

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

324.3132 Sewage sludge generators and sewage sludge distributors; fees; report; sewage sludge land application fund; local ordinance.

Sec. 3132.

(1) Beginning in state fiscal year 1998, an annual sewage sludge land application fee is imposed upon sewage sludge generators and sewage sludge distributors. The sewage sludge land application fee shall be in an amount equal to the sum of an administrative fee and a generation fee. The administrative fee shall be \$400.00 and the department shall set the generation fee as provided by subsection (2). The department shall set the generation fee so that the annual cumulative total of the sewage sludge land application fee to be paid in a state fiscal year is, as nearly as possible, \$650,000.00 minus the amount in the fund created under subsection (5) carried forward from the prior state fiscal year. Starting with fees to be paid in state fiscal year 1999, the \$650,000.00 amount shall be annually adjusted for inflation using the Detroit consumer price index.

(2) Each sewage sludge generator and sewage sludge distributor shall annually report to the department for each state fiscal year, beginning with the 1997 state fiscal year, the number of dry tons of sewage sludge it generated or the number of dry tons of sewage sludge in sewage sludge derivatives it distributed that were applied to land in that state fiscal year. The report is due 30 days after the end of the state fiscal year. By December 15 of each state fiscal year, the department shall determine the generation fee on a per dry ton basis by dividing the cumulative generation fee by the number of dry tons of sewage sludge applied to land or in sewage sludge derivatives applied to land in the immediately preceding state fiscal year. The department shall notify each sewage sludge generator and sewage sludge distributor of the generation fee on a per dry ton basis. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for the 1998 state fiscal year, the generation fee shall not exceed \$4.00 per dry ton.

(3) By January 31 of each state fiscal year, each sewage sludge generator or sewage sludge distributor shall pay its sewage sludge land application fee. The sewage sludge generator or sewage sludge distributor shall determine the amount of its sewage sludge land application fee by multiplying the number of dry tons of sewage sludge that it reported under subsection (2) by the generation fee and adding the administrative fee.

(4) The department of environmental quality shall assess interest on all fee payments submitted under this section after the due date. The permittee shall pay an additional amount equal to 0.75% of the payment due for each month or portion of a month the payment remains past due. The failure by a person to timely pay a fee imposed by this section is a violation of this part.

(5) The sewage sludge land application fund is created in the state treasury. The department of environmental quality shall forward all fees collected under this section to the state treasurer for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the fund. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the fund. The state treasurer shall credit to the fund interest and earnings from fund investments. An unexpended balance within the fund at the close of the state fiscal year shall be carried forward to the following state fiscal year. The fund shall be allocated solely for the administration of this section and sections 3131 and 3133, including, but not limited to, education of the farmers, sewage sludge generators, sewage sludge distributors, and the general public about land application of sewage sludge and sewage sludge derivatives and the requirements of this section and sections 3131 and 3133. The director of the department of environmental quality may contract with a nonprofit educational organization to administer the educational components of this section. Ten percent of the fund shall be allocated to the department of agriculture to provide persons involved in or affected by land application of sewage sludge or sewage sludge derivatives with education and technical assistance relating to land application of sewage sludge or sewage sludge derivatives.

(6) A local unit may enact, maintain, and enforce an ordinance that prohibits the land application of sewage sludge or a sewage sludge derivative if monitoring indicates a pollutant concentration in excess of that provided in table 1 of 40 C.F.R. 503.13 until subsequent monitoring indicates that pollutant concentrations do not exceed those provided in table 1 of 40 C.F.R. 503.13.

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