

**65-34,168. Plan; approval or disapproval; procedures; approval void, when; verification of implementation.** (a) The department shall provide formal written notification to the applicant that a voluntary cleanup plan has been approved or disapproved within 60 days of submittal of the voluntary cleanup plan by the applicant unless the department extends the time for review to a date certain.

(b) The department shall approve a voluntary cleanup plan if the department concludes that the plan will attain a degree of cleanup and control of contaminants that complies with all applicable statutes and rules and regulations.

(c) If a voluntary cleanup plan is not approved by the department, the department shall promptly provide the applicant with a written statement of the reasons for denial. If the department disapproves a voluntary cleanup plan based upon the applicant's failure to submit the information required, the department shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies in the information submitted.

(d) The approval of a voluntary cleanup plan by the department applies only to those contaminants and conditions identified on the property based upon the statutes and rules and regulations that exist when the application is submitted.

(e) Upon determination by the department that a voluntary cleanup plan is acceptable, the department shall publish a notice of the determination in a local newspaper of general circulation in the area affected and make the voluntary cleanup plan available to the public. The public shall have 15 days from the date of publication during which any person may submit to the department written comments regarding the voluntary cleanup plan. After 15 days have elapsed, the department may hold a public information meeting if, in the department's judgment, the comments submitted warrant such a meeting or if the applicant requests such a meeting. Upon completion of the public notification and participation process, the department shall make a determination to approve the plan in accordance with this section.

(f) Departmental approval of a voluntary cleanup plan shall be void upon:

(1) Failure of an applicant to comply with the approved voluntary cleanup plan;

(2) willful submission of false, inaccurate or misleading information by the applicant in the context of the voluntary cleanup plan; or

(3) failure to initiate the plan within 6 months after approval by the department, or failure to complete the plan within 24 months after approval by the department, unless the department grants an extension of time.

(g) An applicant desiring to implement a voluntary clean up plan after the time limits prescribed by subsection (f) (3) have expired shall submit a written petition for reapplication accompanied by written assurances from the applicant that the conditions on the subject property are substantially similar to those existing at the time of the original approval. Reapplications shall be reviewed by the department. Any reapplication that involves property upon which the condition has substantially changed since approval of the original voluntary cleanup plan shall be treated as a new application and shall be subject to all the requirements of this act.

(h) Within 45 days after the completion of the voluntary cleanup described in the approved voluntary cleanup plan, the applicant shall provide to the department assurance that the plan has been fully implemented. A verification sampling program shall be required by the department to confirm that the property has been cleaned up as described in the voluntary cleanup plan.

**History:** L. 1997, ch. 137, § 8; July 1.