



## MAX Yukon Applying to Renew Hazardous Waste Management Permit

MAX Environmental Technologies, Inc. plans to apply to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to renew the company's hazardous waste management permit (also called a RCRA permit) for the Yukon facility. This fact sheet provides an overview of these planned efforts and how interested parties may be involved in the application process.

### Overview of Existing Permit

Operations involving hazardous waste management at the Yukon facility comply with DEP Permit No. PAD004835146. Two types of activities at the facility are covered by this permit:

- Treating wastes to remove hazardous characteristics so that they may be either safely disposed of in the on-site residual waste landfill, or sent to another permitted facility for final disposal.
- Storing waste before treatment and then again after treatment until lab testing confirms that it is safe for disposal.

The permit requires that any hazardous waste accepted at the facility be treated to standards in the permit before being disposed of as residual waste. No hazardous waste is permanently stored at or disposed of at the facility.

The permit also specifies what types of waste may be accepted for treatment. These include spent steel mill pickle liquor not suitable for recycling, wastes requiring pH



This mixing operation at the Yukon facility is covered under the existing hazardous waste permit. Here, wastes deemed hazardous are treated to adjust pH levels or chemically bind metals so that they don't leach. After treatment, the waste is analyzed to confirm it meets permit standards, and then is disposed of as residual waste.

adjustment, and wastes that contain metals in concentrations that could leach out if not treated. After treatment, all wastes must meet regulatory standards for non-hazardous waste. Additionally, any waste destined for disposal must be in solid form;

no liquid wastes are disposed of in the facility landfill. Wastes that are not hazardous, such as most soils and rock from Brownfield sites, drill cuttings, slag and most construction debris, are managed under a separate permit for the site.

### Proposed Changes to the Permit

In applying to renew the hazardous waste management permit, MAX plans to request two additional items for coverage. The first addition involves adding mercury to the list of metals that may be managed in hazardous wastes

accepted by the facility. The process for managing this waste would be the same as for other metals-contaminated material, that is, the waste would be stabilized by chemically binding the metal in the material. The change would

allow MAX to expand its service reach using existing equipment and operations. The second requested addition to the permit would be to construct and operate another waste storage area.

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## Proposed Changes to the Permit *(Continued from Page 1)*

The structure would be an open-access covered building similar to a warehouse, where wastes may be temporarily staged.

The structure, expected to be built near the facility's current Containment and Processing (CAP) building, would provide

for improved storage options and increased operational efficiencies.

## Public Input in the Permitting Process

Interested parties are invited to offer comment throughout the permit renewal process. A pre-application public meeting will be hosted by MAX at the Yukon Fire Hall on Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 7 p.m. Public comments received at this meeting will be included in the renewal application package to

be submitted to the DEP. The application will be submitted in mid-August. Public input will continue to be sought and considered throughout the application process. Once the renewal application is received by DEP, a formal public comment period will be

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Public Pre-application Meeting**  
**Yukon Fire Hall**  
**July 15, 2014**  
**7 p.m.**

announced. Additionally the DEP may host a separate public hearing.

## Questions and Answers

### 1. What does RCRA mean?

RCRA stands for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the law governing the management and disposal of solid waste. The law contains provisions for both non-hazardous waste and hazardous waste; however the acronym is often associated with hazardous waste activities.

### 2. What is the difference between hazardous waste and residual waste?

The term hazardous waste is used to describe solid waste that either exhibits a specific hazardous characteristic based on regulatory thresholds (such as a certain concentration of chemicals) or it

appears on a specific list of waste known to be hazardous by nature (such as spent pickle liquor from steel mills). Residual waste is non-hazardous waste generated by industry, such as soil that cannot be used as clean fill, slag, and oil and gas drill cuttings. While residual waste does not include municipal trash, many municipal waste landfills are permitted to accept residual waste in addition to sanitary waste.

### 3. Is hazardous waste disposed of at the facility?

No. Operations covered by the permit are limited to the temporary storage of hazardous waste and treatment of the waste to remove hazardous characteristics.

### 4. Does the permit cover oil and gas waste?

Most oil and gas waste is not a hazardous waste. However, there may be cases where waste generated by the oil and gas industry would be considered hazardous, for instance if it was mixed with a material considered to be hazardous. In those cases, as long as the waste meets the criteria in MAX's permit, it may be accepted and treated.

### 5. Does the permit cover waste with radioactivity?

No. However, Pennsylvania waste regulations that govern all waste treatment and landfill facilities require that incoming loads of waste be screened with radiation detectors.

### For More Information:

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