NH Wastewater Residuals: Regulatory Changes

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NH Residuals Regulations:

 TITLE L: Water Management and Protection, CHAPTER 485-A: Water Pollution and Waste Disposal

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

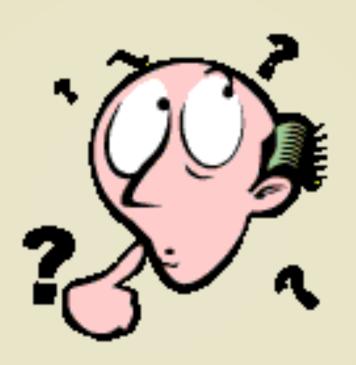
Permit Process Improvement Lean Approach

- 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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