this part, the department shall enter an order, stipulation, or consent agreement under section 9112(7) denying or revoking the designation of the state agency or agency of a local unit of government as an authorized public agency.

History: Add. 1995, Act 60, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995 ;-- Am. 2000, Act 504, Imd. Eff. Jan. 11, 2001 ;-- Am. 2005, Act 55, Imd. Eff. June 30, 2005

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