

CHAPTER 116

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

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116.02 POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY, CREATION.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 3. The membership of the pollution control agency shall be broadly representative of the skills and experience necessary to effectuate the policy of sections 116.01 to 116.075, except that no member appointed shall be an officer or employee of the state or federal government. Only two members at one time may be officials or employees of a municipality or any governmental subdivision, but neither may be a member ex-officio or otherwise on the management board of a municipal sanitary sewage disposal system.

[For text of subds 4 and 5, see M.S.1980]

History: 1Sp1981 c 4 art 1 s 73

116.06 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. The definitions given in this section shall obtain for the purposes of sections 116.01 to 116.075 except as otherwise expressly provided or indicated by the context.

[For text of subds 2 to 15, see M.S.1980]

History: 1Sp1981 c 4 art 1 s 74

116.07 POWERS AND DUTIES.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 2. **Adoption of standards.** The pollution control agency shall improve air quality by promoting, in the most practicable way possible, the use of energy sources and waste disposal methods which produce or emit the least air contaminants consistent with the agency's overall goal of reducing all forms of pollution. The agency shall also adopt standards of air quality, including maximum allowable standards of emission of air contaminants from motor vehicles, recognizing that due to variable factors, no single standard of purity of air is applicable to all areas of the state. In adopting standards the pollution control agency shall give due recognition to the fact that the quantity or characteristics of air contaminants or the duration of their presence in the atmosphere, which may cause air pollution in one area of the state, may cause less or not cause any air pollution in another area of the state, and it shall take into consideration in this connection such factors, including others which it may deem proper, as existing physical conditions, zoning classifications, topography, prevailing wind directions and velocities, and the fact that a standard of air quality which may be proper as to an essentially residential area of the state, may not be proper as to a highly developed industrial area of the state. Such standards of air quality shall be premised upon scientific knowledge of causes as well as effects based on technically substantiated criteria and commonly accepted practices. No local government unit shall set standards of air quality which are more stringent than those set by the pollution control agency.

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The pollution control agency shall promote solid waste disposal control by encouraging the updating of collection systems, elimination of open dumps, and improvements in incinerator practices. The agency shall also adopt standards for the control of the collection, transportation, storage, processing, and disposal of solid waste and sewage sludge for the prevention and abatement of water, air and land pollution, recognizing that due to variable factors, no single standard of control is applicable to all areas of the state. In adopting standards, the pollution control agency shall give due recognition to the fact that elements of control which may be reasonable and proper in densely populated areas of the state may be unreasonable and improper in sparsely populated or remote areas of the state, and it shall take into consideration in this connection such factors, including others which it may deem proper, as existing physical conditions, topography, soils and geology, climate, transportation, and land use. Such standards of control shall be premised on technical criteria and commonly accepted practices.

The pollution control agency shall also adopt standards describing the maximum levels of noise in terms of sound pressure level which may occur in the outdoor atmosphere, recognizing that due to variable factors no single standard of sound pressure is applicable to all areas of the state. Such standards shall give due consideration to such factors as the intensity of noises, the types of noises, the frequency with which noises recur, the time period for which noises continue, the times of day during which noises occur, and such other factors as could affect the extent to which noises may be injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life, or property, or could interfere unreasonably with the enjoyment of life or property. In adopting standards, the pollution control agency shall give due recognition to the fact that the quantity or characteristics of noise or the duration of its presence in the outdoor atmosphere, which may cause noise pollution in one area of the state, may cause less or not cause any noise pollution in another area of the state, and it shall take into consideration in this connection such factors, including others which it may deem proper, as existing physical conditions, zoning classifications, topography, meteorological conditions and the fact that a standard which may be proper in an essentially residential area of the state, may not be proper as to a highly developed industrial area of the state. Such noise standards shall be premised upon scientific knowledge as well as effects based on technically substantiated criteria and commonly accepted practices. No local governing unit shall set standards describing the maximum levels of sound pressure which are more stringent than those set by the pollution control agency.

The pollution control agency shall adopt standards for the identification of hazardous waste and for the management, identification, labeling, classification, storage, collection, transportation, processing, and disposal of hazardous waste, recognizing that due to variable factors, a single standard of hazardous waste control may not be applicable to all areas of the state. In adopting standards, the pollution control agency shall recognize that elements of control which may be reasonable and proper in densely populated areas of the state may be unreasonable and improper in sparsely populated or remote areas of the state. The agency shall consider existing physical conditions, topography, soils, and geology, climate, transportation and land use. Standards of hazardous waste control shall be premised on technical knowledge, and commonly accepted practices. No local government unit shall set standards of hazardous waste control which are in conflict or inconsistent with those set by the pollution control agency.

[For text of subds 2a and 3, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 4. **Rules and standards.** Pursuant and subject to the provisions of chapter 15, and the provisions hereof, the pollution control agency may adopt, amend and rescind rules and standards having the force of law relating to any purpose within the provisions of Laws 1969, Chapter 1046, for the prevention, abatement, or control of air pollution. Any such rule or standard may be of general application throughout the state, or may be limited as to times, places, circumstances, or conditions in order to make due allowance for variations therein. Without limitation, rules or standards may relate to sources or emissions of air contamination or air pollution, to the quality or composition of such emissions, or to the quality of or composition of the ambient air or outdoor atmosphere or to any other matter relevant to the prevention, abatement, or control of air pollution.

Pursuant and subject to the provisions of chapter 15, and the provisions hereof, the pollution control agency may adopt, amend, and rescind rules and standards having the force of law relating to any purpose within the provisions of Laws 1969, Chapter 1046, for the collection, transportation, storage, processing, and disposal of solid waste and the prevention, abatement, or control of water, air, and land pollution which may be related thereto, and the deposit in or on land of any other material that may tend to cause pollution. The agency shall adopt such rules and standards for sewage sludge, addressing the intrinsic suitability of land, the volume and rate of application of sewage sludge of various degrees of intrinsic hazard, design of facilities, and operation of facilities and sites. The agency shall promulgate temporary rules for sewage sludge pursuant to section 15.0412, subdivision 5. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 15.0412, subdivision 5, the temporary rules shall be effective until permanent rules are promulgated or March 1, 1982, whichever is earlier. Any such rule or standard may be of general application throughout the state or may be limited as to times, places, circumstances, or conditions in order to make due allowance for variations therein. Without limitation, rules or standards may relate to collection, transportation, processing, disposal, equipment, location, procedures, methods, systems or techniques or to any other matter relevant to the prevention, abatement or control of water, air, and land pollution which may be advised through the control of collection, transportation, processing, and disposal of solid waste and sewage sludge, and the deposit in or on land of any other material that may tend to cause pollution.

Pursuant and subject to the provisions of chapter 15, and the provisions hereof, the pollution control agency may adopt, amend and rescind rules and standards having the force of law relating to any purpose within the provisions of Laws 1971, Chapter 727, for the prevention, abatement, or control of noise pollution. Any such rule or standard may be of general application throughout the state, or may be limited as to times, places, circumstances or conditions in order to make due allowances for variations therein. Without limitation, rules or standards may relate to sources or emissions of noise or noise pollution, to the quality or composition of noises in the natural environment, or to any other matter relevant to the prevention, abatement, or control of noise pollution.

As to any matters subject to this chapter, local units of government may set emission regulations with respect to stationary sources which are more stringent than those set by the pollution control agency.

Pursuant to chapter 15, the pollution control agency may adopt, amend, and rescind rules and standards having the force of law relating to any purpose within the provisions of this chapter for the management, identification, labeling, classification, storage, collection, treatment, transportation, processing, and disposal of hazardous waste and location of hazardous waste facilities. A rule or standard may be of general application throughout the state or may be limited as to time,

places, circumstances, or conditions. The public utilities commission, in cooperation with the pollution control agency, shall set standards for the transportation of hazardous waste in accordance with chapter 221. In implementing its hazardous waste rules, the pollution control agency shall give high priority to providing planning and technical assistance to hazardous waste generators. The agency shall assist generators in investigating the availability and feasibility of both interim and long term hazardous waste management methods. The methods shall include waste reduction, waste separation, waste processing, resource recovery, and temporary storage.

The pollution control agency shall give highest priority in the consideration of permits to authorize disposal of diseased shade trees by open burning at designated sites to evidence concerning economic costs of transportation and disposal of diseased shade trees by alternative methods.

[For text of subds 4a to 9, see M.S.1980]

History: 1981 c 352 s 27,28

116.10 POLICY; LONG-RANGE PLAN; PURPOSE.

Consistent with the policy announced herein and the purposes of Laws 1963, Chapter 874, the pollution control agency shall, before November 15 of each even numbered year, prepare a long-range plan and program for the effectuation of said policy, and shall make a report also of progress on abatement and control of air and land pollution during each biennium to the legislature with recommendations for action in furtherance of the air and land pollution and waste programs.

History: 1Sp1981 c 4 art 2 s 12

116.18 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FUNDS; APPROPRIATIONS AND BONDS.

Subdivision 1. Appropriation from the fund. The sum of \$155,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Minnesota state water pollution control fund in the state treasury to the pollution control agency, for the period commencing on July 23, 1971 and ending June 30, 1983, to be granted and disbursed to municipalities and agencies of the state in aid of the construction of projects conforming to section 116.16, in accordance with the rules, priorities, and criteria therein described. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and in subdivision 2, these state funds shall be expended at 15 per centum of the eligible cost of construction and shall be expended only for projects tendered a grant of federal funds under section 201(g), section 202, section 203 or section 206(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1314 et seq., at 75 per centum of the eligible cost for construction of the treatment works; provided, that not less than ten percent of the cost shall be paid by the municipality or agency constructing the project. In the event that a municipality is tendered federal and state grants in a percentage cumulatively exceeding 90 per centum of the eligible cost of construction, the state pollution control agency shall reduce the grant to the municipality under this chapter to the extent necessary to assure that not less than ten percent of the cost shall be paid by the municipality. It is the purpose of this appropriation that a grant of state funds for each project approved in each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1971 through 1983, shall be made in an amount not less than that required in federal law and regulations as a condition for the grant of federal funds for the project and for all other water pollution control projects for which federal grants are allocated in the same year, in the maximum amount permissible under law and regulations.

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Notwithstanding any other provision, the agency may, in its discretion, and after consideration of the amount of state funds required to match federal funds, make a grant of state funds not exceeding 15 per centum to a municipality that would qualify for a grant of federal funds but desires to initiate construction of a project without a federal grant. The agency may limit the scope and eligible cost of the project.

If a municipality is tendered a grant of federal funds under section 201, paragraph (g), section 202, section 203 or section 206, paragraph (f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1314 et seq., at 85 percent of the eligible cost for construction of treatment works utilizing innovative or alternative wastewater treatment processes and techniques, state funds shall be expended at nine percent of the eligible cost of construction; provided, that not less than six percent of the eligible cost of construction shall be paid by the municipality or agency constructing the project. In the event that a municipality is tendered federal and state grants in a percentage cumulatively exceeding 94 percent of the eligible cost of construction, the state pollution control agency shall reduce the grant to the municipality under this chapter to the extent necessary to assure that the municipality receives no more than 94 percent of the eligible cost of construction.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 4. **Bond authorization.** For the purpose of providing money appropriated in subdivision 1 for expenditure from the Minnesota state water pollution control fund through grants to municipalities and agencies of the state for the acquisition and betterment of public land, buildings, and improvements of a capital nature needed for the prevention, control, and abatement of water pollution, the commissioner of finance is authorized upon request of the pollution control agency to sell and issue Minnesota state water pollution control bonds in the amount of \$144,000,000, in the manner and upon the conditions prescribed in section 116.17 and in the Constitution, Article XI, Sections 4 to 7. The proceeds of the bonds, except as provided in section 116.17, subdivision 5, are appropriated and shall be credited to the Minnesota state water pollution control fund. The amount of bonds issued pursuant to this authorization shall not exceed at any time the amount needed to produce a balance in the water pollution control fund equal to the aggregate amount of grants then approved and not previously disbursed, plus the amount of grants to be approved in the current and the following fiscal year, as estimated by the pollution control agency.

[For text of subds 5 and 6, see M.S.1980]

History: 1981 c 361 s 14,15

116.41 WASTE AND WASTE FACILITIES CLASSIFICATION; TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.

[For text of subds 1 and 1a, see M.S.1980]

Subd. 2. **Training and certification programs.** The agency shall develop standards of competence for persons operating and inspecting various classes of disposal facilities. The agency shall conduct training programs for persons operating facilities for the disposal of waste and for inspectors of such facilities, and may charge such fees as are necessary to cover the actual costs of the training programs.

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The agency shall require operators and inspectors of such facilities to obtain from the agency a certificate of competence. The agency shall conduct examinations to test the competence of applicants for certification, and shall require that certificates be renewed at reasonable intervals. The agency may charge such fees as are necessary to cover the actual costs of receiving and processing applications, conducting examinations, and issuing and renewing certificates. Certificates shall not be required for a private individual for landspreading and associated interim and temporary storage of sewage sludge on property owned or farmed by that individual.

[For text of subds 3 and 4, see M.S.1980]

History: 1981 c 352 s 29