

SUBCHAPTER I: PUBLIC NOTICE OF SOLID WASTE APPLICATIONS
§§39.501, 39.503, 39.509, 39.510
Effective June 24, 2010

§39.501. Application for Municipal Solid Waste Permit.

(a) Applicability. This section applies to applications for municipal solid waste permits that are declared administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999.

(b) Preapplication local review committee process. If an applicant for a municipal solid waste permit decides to participate in a local review committee process under Texas Health and Safety Code, §361.063, the applicant shall submit to the executive director a notice of intent to file an application, setting forth the proposed location and type of facility. The executive director shall mail notice to the county judge of the county in which the facility is to be located. If the proposed facility is to be located in a municipality or the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, a copy of the notice must also be mailed to the mayor of the municipality. The executive director shall also mail notice to the appropriate regional solid waste planning agency or council of government. The mailing must be by certified mail.

(c) Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain a Permit.

(1) Upon the executive director's receipt of an application, or notice of intent to file an application, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the state senator and representative who represent the area in which the facility is or will be located.

(2) After the executive director determines that the application is administratively complete:

(A) notice must be given as required by §39.418 of this title (relating to Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit) and, if a newspaper is not published in the county, then the applicant shall publish notice in a newspaper of circulation in the immediate vicinity in which the facility is located or proposed to be located. This notice must contain the text as required by §39.411(b)(1) - (11) of this title (relating to Text of Public Notice);

(B) the chief clerk shall publish Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit in the *Texas Register*; and

(C) the executive director or chief clerk shall mail the Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit, along with a copy of the application or summary of its contents to the mayor and health authority of a municipality in whose territorial limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the solid waste

facility is located, and to the county judge and the health authority of the county in which the facility is located.

(d) Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision. The notice required by §39.419 of this title (relating to Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision) must be published once as required by §39.405(f)(2) of this title (relating to General Notice Provisions). The notice must be published after the chief clerk has mailed the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision to the applicant. The notice must contain the text as required by §39.411(c)(1) - (6) of this title.

(e) Notice of public meeting.

(1) If an application for a new facility is filed before September 1, 2005:

(A) the agency shall hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning the application; and

(B) the applicant shall hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located. This meeting must be held before the 45th day after the date the application is filed.

(2) If an application for a new facility is filed on or after September 1, 2005:

(A) the agency:

(i) may hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title (relating to Public Meetings) in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning the application; but

(ii) shall hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning the application:

(I) on the request of a member of the legislature who represents the general area in which the facility is proposed to be located; or

(II) if the executive director determines that there is substantial public interest in the proposed facility; and

(B) the applicant may hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, "substantial public interest" is demonstrated if a request for a public meeting is filed by:

(A) a local governmental entity with jurisdiction over the location at which the facility is proposed to be located by formal resolution of the entity's governing body;

(B) a council of governments with jurisdiction over the location at which the facility is proposed to be located by formal request of either the council's solid waste advisory committee, executive committee, or governing board;

(C) a homeowners' or property owners' association formally organized or chartered and having at least ten members located in the general area in which the facility is proposed to be located; or

(D) a group of ten or more local residents, property owners, or businesses located in the general area in which the facility is proposed to be located.

(4) A public meeting is not a contested case proceeding under the Administrative Procedure Act. A public meeting held as part of a local review committee process under subsection (b) of this section meets the requirements of paragraph (1)(A) or (2)(A) of this subsection if public notice is provided under this subsection.

(5) The applicant shall publish notice of any public meeting under this subsection, in accordance with §39.405(f)(2) of this title, once each week during the three weeks preceding a public meeting. The published notice must be at least 15 square inches (96.8 square centimeters) with a shortest dimension of at least three inches (7.6 centimeters). For public meetings under paragraph (1)(B) or (2)(B) of this subsection, the notice of public meeting is not subject to §39.411(d) of this title, but instead must contain at least the following information:

(A) permit application number;

(B) applicant's name;

(C) proposed location of the facility;

(D) location and availability of copies of the application;

(E) location, date, and time of the public meeting; and

(F) name, address, and telephone number of the contact person for the applicant from whom interested persons may obtain further information.

(6) For public meetings held by the agency under paragraph (1)(A) or (2)(A) of this subsection, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title (relating to Mailed Notice).

(f) Notice of hearing.

(1) This subsection applies if an application is referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case hearing under Chapter 80 of this title (relating to Contested Case Hearings).

(2) The applicant shall publish notice at least once under §39.405(f)(2) of this title.

(3) Mailed notice.

(A) If the applicant proposes a new facility, the applicant shall mail notice of the hearing to each residential or business address located within 1/2 mile of the facility and to each owner of real property located within 1/2 mile of the facility listed in the real property appraisal records of the appraisal district in which the facility is located. The notice must be mailed to the persons listed as owners in the real property appraisal records on the date the application is determined to be administratively complete. The notice must be mailed no more than 45 days and no less than 30 days before the hearing. Within 30 days after the date of mailing, the applicant shall file with the chief clerk an affidavit certifying compliance with its obligations under this subsection. Filing an affidavit certifying facts that constitute compliance with notice requirements creates a rebuttable presumption of compliance with this subparagraph.

(B) If the applicant proposes to amend a permit, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title.

(4) Notice under paragraphs (2) and (3)(B) of this subsection must be completed at least 30 days before the hearing.

Adopted June 2, 2010

Effective June 24, 2010

§39.503. Application for Industrial or Hazardous Waste Facility Permit.

(a) Applicability. This section applies to applications for industrial or hazardous waste facility permits that are declared administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999.

(b) Preapplication requirements.

(1) If an applicant for an industrial or hazardous waste facility permit decides to participate in a local review committee process under Texas Health and Safety Code, §361.063, the applicant shall submit a notice of intent to file an application to the executive director, setting forth the proposed location and type of facility. The applicant shall mail notice to the county judge of the county in which the facility is to be located. If the proposed facility is to be located in a municipality or the extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, a copy of the notice must also be mailed to the mayor of the municipality. Mailed notice must be by certified mail. When the applicant submits the notice of intent to the executive director, the applicant shall publish notice of the submission in a paper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is to be located.

(2) The requirements of this paragraph are set forth in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §124.31(b) - (d), which is adopted by reference as amended and adopted in the CFR through December 11, 1995, (60 FR 63417) and apply to all hazardous waste part B applications for initial permits for hazardous waste management units, hazardous waste part B permit applications for major amendments, and hazardous waste part B applications for renewal of permits, where the renewal application is proposing a significant change in facility operations. For the purposes of this paragraph, a "significant change" is any change that would qualify as a Class 3 permit modification under §305.69 of this title (relating to Solid Waste Permit Modification at the Request of the Permittee). The requirements of this paragraph do not apply to an application for minor amendment under §305.62 of this title (relating to Amendment), correction under §50.45 of this title (relating to Corrections to Permits), or modification under §305.69 of this title, or to an application that is submitted for the sole purpose of conducting post-closure activities or post-closure activities and corrective action at a facility, unless the application is also for an initial permit for hazardous waste management unit(s), or the application is also for renewal of the permit, where the renewal application is proposing a significant change in facility operations.

(c) Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit.

(1) Upon the executive director's receipt of an application, or notice of intent to file an application, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the state senator and representative who represent the area in which the facility is or will be located and to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title (relating to Mailed Notice). For all hazardous waste part B applications for initial permits for hazardous waste management units, hazardous waste part B permit applications for major amendments, and hazardous waste part B applications for renewal of permits, the chief clerk shall provide notice to meet the requirements of this subsection and 40 CFR §124.32(b), which is adopted by reference as amended and adopted in the CFR through December 11, 1995, (60 FR 63417) and the executive director shall meet the requirements of 40 CFR §124.32(c), which is adopted by reference as amended and adopted in the CFR through December 11, 1995, (60 FR 63417). The

requirements of this paragraph relating to 40 CFR §124.32(b) and (c) do not apply to an application for minor amendment under §305.62 of this title, correction under §50.45 of this title, or modification under §305.69 of this title, or to an application that is submitted for the sole purpose of conducting post-closure activities or post-closure activities and corrective action at a facility, unless the application is also for an initial permit for hazardous waste management unit(s), or the application is also for renewal of the permit.

(2) After the executive director determines that the application is administratively complete:

(A) notice must be given as required by §39.418 of this title (relating to Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit). Notice under §39.418 of this title will satisfy the notice of receipt of application required by §281.17(d) of this title (relating to Notice of Receipt of Application and Declaration of Administrative Completeness); and

(B) the executive director or chief clerk shall mail notice of this determination along with a copy of the application or summary of its contents to the mayor and health authority of a municipality in whose territorial limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the solid waste facility is located, and to the county judge and the health authority of the county in which the facility is located.

(d) Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision. The notice required by §39.419 of this title (relating to Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision) must be published once as required by §39.405(f)(2) of this title (relating to General Notice Provisions). In addition to the requirements of §39.405(h) and §39.419 of this title, the following requirements apply.

(1) The applicant shall publish notice at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in each county that is adjacent or contiguous to each county in which the facility is located. One notice may satisfy the requirements of §39.405(f)(2) of this title and of this subsection, if the newspaper meets the requirements of both rules.

(2) If the application concerns a hazardous waste facility, the applicant shall broadcast notice of the application on one or more local radio stations that broadcast to an area that includes all of the county in which the facility is located. The executive director may require that the broadcasts be made to an area that also includes contiguous counties.

(3) The notice must comply with §39.411 of this title (relating to Text of Public Notice). The deadline for public comments on industrial solid waste applications will be not less than 30 days after newspaper publication, and for hazardous waste applications, not less than 45 days after newspaper publication.

(e) Notice of public meeting.

(1) If an application for a new hazardous waste facility is filed:

(A) before September 1, 2005, the agency shall hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning the application; or

(B) on or after September 1, 2005, the agency:

(i) may hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title (relating to Public Meetings) in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning the application; but

(ii) shall hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located to receive public comment concerning this application:

(I) on the request of a member of the legislature who represents the general area in which the facility is proposed to be located; or

(II) if the executive director determines that there is substantial public interest in the proposed facility.

(2) If an application for a major amendment to or a Class 3 modification of an existing hazardous waste facility permit is filed:

(A) before September 1, 2005, the agency shall hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is located to receive public comment concerning the application if a person affected files a request for a public meeting with the chief clerk concerning the application before the deadline to file public comment or hearing requests; or

(B) on or after September 1, 2005, the agency:

(i) may hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title in the county in which the facility is located to receive public comment concerning the application; but

(ii) shall hold a public meeting under §55.154 of this title in the county in which the facility is located to receive public comment concerning the application:

(I) on the request of a member of the legislature who represents the general area in which the facility is located; or

(II) if the executive director determines that there is substantial public interest in the facility.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, "substantial public interest" is demonstrated if a request for a public meeting is filed by:

(A) a local governmental entity with jurisdiction over the location at which the facility is located or proposed to be located by formal resolution of the entity's governing body;

(B) a council of governments with jurisdiction over the location at which the facility is located or proposed to be located by formal request of either the council's solid waste advisory committee, executive committee, or governing board;

(C) a homeowners' or property owners' association formally organized or chartered and having at least ten members located in the general area in which the facility is located or proposed to be located; or

(D) a group of ten or more local residents, property owners, or businesses located in the general area in which the facility is located or proposed to be located.

(4) If an application for a new industrial or hazardous waste facility that would accept municipal solid waste is filed:

(A) before September 1, 2005, the applicant shall hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located. This meeting must be held before the 45th day after the date the application is filed; or

(B) on or after September 1, 2005, the applicant may hold a public meeting in the county in which the facility is proposed to be located.

(5) A public meeting is not a contested case proceeding under the Administrative Procedure Act. A public meeting held as part of a local review committee process under subsection (b) of this section meets the requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection if public notice is provided under this subsection.

(6) The applicant shall publish notice of any public meeting under this subsection, in accordance with §39.405(f)(2) of this title, once each week during the three weeks preceding a public meeting. The published notice must be at least 15

square inches (96.8 square centimeters) with a shortest dimension of at least three inches (7.6 centimeters). For public meetings under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the notice of public meeting is not subject to §39.411(d) of this title, but instead must contain at least the following information:

- (A) permit application number;
- (B) applicant's name;
- (C) proposed location of the facility;
- (D) location and availability of copies of the application;
- (E) location, date, and time of the public meeting; and

(F) name, address, and telephone number of the contact person for the applicant from whom interested persons may obtain further information.

(7) For public meetings held by the agency under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title.

(f) Notice of hearing.

(1) Applicability. This subsection applies if an application is referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings for a contested case hearing under Chapter 80 of this title (concerning Contested Case Hearings).

(2) Newspaper notice.

(A) The applicant shall publish notice at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located and in each county and area that is adjacent or contiguous to each county in which the proposed facility is located.

(B) If the application concerns a hazardous waste facility, the hearing must include one session held in the county in which the facility is located. The applicant shall publish notice of the hearing once each week during the three weeks preceding the hearing under §39.405(f)(2) of this title. The published notice must be at least 15 square inches (96.8 square centimeters) with a shortest dimension of at least three inches (7.6 centimeters) or have a total size of at least nine column inches (18 square inches). The text of the notice must include the statement that at least one session of the hearing will be held in the county in which the facility is located.

(3) Mailed notice.

(A) If the applicant proposes a new solid waste management facility, the applicant shall mail notice to each residential or business address located within 1/2 mile of the facility and to each owner of real property located within 1/2 mile of the facility listed in the real property appraisal records of the appraisal district in which the facility is located. The notice must be mailed to the persons listed as owners in the real property appraisal records on the date the application is determined to be administratively complete. The chief clerk shall mail notice to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title, except that the chief clerk shall not mail notice to the persons listed in paragraph (1) of that section. The notice must be mailed no more than 45 days and no less than 30 days before the hearing. Within 30 days after the date of mailing, the applicant shall file with the chief clerk an affidavit certifying compliance with its obligations under this subsection. Filing an affidavit certifying facts that constitute compliance with notice requirements creates a rebuttable presumption of compliance with this subparagraph.

(B) If the applicant proposes to amend or renew an existing permit, the chief clerk shall mail notice to the persons listed in §39.413 of this title.

(4) Radio broadcast. If the application concerns a hazardous waste facility, the applicant shall broadcast notice of the hearing under subsection (d)(2) of this section.

(5) Deadline. Notice under paragraphs (2)(A), (3), and (4) of this subsection must be completed at least 30 days before the hearing.

(g) Injection wells. This section does not apply to applications for an injection well permit.

(h) Information repository. The requirements of 40 CFR §124.33(b) - (f), which is adopted by reference as amended and adopted in the CFR through December 11, 1995, (60 FR 63417) apply to all applications for hazardous waste permits.

Adopted June 28, 2006

Effective July 19, 2006

§39.509. Application for a Class 3 Modification of an Industrial or Hazardous Waste Permit.

(a) Applicability. This section applies to applications for Class 3 modification of industrial or hazardous waste permits that are declared administratively complete on or after September 1, 1999.

(b) Notice shall be given under §39.418 of the this title (relating to Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit), instead of giving notice under §305.69(d)(2) of this title (relating to Solid Waste Permit Modification at the Request of the Permittee). Notice shall also be given under §39.419 of the title (relating to Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision).

(c) Notice of the public meeting required by §305.69(d)(4) shall be included with the Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit under §39.418.

Adopted September 2, 1999

Effective September 23, 1999

§39.510. Notice Requirements for Inactive Municipal Solid Waste Permit.

(a) This section applies to the owners or operators of inactive permitted municipal solid waste (MSW) facilities, which are those facilities that have not accepted waste within two years of permit issuance or have ceased accepting waste for at least two consecutive years. For the purposes of this section, permit issuance means the date that a permit is issued by the commission or the date of a final, non-appealable decision regarding the permit. This section applies to facilities permitted before, on, or after the effective date of this rule.

(1) Within two years of the date of permit issuance, the date of ceasing to accept waste, or the effective date of this rule, whichever is later, the owner or operator of an inactive MSW facility shall notify the executive director, in writing, that the facility is inactive and that the owner or operator intends to operate the facility in the future. In the event that the owner or operator does not intend to operate the facility, the owner or operator should begin voluntary permit revocation procedures.

(2) Within two years of the date of permit issuance, the date of ceasing to accept waste, or the effective date of this rule, whichever is later, the owner or operator of an inactive permitted MSW facility shall publish notice of intent to operate the facility, at least once, in a newspaper of the largest circulation that is published in the county in which the facility is located or proposed to be located. If a newspaper is not published in the county, then the owner or operator shall publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located or proposed to be located, and such notice may be satisfied by a one-time publication if the publishing newspaper meets the circulation requirements. Thereafter, notice must be published annually in accordance with this paragraph, until the facility begins accepting waste or voluntary permit revocation is requested.

(3) Within two years of the date of permit issuance, the date of ceasing to accept waste, or the effective date of this rule, whichever is later, the owner or operator of an inactive permitted MSW facility shall provide, by certified mail, the notice of intent to operate the facility to:

(A) landowners within 500 feet of the facility property line, as determined by county tax rolls or other reliable sources;

(B) the mayor and health authorities of the city or town in which territorial limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction the facility is located or proposed to be located;

(C) the county judge and health authorities of the county in which the facility is located or proposed to be located; and

(D) the council of governments that serves or covers the area or county in which the facility is located or proposed to be located. Thereafter, notice must be sent annually in accordance with this paragraph, until the facility begins accepting waste.

(4) The owner or operator shall file an affidavit with the executive director certifying facts that constitute compliance with the notice requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection within 30 days of the last publication of the published notice required by paragraph (2) of this subsection. The owner or operator shall also file a copy of the published notice required by paragraph (2) of this subsection with the executive director that shows the date of publication and the name of the newspaper within ten business days after its publication. The deadline to file a copy of the published notice that shows the date of publication and the name of the newspaper is ten business days after the last date of publication. The deadline to file the affidavit is 30 calendar days after the last date of publication for each notice. Filing an affidavit certifying facts that constitute compliance with the public notice requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection creates a rebuttable presumption of compliance with the requirement to publish notice.

(5) The text of the newspaper notice and the mailed notice must include:

(A) the name and address of the agency and the telephone number of an agency contact from whom interested persons may obtain further information;

(B) the name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator and a contact person from whom interested persons may obtain further information and, if different, the location of the facility or activity to be regulated by the permit;

(C) a brief description of the activity authorized by the permit;

(D) the permit number and permit issuance date; and

(E) a statement indicating that the permitted facility may begin construction or operation at a future time, and an estimated date of when the facility is expected to begin construction and operation.

(b) Within six months of the date of permit issuance, the date of ceasing to accept waste, or the effective date of this rule, whichever is later, the owners or operators of permitted MSW facilities that are not receiving waste shall provide signs specifying the facility's status. At the owner's or operator's expense, a sign or signs must be placed at the site of the permitted facility declaring that the permit has been issued and stating the manner in which the commission and owner or operator may be contacted for further information. Such signs must be provided by the owner or operator and must substantially meet the following requirements. Signs must:

(1) consist of dark lettering on a white background and must be no smaller than four feet by four feet with letters at least three inches in height and block printed capital lettering;

(2) be headed by the words "AUTHORIZED MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY";

(3) include the words "PERMIT NO.," the number of the permit, and the type of permit;

(4) include the words "for further information contact";

(5) include the words "Texas Commission on Environmental Quality" and the address and telephone number of the appropriate commission regional office;

(6) include the name of the owner or operator, and the address of the appropriate responsible official;

(7) include the telephone number of the owner or operator;

(8) include the expected start-up date for beginning operation; and

(9) remain in place and legible until the facility is opened. The owner or operator shall provide a verification to the executive director that the sign posting was conducted according to the requirements of this section.

(c) Each sign placed at the site must be located within ten feet of every property line bordering a public highway, street, or road. Signs must be visible from the street and spaced at not more than 1,500-foot intervals. A minimum of one

sign, but no more than three signs, shall be required along any property line paralleling a public highway, street, or road. This section's sign requirements do not apply to properties under the same ownership that are noncontiguous or separated by intervening public highway, street, or road, unless the property is part of the permitted facility.

(d) The executive director may approve variances from the requirements of subsections (b) and (c) of this section if the owner or operator has demonstrated that it is not practical to comply with the specific requirements of this subsection and alternative sign posting plans proposed by the applicant are at least as effective in providing notice to the public. Approval from the executive director under this subsection must be received before posting alternative signs for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section.

Adopted May 11, 2005

Effective June 2, 2005