

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

**324.11516 Final decision on license application; time; effect of failure to make final decision; expiration and renewal of operating license; fee; entry on private or public property; inspection or investigation; conditions to issuance of operating license for new disposal area; issuance of license as authority to accept waste for disposal.**

Sec. 11516. (1) The department shall conduct a consistency review before making a final decision on a license application. The department shall notify the clerk of the municipality in which the disposal area is located and the applicant of its approval or denial of a license application within 10 days after the final decision is made.

(2) An operating license shall expire 5 years after the date of issuance. An operating license may be renewed before expiration upon payment of a renewal application fee specified in section 11512(8) if the licensee is in compliance with this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(3) The issuance of the operating license under this part empowers the department or a health officer or an authorized representative of a health officer to enter at any reasonable time, pursuant to law, in or upon private or public property licensed under this part for the purpose of inspecting or investigating conditions relating to the storage, processing, or disposal of any material.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the department shall not issue an operating license for a new disposal area within a planning area unless a solid waste management plan for that planning area has been approved pursuant to sections 11536 and 11537 and unless the disposal area complies with and is consistent with the approved solid waste management plan. The department may issue an operating license for a disposal area designed to receive ashes produced in connection with the combustion of fossil fuels for electrical power generation in the absence of an approved county solid waste management plan, upon receipt of a letter of approval from whichever county or counties, group of municipalities, or regional planning agency has prepared or is preparing the county solid waste management plan for that planning area under section 11533 and from the municipality in which the disposal area is to be located.

(5) Issuance of an operating license by the department authorizes the licensee to accept waste for disposal in certified portions of the disposal area for which a bond was established under section 11523 and, for type II landfills, for which financial assurance was demonstrated under section 11523a. If the construction of a portion of a landfill licensed under this section is not complete at the time of license application, the owner or operator of the landfill shall submit a certification under the seal of a licensed professional engineer verifying that the construction of that portion of the landfill has proceeded according to the approved plans at least 60 days prior to the anticipated date of waste disposal in that portion of the landfill. If the department does not deny the certification within 60 days of receipt, the owner or operator may accept waste for disposal in the certified portion. In the case of a denial, the department shall issue a written statement stating the reasons why the construction or certification is not consistent with this part or rules promulgated under this part or the approved plans.

**History:** 1994, Act 451, Eff. Mar. 30, 1995;—Am. 1996, Act 358, Eff. Oct. 1, 1996;—Am. 2003, Act 153, Eff. Oct. 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 325, Imd. Eff. Sept. 10, 2004.

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