

Saskatchewan
Environment

Saskatchewan

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July 7, 1982

Mr. J. F. Castrilli
Project Manager
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Research Foundation
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RECEIVED JUL 12 1982

Dear Mr. Castrilli:

Hazardous Waste Legislation in Saskatchewan

I am writing in response to your March 31st, 1982 letter in which you requested information concerning existing legislation dealing with hazardous waste in this province.

In general, there is no existing legislation pertaining specifically to "hazardous waste" in Saskatchewan and as a result I can not respond directly to many of your questions. I will, however, attempt to give you an overview of the legislation under which we deal with waste management issues together with background on activities that are ongoing in the province. I have identified four broad issues dealing with hazardous wastes which you appear to address in your questions: disposal, transportation, spills, and siting of treatment or disposal facilities. I will deal with these issues individually.

DISPOSAL

We currently deal with the disposal of hazardous waste under one or more of the sections found in: The Department of the Environment Act, The Litter Control Act, The Air Pollution Control Act and The Water Resources Management Act; together with corresponding regulations. I have enclosed a copy of these Acts and regulations for your information. In addition to these Acts, which are administered by our Department, The Public Health Act (administered by the Department of Health), and The Oil and Gas Conservation Act (administered by the Department of Mineral Resources) also deal to some extent with the disposal of waste material.

Within Saskatchewan there are no landfills or permanent storage facilities designated for hazardous wastes. The landfills in the province are primarily intended for municipal refuse and permits for operation are issued by the Department of Health subsequent to approval by the Minister of the Environment. In order for non-municipal wastes to be disposed of at a municipal landfill permission must be obtained from the Departments of Health and Environment and from the municipality in which the landfill is located. No blanket approvals have been granted

by our Department and all requests for disposal are considered on a case specific and site specific basis.

TRANSPORTATION

Under existing Acts and Regulations administered by this Department there are no requirements for the licensing of haulers of waste material. However, licensing is required for liquid waste haulers under Saskatchewan Regulation 198/72 pertaining to The Public Health Act, Section 37:

"A person shall not enter into a contract for transporting for disposal on, from and after the 1st day of January, 1973, liquid wastes such as liquid wastes from septic tanks, breweries and distilleries unless he is in possession of a valid and subsisting permit authorizing him to do so issued by the Minister for the current year."

We are currently reviewing the proposed Federal Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act dealing with interprovincial and international transport of hazardous material in light of its pertinence to Saskatchewan and the possibility of complementary provincial legislation for intraprovincial transport. Towards this end a study on existing manifest (waybill) systems has recently been completed and an inventory of industrial wastes that are generated in the province should be completed later in July.

SPIILLS

In March, 1981, The Environmental Spill Control Regulations were enacted under The Department of the Environment Act. The regulations make mandatory the reporting of any accidental or deliberate discharge of certain pollutants to the environment. Reportable limits of hazardous material spills are set out in the regulations. The minimum quantity reportable is dependent on whether the spill occurs on-site or off-site. Under Section 8 of the regulations the owner of the pollutant and the person having control of the pollutant must: take all reasonable action to prevent further discharge of the pollutant, contain the spill, minimize the effect of the spill and restore the area affected and the environment as nearly as possible to its condition immediately prior to the spill.

Mr. J. F. Castrilli

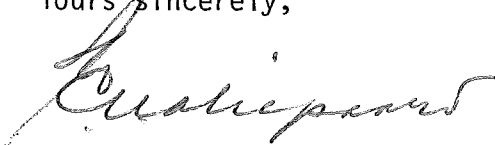
July 7, 1982

SITING

Under The Environmental Assessment Act (a copy is enclosed) provision is made to require an environmental impact statement to be prepared by the proponent of a new development. Such developments are defined in Section 2(d) of the Act. No person may proceed with such a development until he has received ministerial approval. At any time prior to granting approval the Minister may cause a public information meeting to be conducted relating to the development.

I trust that this brief overview and the enclosed Acts and Regulations help to clarify the existing mechanisms for dealing with the hazardous waste problems in Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,



H. S. Maliepaard
A/Deputy Minister

Encl.