

## CHAPTER 115A

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

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#### CITATION, PURPOSE, AND DEFINITIONS

##### 115A.01 CITATION.

Sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 shall be known as the waste management act of 1980.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 1 s 1

##### 115A.02 LEGISLATIVE DECLARATION OF POLICY; PURPOSES.

It is the goal of sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 to improve waste management in the state to serve the following purposes:

- (a) Reduction in waste generated;
- (b) Separation and recovery of materials and energy from waste;
- (c) Reduction in indiscriminate dependence on disposal of waste;
- (d) Coordination of solid waste management among political subdivisions;
- (e) Orderly and deliberate development and financial security of waste facilities including disposal facilities.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 1 s 2

### 115A.03 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 115A.01 to 115A.72, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them, unless the context requires otherwise.

Subd. 2. "Agency" means the pollution control agency.

Subd. 3. "Board" means the waste management board established in section 115A.04.

Subd. 4. "Cities" means statutory and home rule charter cities and towns authorized to plan under sections 462.351 to 462.364.

Subd. 5. "Collection" means the aggregation of waste from the place at which it is generated and includes all activities up to the time the waste is delivered to a waste facility.

Subd. 6. "Commercial waste facility" means a waste facility established and permitted to sell waste processing or disposal services to generators other than the owner and operator of the facility.

Subd. 7. "Construction debris" means waste building materials, packaging, and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition of buildings and roads.

Subd. 8. "Development region" means a region designated pursuant to sections 462.381 to 462.397.

Subd. 9. "Disposal" means the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, or placing of any waste into or on any land or water so that the waste or any constituent thereof may enter the environment or be emitted into the air, or discharged into any waters, including ground waters.

Subd. 10. "Disposal facility" means a waste facility permitted by the agency that is designed or operated for the purpose of disposing of waste on or in the land.

Subd. 11. "Generation" means the act or process of producing waste.

Subd. 12. "Generator" means any person who generates waste.

Subd. 13. "Hazardous waste" has the meaning given it in section 116.06, subdivision 13.

Subd. 14. "Intrinsic hazard" of a waste means the propensity of the waste to migrate in the environment, and thereby to become exposed to the public, and the significance of the harm or damage likely to result from exposure of natural resources or the public to the waste, as a result of such inherent or induced attributes of the waste as its chemical and physical stability, solubility, bioconcentratability, toxicity, flammability, and corrosivity.

Subd. 15. "Intrinsic suitability" of a land area or site means that, because of the inherent and natural attributes, physical features, and location of the land area or site, the waste facility proposed to be located in the area or site would not be likely to result in material harm to the public health and safety and natural resources and that therefore the proposed facility can reasonably be expected to qualify for permits in accordance with agency rules.

Subd. 16. "Legislative commission on waste management" or "legislative commission" means the commission established in section 115A.14.

Subd. 17. "Local government unit" means cities, towns, and counties.

Subd. 18. "Metropolitan area" has the meaning given it in section 473.121.

Subd. 19. "Metropolitan council" means the council established in chapter 473.

Subd. 20. "Metropolitan waste control commission" or "waste control commission" means the waste control commission established in chapter 473.

Subd. 21. "Mixed municipal solid waste" means garbage, refuse, and other solid waste from residential, commercial, industrial, and community activities which is generated and collected in aggregate, but does not include auto hulks, street sweepings, ash, construction debris, mining waste, sludges, tree and agricultural wastes, tires, and other materials collected, processed, and disposed of as separate waste streams.

Subd. 22. "Natural resources" has the meaning given it in chapter 116B.

Subd. 23. "Person" has the meaning given it in section 116.06, but does not include the board.

Subd. 24. "Political subdivision" means any municipal corporation, governmental subdivision of the state, local government unit, special district, or local or regional board, commission, or authority authorized by law to plan or provide for waste management.

Subd. 25. "Processing" means the treatment of waste after collection and before disposal. Processing includes but is not limited to reduction, storage, separation, exchange, resource recovery, physical, chemical, or biological modification, and transfer from one waste facility to another.

Subd. 26. "Regional development commission" means a commission established pursuant to sections 462.381 to 462.397.

Subd. 27. "Resource recovery" means the reclamation for sale or reuse of materials, substances, energy, or other products contained within or derived from waste.

Subd. 28. "Resource recovery facility" means a waste facility established and used primarily for resource recovery.

Subd. 29. "Sewage sludge" means the solids and associated liquids in municipal wastewater which are encountered and concentrated by a municipal wastewater treatment plant for disposal at a sewage sludge disposal facility. Sewage sludge does not include incinerator residues and grit, scum, or screenings removed from other solids during treatment.

Subd. 30. "Sewage sludge disposal facility" means property owned or leased by a political subdivision and used for interim or final disposal or land spreading of sewage sludge.

Subd. 31. "Solid waste" has the meaning given it in section 116.06, subdivision 10.

Subd. 32. "Solid waste management district" or "waste district" means a geographic area extending into two or more counties in which the management of solid waste is vested in a special district established pursuant to sections 115A.62 to 115A.72.

Subd. 33. "Transfer station" means an intermediate waste facility in which waste collected from any source is temporarily deposited to await transportation to another waste facility.

Subd. 34. "Waste" means solid waste, sewage sludge, and hazardous waste.

Subd. 35. "Waste facility" means all property, real or personal, including negative and positive easements and water and air rights, which is or may be needed or useful for the processing or disposal of waste, except property for the collection of the waste and property used primarily for the manufacture of scrap metal or paper. Waste facility includes but is not limited to transfer stations, processing facilities, and disposal sites and facilities.

Subd. 36. "Waste management" means activities which are intended to affect or control the generation of waste and activities which provide for or control the collection, processing and disposal of waste.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 1 s 3

**MANAGEMENT BOARD; LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION  
GOVERNMENT RESOURCE RECOVERY PROGRAM**

**115A.04 WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD; CREATION.**

There is created in the executive branch a waste management board.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 1

**115A.05 BOARD MEMBERSHIP.**

Subdivision 1. **General.** The board shall be composed of nine permanent members. Temporary members shall be added pursuant to subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Permanent members.** Eight of the permanent members of the board shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, to represent diverse areas and interests within the state. One member shall be appointed from each congressional district in accordance with boundaries existing on January 1, 1980. The term of office and compensation of the eight members thus appointed, and the manner of removal and filling of vacancies, shall be as provided in section 15.0575, except that the initial term of all members shall be four years and the rate of compensation shall be \$50 per day spent on board activities. The ninth permanent member of the board shall be the chairperson who shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The chairperson shall serve at the pleasure of the governor for a term coterminous with that of the governor, except that the initial term of the chairperson shall be four years. The chairperson shall be the executive and operating officer of the board and shall determine the time and place of meetings, preside at meetings, appoint all board officers and hire and supervise all employees subject to the approval of the board, carry out the policy decisions of the board, and perform all other duties and functions assigned to him by the board or by law. No permanent member of the board shall hold other elected or appointed public office.

Subd. 3. **Temporary members.** For the purposes of each project review conducted by the board under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 and 115A.32 to 115A.39 and for the purpose of preparing and adopting the hazardous waste management plan under section 115A.11 and making decisions on the elements of the certification of need for disposal required under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30, six local representatives shall be added to the board as temporary voting members, as provided in sections 115A.22, subdivision 4, and 115A.34. The provisions of section 15.075 relating to compensation, removal, and vacancy shall apply to temporary members except that the rate of compensation shall be \$50 per day spent on board activities.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 2

**115A.06 POWERS OF THE BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **General.** The board shall have the powers and duties prescribed by sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 and all powers necessary or convenient to discharge its duties.

Subd. 2. **Rules.** Unless otherwise provided, the board shall promulgate rules in accordance with chapter 15 to govern its activities and implement sections 115A.01 to 115A.72.

Subd. 3. **Actions.** The board may sue and be sued.

Subd. 4. **Acquisition of sites for hazardous waste facilities.** The board may direct the commissioner of administration to acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, gift, or grant, any right, title, and interest in and to real property, including positive and negative easements and water, air, and development rights, for sites and buffer areas surrounding sites for hazardous waste facilities approved by the board pursuant to sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 and 115A.32 to 115A.39. Money for the acquisition of any real property and interest in real property pursuant to this subdivision shall come from the issuance of state waste management bonds in accordance with sections 115A.57 to 115A.59. The property shall be leased to the owner and operator of the hazardous waste facility located thereon at a rate sufficient to pay debt service on the bonds which provided funds used to acquire the property and to evaluate the eligibility of the property for inclusion in the inventory under section 115A.09 or candidacy under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. Any local government unit and the commissioners of transportation, natural resources, and administration may convey or allow the use of any property for such sites and areas, subject to the rights of the holders of any bonds issued with respect thereto, with or without compensation and without an election or approval by any other government agency. Land owned by the state may be exchanged for land not owned by the state for the purpose of providing a site and buffer area for a commercial hazardous waste facility, in accordance with the provisions of section 94.341 to 94.347 and other law. The commissioner of administration may hold the property for the purposes for which it was acquired, and may lease, rent, or dispose of the property so far as not needed for such purposes, upon the terms and in the manner the commissioner deems advisable. The right to acquire lands and property rights by condemnation shall be exercised in accordance with chapter 117. The commissioner of administration may take possession of any property for which condemnation proceedings have been commenced at any time after the issuance of a court order appointing commissioners for its condemnation. Where the property is acquired through eminent domain proceedings, the land owner's compensation shall be the fair market value of the property. Where the property is acquired by means other than through eminent domain proceedings, as by direct purchase or gift, the land owner's compensation shall be determined by the agreement of the parties involved. An award of compensation in a condemnation proceeding shall not be increased or decreased by reason of any increase or decrease in the value of the property caused by its designation in the inventory of sites and buffer areas under section 115A.09 or as a candidate site under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 or its selection as a site or buffer area.

Subd. 5. **Right of access.** Whenever the board or the chairperson acting on behalf of the board deems it necessary to the accomplishment of its purposes, the board or any member, employee, or agent thereof, when authorized by it or the chairperson, may enter upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations, provided that the entrance and activity is undertaken after reasonable notice and during normal business hours and provided that compensation is made for any damages to the property caused by the entrance and activity.

Subd. 6. **Gifts and grants.** The board, or the chairperson or commissioner of administration on behalf of the board, may apply for and accept gifts, loans, or other property from the United States, the state, or any person for any of the purposes of the board, may enter into any agreement required in connection therewith, and may hold, use, and dispose of the money or property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, loan or agreement.

Subd. 7. **Property exempt from taxation.** Any real or personal property owned, used, or occupied by the board or the commissioner of administration for any purpose referred to in sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 is declared to be

acquired, owned, used, and occupied for public and governmental purposes, and shall be exempt from taxation by the state or any political subdivision of or other governmental unit of or within the state, provided that those properties shall be subject to special assessments levied for a local improvement in amounts proportionate to and not exceeding the special benefit received by the properties from the improvement. No possible use of the properties in any manner different from their use for hazardous waste management at the time shall be considered in determining the special benefit received by the properties.

Subd. 8. **Contracts.** The board or the chairperson acting on behalf of the board may enter into any contract necessary or proper for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment of its purposes.

Subd. 9. **Joint powers.** The board or the chairperson acting on behalf of the board may act under the provisions of section 471.59, or any other law providing for joint or cooperative action.

Subd. 10. **Research.** The board or the chairperson acting on behalf of the board may conduct research studies and programs, collect and analyze data, prepare reports, maps, charts, and tables, and order all necessary hearings and investigations in connection with its work and may advise and assist other government units on planning matters within the scope of its powers, duties, and objectives.

Subd. 11. **Employees; contracts for services.** The board through its chairperson may employ persons and contract for services to perform research, engineering, legal, or other services necessary to carry out its functions.

Subd. 12. **Insurance.** The board through its chairperson may require any employee to obtain and file with it an individual bond or fidelity insurance policy. It may procure insurance in amounts it deems necessary to insure against liability of the board and employees or both, for personal injury or death and property damage or destruction, with the force and effect stated in chapter 466, and against risks of damage to or destruction of any of its property as it deems necessary.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 3

#### 115A.07 DUTIES OF THE BOARD; GENERAL.

Subdivision 1. **Interagency coordination.** The chairperson of the board shall inform the state planning agency of the board's activities in accordance with section 4.191. The chairperson shall keep the agency informed of the board's activities, solicit the advice and recommendations of the agency, and coordinate its work with the regulatory and enforcement activities of the agency.

Subd. 2. **Biennial report.** Before November 15 of each even-numbered year the board through its chairperson shall prepare and submit to the legislative commission a report of the board's operations and activities pursuant to sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 and any recommendations for legislative action. The report shall include a proposed work plan for the following biennium.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 4

#### 115A.08 DUTIES OF THE BOARD; HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORTS.

Subdivision 1. **Report on liability and long-term care.** By January 1, 1981, the board through its chairperson shall report and make recommendations to the legislative commission on the management and financing of liability and post-closure monitoring and care for hazardous waste facilities in the state. The commissioner of economic development, in consultation with the chairperson of the board, shall conduct background research and shall report to the board by July 1, 1980, on the subject of the report required by this subdivision and on additional research needed to complete the report and recommendations.

**Subd. 2. Report on private investment in hazardous waste management.** By January 1, 1981, the board through its chairperson shall report and make recommendations to the legislative commission on alternative state strategies to promote and secure private investment in hazardous waste management services, technologies, and facilities. The report at least shall evaluate: (a) strategies to promote and secure investments by generators in waste reduction, separation, pretreatment, and recovery; (b) strategies to secure generator assistance in the establishment and financing of hazardous waste facilities either directly through joint investment or indirectly through taxation; (c) strategies to protect the public against business failure by owners and operators of hazardous waste facilities; (d) strategies to promote and secure investment by the private waste management industry in hazardous waste facilities in the state. The report shall recommend priorities, objectives, and appropriate legislation for promoting and securing private investment in hazardous waste management. The commissioner of economic development, in consultation with the chairperson of the board, shall conduct background research and shall report to the board by July 1, 1980, on the subject of the report required by this subdivision and on additional research needed to complete the report and recommendations.

**Subd. 3. Report on interstate cooperation.** By January 1, 1981, the board through its chairperson shall report and make recommendations to the legislative commission on actions to develop interstate cooperation in hazardous waste planning and management. The report shall make recommendations on uniformity of state laws, regulations, and enforcement and on coordination of decisions on facility development and use. The director of the state planning agency, in consultation with the chairperson of the board, shall conduct background research and shall report to the board by July 1, 1980, on the report required by this subdivision and on additional research needed to complete the report and recommendations.

**Subd. 4. Report on hazardous waste management; draft management plan and certification of need.** By January 1, 1982, the board through its chairperson shall report to the legislative commission on hazardous waste management. The report shall include at least:

(a) an evaluation of alternative disposal facilities, disposal facility technologies, and disposal facility design and operating specifications and an explanation of the preliminary design and operating specifications for disposal facilities selected for consideration under section 115A.23;

(b) an evaluation of prospects, strategies, and methods for developing commercial hazardous waste disposal facilities of various types, sizes, and functions;

(c) an evaluation of all feasible and prudent alternatives to disposal, including waste reduction, separation, pretreatment, processing, and resource recovery, and the potential of the alternatives to reduce the need for and practice of disposal;

(d) an evaluation of feasible and prudent disposal abatement objectives, along with a description of hazardous waste management methods and technologies, private and government actions, facilities and services, development schedules, revenue-raising measures, and levels of public and private expenditure and effort necessary to the achievement of those objectives.

The report shall analyze the environmental, social, and economic effects of the alternatives and methods by which unavoidable adverse effects could be mitigated. The report shall include a draft hazardous waste management plan, based on the analysis in the report and proposed for adoption pursuant to section 115A.11, and a draft certificate or certificates of need proposed for issuance under section 115A.24.

Subd. 5. **Report on mitigation of local effects of hazardous waste facilities.** By January 1, 1982, the board through its chairperson shall report and make recommendations to the legislative commission on methods of mitigating and compensating for the local risks, costs, and other adverse effects of various types of hazardous waste facilities and on methods of financing mitigation and compensation measures. The methods of mitigating and compensating to be considered shall include but not be limited to the following: payment outside of levy limitations in lieu of taxes for all property taken off the tax rolls; preference in reviews of applications for federal funds conducted by the metropolitan council and regional development commissions; payment of all costs to service the facilities including the cost of roads, monitoring, inspection, enforcement, police and fire, and litter clean up costs; payment for buffer zone amenities and improvement; local control over buffer zone design; a guarantee against any and all liability that may occur.

Subd. 6. **Preparation of hazardous waste reports; procedures; public involvement.** By January 1, 1981, the board through its chairperson shall submit a proposed scope of work and work program for the hazardous waste reports required by subdivisions 4 and 5 to the legislative commission for review. During the preparation of the proposed scope of work and work plan and the reports, the board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall encourage public debate and discussion of the issues relating to the reports. The board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall meet with local officials and sponsor at least one public meeting in areas of the state affected by the inventory of preferred processing facility sites prepared pursuant to section 115A.09. The board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall follow the procedures set out in section 115A.22, for consulting with citizens in areas affected by the selection of candidate sites for disposal facilities. To assist it in preparing the reports required by subdivisions 4 and 5, the board through its chairperson shall make grants to each local project review committee established for a candidate site for disposal identified under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. The grants may be used by the committee to employ staff, pay administrative expenses, or contract with affected units of government or qualified consultants. The board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall request recommendations from the private waste management industry, the board's advisory councils, affected regional development commissions, and the metropolitan council and shall consult with them on the board's intended disposition of the recommendations. The reports of the board shall summarize the comments received and the board's response to the comments.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 5

#### **115A.09 DUTIES OF THE BOARD; INVENTORY OF PREFERRED SITES FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE PROCESSING FACILITIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Board responsibility.** By November 1, 1981, the board shall prepare an inventory of preferred sites for commercial hazardous waste processing facilities. The inventory shall include at least three sites for each of the following categories of processing facilities: (a) a commercial chemical processing facility for hazardous waste, (b) a commercial incineration facility for hazardous waste, and (c) a commercial transfer and storage facility for hazardous waste.

Subd. 2. **Evaluation of sites.** The board shall not be required to promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 15 to govern its evaluation and selection of sites under this section. The board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall evaluate the sites in consultation with the board's advisory councils, the affected counties and regions, generators of hazardous waste, and prospective facility developers. The evaluation shall consider at least the consistency of sites with state and federal regulations, local land use and land use controls, the protection of agricul-



ture and natural resources, existing and future development patterns, transportation and other services appropriate to the hazardous waste facilities, the quality of other potential sites, and the location of hazardous waste generators. No site shall be included in the inventory unless the agency certifies its intrinsic suitability for the use intended. No land shall be excluded from consideration for inclusion in the inventory except land determined by the agency to be intrinsically unsuitable for the use intended.

Subd. 3. **Procedures.** The board shall propose the inventory of sites by June 1, 1981 by publication in the state register and newspapers of general circulation in the state and by mail to each regional development commission and local government unit containing a proposed site. Any person objecting to the agency's certification or the board's proposal of a site for inclusion in the inventory shall have 30 days in which to request a hearing. If a hearing is requested, the hearing shall be ordered by the chairperson of the board and shall be conducted by the state office of administrative hearings in a manner determined by the hearing examiner to be consistent with the completion of the proceedings and the examiner's report in the time allowed by this section. At the hearing, any county in which a site is proposed for inclusion in the inventory may propose an alternative site or sites within the county. The hearing examiner may consolidate hearings. When any site in the inventory becomes unavailable as a hazardous waste facility site, the inventory shall be amended, in the manner of its original adoption, provided, however, that during the period when the inventory is being amended any other site in the inventory may be reviewed and approved under sections 115A.32 to 115A.39. No action of the board shall be held invalid by reason of the board's failure to notify any of the entities listed in this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Grants; technical assistance.** To assist counties participating in the inventory required by this section, the board through its chairperson may make grants to the counties to be used to employ staff, pay administrative expenses, or contract with qualified consultants. The board through its chairperson shall ensure the delivery to the counties of technical information and assistance by appropriate state agencies.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 6; 1980 c 615 s 60

#### **115A.10 DUTIES OF THE BOARD; HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES; ENCOURAGEMENT OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.**

The board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall encourage the development and operation of hazardous waste facilities by private enterprise to the extent practicable and consistent with the purposes of sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 and the board's hazardous waste management plan adopted pursuant to section 115A.11. In preparing the reports under section 115A.08 and the inventory of processing facility sites under section 115A.09, in adopting the management plan, and in its actions and decisions under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 and 115A.32 to 115A.39, the board and the chairperson on behalf of the board shall solicit the active participation of private waste management firms and shall so conduct its activities as to encourage private permit applications for facilities needed in the state. The board shall promulgate rules for accepting, evaluating, and selecting applications for permits for the construction and operation of facilities at sites preferred or selected by the board pursuant to section 115A.09 or sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. The rules shall include standards and procedures for making determinations on the minimum qualifications, including technical competence and financial capability, of permit applicants. The rules shall include standards and procedures for soliciting and accepting bids or permit applications and for selecting developers and operators of hazardous waste disposal facilities at sites chosen by the board pursuant to sections 115A.18 to 115A.30, which

shall include a preference for qualified permit applicants who control a site chosen by the board.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 7

#### 115A.11 HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Subdivision 1. **Contents.** By May 1, 1982, the board shall adopt a hazardous waste management plan. The plan shall include at least the following elements:

- (a) an estimate of the types and volumes of hazardous waste which will be generated in the state through the year 2000;
- (b) specific and quantifiable objectives for reducing to the greatest feasible and prudent extent the need for and practice of disposal, through waste reduction, pretreatment, processing, and resource recovery;
- (c) a description of the minimum disposal capacity and capability needed to be developed within the state for use through the year 2000, based on the achievement of the objectives under clause (b).

The plan shall require the establishment of at least one commercial disposal facility in the state.

Subd. 2. **Procedure.** The plan shall be based upon the reports prepared pursuant to section 115A.08. The plan shall not be subject to the rule-making or contested case provisions of chapter 15. Following the submission of the report on hazardous management required under section 115A.08, subdivision 4, the board shall hold a public hearing on the draft plan and draft certificate or certificates of need contained in the report. Notices of the draft plan and the draft certificate or certificates and notice of the hearing shall be published in the state register and newspapers of general circulation in the state. The hearing shall be ordered by the chairperson of the board and shall be conducted by the state office of administrative hearings in a manner consistent with the completion of the proceedings in the time allowed by this section. A majority of the permanent members of the board shall attend the hearing. In connection with the hearing, the chairperson of the board shall provide copies of the studies and reports on which the draft plan and certification of need are based and shall make an affirmative presentation showing the need for and reasonableness of the draft plan and certification of need. Following the hearing, the board shall revise the plan and the certificate or certificates of need as it deems appropriate, shall make a written response to the testimony received at the hearing explaining its disposition of any recommendations made with respect to the plan and certification, and shall finally adopt a plan in accordance with this section and issue a certificate or certificates of need in accordance with section 115A.24.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 8; 1980 c 615 s 60

#### 115A.12 ADVISORY COUNCILS.

Subdivision 1. **Solid and hazardous waste management.** The chairperson of the board shall establish a solid waste management advisory council and a hazardous waste management planning council broadly representative of the geographic areas and interests of the state. The councils shall have not less than nine nor more than 18 members each. The membership of the solid waste council shall consist of one-third citizen representatives, one-third representatives from local government units, and one-third representatives from private solid waste management firms. The solid waste council shall contain at least one member experienced in each of the following areas: state and municipal finance; solid waste collection, processing, and disposal; and solid waste reduction and resource recovery. The membership of the hazardous waste advisory council shall consist of one-third citizen representatives, one-third representatives from

local government units, and one-third representatives of hazardous waste generators and private hazardous waste management firms. The chairpersons of the advisory councils shall be appointed by the chairperson of the board. The chairperson of the board shall provide administrative and staff services for the advisory councils. The advisory councils shall have such duties as are assigned by law or the chairperson of the board. The solid waste advisory council shall make recommendations to the board on its solid waste management activities. The hazardous waste advisory council shall make recommendations to the board on its activities under sections 115A.08, 115A.09, 115A.10, and 115A.11, and sections 115A.20, 115A.21, 115A.23, and 115A.24. Members of the advisory councils shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses as determined by the chairperson of the board.

**Subd. 2. Technical advisory council.** The chairperson of the board shall establish an interagency technical advisory council to advise the board and the chairperson on such matters as the board, through its chairperson, deems necessary. The members of the council shall be the commissioner of health; the commissioner of agriculture; the commissioner of natural resources; the commissioner of economic development; the director of the pollution control agency; the director of the energy agency; the director of the state planning agency; and such other heads of agency as the chairperson of the board deems necessary; or their designees. The council shall meet at the call of the chairperson of the board who shall serve as chairperson of the council. The members, collectively and individually shall advise the board and the chairperson on matters within their various areas of expertise and shall provide technical assistance and information as requested by the board through its chairperson.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 9

#### **115A.13 BOARD; EXPIRATION.**

The board shall cease to exist on June 30, 1987.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 10

#### **115A.14 LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON WASTE MANAGEMENT.**

**Subdivision 1. Creation, membership, vacancies.** There is created in the legislative branch a legislative commission on waste management. The commission shall consist of ten members appointed as follows:

(1) Five members of the senate to be appointed by the subcommittee on committees and to serve until their successors are appointed;

(2) Five members of the house to be appointed by the speaker and to serve until their successors are appointed;

(3) Vacancies occurring on the commission shall not affect the authority of the remaining members of the commission to carry out the functions thereof, and such vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original positions.

**Subd. 2. Staff.** The commission is authorized, without regard to the civil service laws and regulations, to appoint and fix the compensation of such additional legal and other personnel and consultants as may be necessary to enable it to carry out its functions, or to contract for services to supply necessary data, except that any state employees subject to the civil service laws and regulations who may be assigned to the commission shall retain civil service status without interruption or loss of status or privilege. The staff shall be hired and supervised for the commission by the executive director of the legislative commission on Minnesota resources.

**Subd. 3. Data from state agencies; availability.** The commission may request information from any state officer or agency in order to assist it in carrying out its duties and such officer or agency is authorized and directed to

promptly furnish any data required, subject to applicable requirements or restrictions imposed by sections 15.162 to 15.17.

**Subd. 4. Powers and duties.** The commission shall review the biennial report of the board. The commission shall oversee the activities of the board under sections 115A.01 to 115A.72 and the activities of the agency under sections 115A.42 to 115A.46 and 115A.49 to 115A.54, and direct such changes or additions in the work plan of the board and agency as it deems fit. The commission may conduct public hearings and otherwise secure data and expressions of opinion. The commission shall make such recommendations as it deems proper to assist the legislature in formulating legislation. Any data or information compiled by the commission shall be made available to any standing or interim committee of the legislature upon request of the chairperson of the respective committee.

**Subd. 5. Study.** The commission shall study alternative methods of insuring that an adequate supply of solid waste will be available to resource recovery facilities and report to the appropriate policy committees of the house of representatives and senate before January 1, 1982. The commission shall, at a minimum, consider the relative merits of the required use provisions described in sections 115A.70, 400.162, and 473.827, and other mechanisms designed to facilitate resource recovery by raising costs of landfill alternatives or lowering costs of disposal at resource recovery facilities.

**Subd. 6. Expiration.** The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 1987.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 11

#### **115A.15 STATE GOVERNMENT RESOURCE RECOVERY.**

**Subdivision 1. Establishment of program.** There is established within state government a resource recovery program to promote the reduction of waste generated by state agencies, the separation and recovery of recyclable and reusable commodities, the procurement of recyclable commodities and commodities containing recycled materials, and the uniform disposition of recovered materials and surplus property. The program shall be administered by the commissioner of administration.

**Subd. 2. Duties of commissioner.** The commissioner of administration shall develop policies to reduce the volume of waste generated by state agencies. The commissioner shall develop and institute procedures for the separation, collection, and storage of used commodities wherever feasible in state agencies and shall establish policies for the reuse, sale, or disposition of recovered materials and surplus property. The commissioner shall promote and publicize the waste reduction and waste separation and recovery procedures on an on going basis to all state employees. The commissioner shall issue guidelines for the procurement of recyclable commodities and commodities containing recycled materials that include definitions of recycled materials, the percentage of recycled materials to be contained in each commodity and performance specifications. To the extent practicable, the guidelines shall be written so as to give preference to recyclable commodities and commodities containing recycled materials. The commissioner shall inform state agencies whenever recycled commodities are available for purchase. The commissioner shall investigate opportunities for the inclusion of local governments and regional agencies in administrative programs to reduce, separate, and recover waste materials. The commissioner shall investigate opportunities for the inclusion of local governments and regional agencies in the resource recovery program.

**Subd. 3. Powers of commissioner.** The commissioner of administration shall have such powers as are necessary to implement and operate the program.

All state agencies shall comply with the policies, guidelines, and procedures established by the commissioner pursuant to this section. The commissioner shall have the power to issue orders to compel compliance.

Subd. 4. **Staff.** The commissioner of administration shall employ an administrator to manage the resource recovery program and other staff and consultants as are necessary to carry out the program.

Subd. 5. **Reports.** By January 1, 1981, and each odd-numbered year thereafter, the commissioner of administration shall submit a report to the governor and to the legislative commission summarizing past activities and proposed goals of the program for the following biennium. By July 1, 1980, and each even-numbered year thereafter the directors of the energy agency and the pollution control agency shall submit recommendations to the commissioner regarding the operation of the program.

Subd. 6. **Resource recovery revolving account.** Upon the certification of the commissioner of administration, the commissioner of finance shall establish an account in the general services revolving fund, effective June 30, 1980, for the operation of the state government resource recovery program. The revolving account shall consist of all funds appropriated by the state for the program and all revenues resulting from the sale of used commodities made available for sale as a result of the resource recovery program. The account may be used for all activities associated with the program including payment of administrative and operating costs.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 2 s 12

### COMMERCIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES

#### 115A.18 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

The legislature finds that proper management of hazardous waste generated in the state is needed to conserve and protect the natural resources in the state and the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, that the establishment of safe disposal facilities is necessary to properly manage the waste, that this cannot be accomplished solely by the activities of private persons and political subdivisions acting alone or jointly, and that therefore it is necessary to provide a procedure for making final determinations on the locations, sizes, types, and functions of such facilities.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 1

#### 115A.19 PROCEDURE NOT EXCLUSIVE.

The procedure established by sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 for the permitting of hazardous waste disposal facilities shall not preclude the issuance of permits by the agency pursuant to section 116.07 for disposal facilities at sites not reviewed under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 2

#### 115A.20 EVALUATION OF SITES.

The board shall not be required to promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 15 to govern its evaluation and selection of sites for commercial disposal facilities under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. In evaluating and selecting sites for disposal facilities, the board shall consider at least the following factors:

(a) economic feasibility, including proximity to concentrations of generators of the types of hazardous wastes likely to be proposed and permitted for disposal;

- (b) intrinsic suitability of the sites;
- (c) federal and state pollution control and environmental protection rules;
- (d) the risk and effect for local residents, units of government, and the local public health, safety, and welfare, including such dangers as an accidental release of wastes during transportation to a facility or at a facility, water, air, and land pollution, and fire or explosion;
- (e) the consistency of a facility with, and its effect on, existing and planned local land use and development; local laws, ordinances, and permits; and local public facilities and services;
- (f) the adverse effects of a facility at the site on agriculture and natural resources and opportunities to mitigate or eliminate such adverse effects by stipulations, conditions, and requirements respecting the design and operation of a disposal facility at the proposed site.

No land shall be excluded from consideration except land determined by the agency to be intrinsically unsuitable for the use intended.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 3

### 115A.21 CANDIDATE SITES.

**Subdivision 1. Selection.** By August 1, 1981, the board shall select six locations in the state, no more than one site per county, as candidate sites for commercial disposal facilities for hazardous waste. No location shall be selected as a candidate site unless the agency certifies its intrinsic suitability for the use intended. The board shall consult with the agency and the private waste management industry in selecting candidate sites. Any sites proposed in applications for permits for disposal facilities being reviewed by the agency on August 1, 1981, may be included by the board as candidate sites, provided the agency certifies the intrinsic suitability of the sites.

**Subd. 2. Procedure.** As soon as practicable, the board through its chairperson shall publish a request soliciting proposals and permit applications for hazardous waste disposal facilities from potential developers and operators of such facilities. Notice of the request shall be published in the state register and newspapers of general circulation in the state and shall be transmitted to all regional development commissions, the metropolitan council, and all counties in the state. The board may select conceptual design and operating specifications for a variety of hazardous waste disposal facilities in sufficient detail and extent in the judgment of the board to assist the evaluation of sites and the selection of candidate sites. By November 1, 1980, the board through its chairperson shall notify each regional development commission, or the metropolitan council, and each local government unit within whose jurisdiction the board intends to search for candidate sites. The notification shall explain the selection of the jurisdiction as a search area; shall summarize any conceptual specifications and the evaluation factors, criteria, standards, and procedures the board intends to use in selecting candidate sites; and shall describe the relationship of the candidate site selection process to the other review procedures under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 and the hazardous waste reports and plans required under sections 115A.04 to 115A.15. The notification shall request recommendations and suggestions from each such commission, the metropolitan council, and local government unit on the criteria, standards, and procedures the board should use in selecting candidate sites within the time allowed. The board through its chairperson shall make a written response to any recommendations, explaining its disposition of the recommendations. By May 1, 1981, the board shall propose at least six locations as candidate sites and shall publish notice in the state register and newspapers of general circulation in the state and shall notify by mail all regional development commissions, or the metropolitan council, and local gov-

ernment units containing a proposed candidate site. Any person objecting to the agency's certification or the board's proposal of a site for candidacy shall have 30 days in which to request a hearing. If a hearing is requested, the hearing shall be ordered by the chairperson of the board and shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the completion of the proceedings and the examiner's report to the agency and board in the time allowed by this section. The hearing examiner may consolidate hearings. No action of the board shall be held invalid by reason of the board's failure to notify any of the entities listed in this subdivision.

**Subd. 3. Moratorium.** A moratorium is hereby imposed on all development, except hazardous waste facilities, within each proposed or candidate site identified pursuant to this section and in a buffer area identified by the board surrounding and at least equal in area to the site. The moratorium on candidate sites and buffer areas shall extend until six months following final action of the board pursuant to sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. No development shall be allowed to occur within a proposed site or buffer area during the period of the moratorium. No land use control of any political subdivision shall permit development, nor shall any political subdivision sanction or approve any subdivision, permit, license, or other authorization which would allow development to occur.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 4

## 115A.22 PARTICIPATION BY AFFECTED LOCALITIES.

**Subdivision 1. General.** In order systematically to involve those who would be affected most directly by disposal facilities in all decisions leading to their establishment, the board's decisions on reports referred to in subdivision 7, the preliminary specifications under section 115A.23, and the certification of need required under section 115A.24 shall not be made until after the establishment of local project review committees for each candidate site, with representation on the board, pursuant to this section.

**Subd. 2. Establishment of local project review committees.** A local project review committee shall be established for each location selected as a candidate site. The local committee shall exist, and its members shall serve, so long as the location for which the committee was formed is a candidate site or, for the site or sites finally chosen, until the commencement of the operation of the facility at that site.

**Subd. 3. Membership on local committees.** By September 1, 1981, the governor shall appoint the chairperson and members of each local project review committee, ensuring a balanced representation of all parties with a legitimate and direct interest in the outcome of the project review. The governor shall consult particularly with affected local units of government before selecting members. Members may be added to the local committee from time to time by the governor.

**Subd. 4. Appointment of temporary board members.** By October 1, 1981, each local committee shall select a temporary board member to be added to the board for the purposes of the reports, certifications, and review conducted under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. Temporary board members may be members of the local project review committee, and they shall be residents of the county where the candidate site is located.

**Subd. 5. Duties of local committees.** During the review, the local project review committee shall: inform affected local communities, government units, and residents of the proposed land containment and disposal facilities and of the planning and environmental review process relating to the proposed facilities; solicit and record local attitudes and concerns respecting the proposed facilities and represent and communicate such attitudes and concerns to the board, the legislative commission, the environmental quality board, the agency, and other

units and agencies of government; and act as a forum for the exchange of local attitudes and concerns and the development, where possible, of local consensus.

Subd. 6. **Technical assistance; grants.** To assist local project review committees to participate in the certification of need and the review process, the board through its chairperson shall make grants to the committees to be used to employ staff, pay administrative expenses, or contract with qualified consultants. The board through its chairperson shall ensure the delivery to the committees of technical information and assistance by appropriate state agencies.

Subd. 7. **Hazardous waste management reports.** The chairperson and the board shall prepare and submit the hazardous waste management reports required by section 115A.08, subdivisions 4 and 5, in consultation with the local project review committees. The chairperson and the board shall request recommendations from the local committees and shall consult with the committees on the board's intended disposition of the recommendations. The reports of the board shall summarize the recommendations of the committees and the board's response to the recommendations. Before submitting the reports, the board shall hold at least one public meeting in each county in which a candidate site is located. A majority of the permanent members shall be present at each meeting. Notice of the meeting shall be published in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in the area for two successive weeks ending at least 15 days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall describe the proposed facilities, the proposed location, the purpose of the board's report to the legislature, and the subsequent and related activities of the board.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 5

#### **115A.23 DISPOSAL FACILITIES; PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND OPERATING SPECIFICATIONS.**

By January 1, 1982, the board shall select, for further study and consideration, design and operating specifications for a variety of disposal facilities for hazardous waste in sufficient detail and extent in the judgment of the agency to allow the agency to begin preparing an environmental impact statement on the alternative facilities at each of the candidate sites pursuant to section 115A.25. The preliminary design and operating specifications shall not be final and shall not preclude the consideration of other specifications nor foreclose the subsequent addition by the board of other disposal facility alternatives.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 6

#### **115A.24 CERTIFICATION OF NEED.**

By May 1, 1982, on the basis of and consistent with its hazardous waste management plan adopted under section 115A.11, the board shall issue a certificate or certificates of need for disposal facilities for hazardous wastes in the state. The certificate or certificates shall indicate the types and volumes of waste for which disposal facilities are and will be needed through the year 2000 and the number, types, sizes, general design and operating specifications, and function or use of the disposal facilities needed in the state. The board shall certify need only to the extent that the board has determined that there are no feasible and prudent alternatives including waste reduction, separation, pretreatment, processing, and resource recovery which would minimize adverse impact upon natural resources, provided that the board shall require the establishment of at least one commercial disposal facility in the state. Economic considerations alone shall not justify certification nor the rejection of alternatives. Alternatives that are speculative and conjectural shall not be deemed to be feasible and prudent. The certificate or certificates shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 15 but shall be the final determination required on the matters decided by



the certificate or certificates and shall have the force and effect of law. The certificate or certificates shall not be amended for five years. The board and the permitting agencies, in reviewing and selecting sites, completing environmental impact statements, and issuing approvals and permits for waste disposal facilities described in the certificate or certificates of need, shall not reconsider matters determined in the certification. The board and the permitting agencies shall be required to make a final decision approving the establishment of facilities consistent with the certification. The board and the permitting agencies shall be required to make a final decision approving the establishment of at least one commercial disposal facility for hazardous waste in the state.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 7

### 115A.25 AGENCY; ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCEDURES.

Subdivision 1. **Environmental impact statement.** An environmental impact statement meeting the requirements of chapter 116D shall be completed by the agency on disposal facilities at each candidate site. The statement shall be finally accepted or rejected within 120 days following the issuance of a certificate or certificates of need under section 115A.24.

Subd. 2. **Public disclosure.** Before commencing preparation of the environmental impact statement, the agency shall issue a document summarizing and making full disclosure of the intended objectives and contents of the environmental impact statement and the environmental review. Announcement of the disclosure shall be published in the state register. The disclosure shall:

- (a) identify the candidate sites;
- (b) summarize preliminary design and operating specifications and indicate where and when the specifications are available for inspection;
- (c) describe as fully as possible the object of the review, including the significant actions, issues, alternatives, types of impacts, and compensation and mitigation measures expected to be addressed in the statement; the depth of the analysis expected; and subjects which the statement will not address in depth because they have been disposed of previously or because they are believed to be insignificant or remote and speculative;
- (d) identify, by reference and brief summary, any related planning activities and environmental reviews which have been, are being, or will be conducted, and the substantive, chronological, and procedural relationship between the proposed review and the other activities and reviews;
- (e) identify the membership and address of the local project review committees and the names of the local representatives on the board;
- (f) summarize the comments and suggestions received from the public pursuant to subdivision 3 and the agency's response.

Subd. 3. **Public participation procedures.** The public disclosure document shall be issued following diligent effort to involve the public in determining the objective and contents of the environmental impact statement. At least one public meeting shall be held in each county with a candidate site. The advice of the board, facility developers, state agencies, the local project review committees, and local units of government shall be actively solicited. The agency may engage the state hearing examiner to conduct meetings and make recommendations concerning the review. Each local project review committee shall present to the agency a written report summarizing local concerns and attitudes about the proposed action and the specific issues which the local communities and residents wish to see addressed in the environmental review.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 8

**115A.26 AGENCIES; PERMIT CONDITIONS.**

Within 60 days following the acceptance of the final environmental impact statement, and after consulting with the board, facility developers, affected local government units, and the local project review committees, each permitting state agency shall issue a notice of intent to issue permits, indicating the terms, conditions, and requirements of agency approval for all permits needed at each candidate site for the establishment of the facilities described in the board's certification of need. The agency decisions shall be consistent with the establishment of facilities in accordance with the certification of need.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 9

**115A.27 HEARINGS.**

**Subdivision 1. Agency hearings.** Any person objecting to a notice of intent to issue permits shall have 30 days in which to request a hearing. The hearing shall be ordered by the commissioner or director of the agency involved and shall be conducted by the state office of administrative hearings in the manner provided for contested cases in chapter 15. The hearing examiner may consolidate hearings on agency notices as he deems appropriate. The hearing shall be held in the county where the candidate site is located. A majority of the permanent members of the board shall be present at the agency hearing. The proceeding shall be completed and the examiner's report submitted to the permitting agency within 90 days following the issuance of the agency's notice of intent. Within 60 days following the hearing examiner's report and after consulting with the board, facility developers, affected local government units, and the local project review committee, the permitting agency shall revise its notice of intent as it deems appropriate and shall reissue the notice.

**Subd. 2. Board hearings.** Within 90 days following the issuance of agency notice of intent under section 115A.26, the board shall conduct a hearing in each county containing a candidate site, for the purpose of receiving testimony on the sites and facilities to be established. The hearings shall be ordered by the chairperson of the board and shall be conducted concurrently with any agency hearing regarding the site held pursuant to subdivision 1. The subject of the board hearing shall not extend to matters previously decided in the board's certificate of need. The hearing shall be conducted for the board by the state office of administrative hearings in a manner determined by the hearing examiner to be consistent with the completion of the proceedings in the time allowed. The proceedings shall not be deemed a contested case under chapter 15. A majority of the permanent members of the board shall be present at the hearing.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 10; 1980 c 615 s 60

**115A.28 FINAL ACTION.**

**Subdivision 1. Decision of board.** Within 60 days following final agency decisions on permits pursuant to sections 115A.26 and 115A.27, subdivision 1, and after consulting with private facility developers, the agency, affected local government units, and the local project review committees, the board shall finally select the site or sites for the facilities and shall submit or cause to be submitted final permit applications. If the chairperson of the board determines that an agency notice of intent has been substantially revised following hearings held pursuant to section 115A.27, subdivision 1, the chairperson shall order a public hearing to receive further testimony on the sites and facilities to be established. The proceeding shall be conducted as provided in section 115A.27, subdivision 2, except that hearings shall not be separately held in the affected counties and the issues relating to all agency notices shall be considered at one hearing. The board's decision and final permit applications shall embody all terms, conditions, and requirements of the permitting agencies, provided that the board

may: (a) finally resolve any conflicts between state agencies regarding permit terms, conditions, and requirements, and (b) require more stringent terms, conditions, and requirements respecting the facility as may be consistent with the certification of need and the agency rules and permit conditions. The board's resolution of conflicts under clause (a) shall be in favor of the more stringent terms, conditions, and requirements. The board's decision and the permit applications shall provide for the establishment of facilities consistent with the board's certification of need.

**Subd. 2. Board's decision paramount.** The board's decision under subdivision 1 shall be final and shall supersede and preempt requirements of state agencies and political subdivisions, excepting only those terms, conditions, and requirements of permitting agencies embodied in the board's decision and except as provided in subdivision 3. The permitting agencies shall issue permits within 60 days following and in accordance with the board's final decision, and all permits shall conform to the terms, conditions, and requirements of the board's decision. No charter provision, ordinance, regulation, permit, or other requirement of any state agency or political subdivision shall prevent or restrict the establishment, operation, expansion, continuance, or closure of a facility in accordance with the final decision of the board and permits issued pursuant thereto.

**Subd. 3. Local requirements.** A political subdivision may impose reasonable requirements respecting the construction, inspection, operation, monitoring, and maintenance of a facility. Any such requirements shall be subject to review by the agency to determine their reasonableness and consistency with the establishment and use of a facility in accordance with the final decision of the board and permits issued pursuant thereto. The agency may approve, disapprove, suspend, modify, or reverse any such requirements. The decision of the agency shall be final.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 11

### 115A.29 RECONCILIATION AND INTERVENTION PROCEDURES.

**Subdivision 1. Reports to legislative commission.** At least 30 days before making final decisions on final site selection and permit application under section 115A.28, the board through its chairperson may report to the legislative commission describing permit conditions or requirements being considered which are not within the existing authority of the agency or the board or which would require legislation or public financial assistance. The report shall not raise issues previously decided by the board's certification of need. In any such report the chairperson of the board may request intervention in the review pursuant to subdivisions 2 and 3.

**Subd. 2. Pre-intervention assessment.** If the legislative commission determines that intervention might be warranted under the terms of subdivision 1, the commission may suspend the review process for up to 60 days to allow a pre-intervention assessment. The pre-intervention assessment shall be conducted by an independent, impartial, and qualified public intervenor appointed by the commission with the advice and consent of the parties to the dispute. The intervenor shall report to the commission. The report shall include:

(a) an assessment of whether the dispute is ripe for mediation and whether the parties are willing to mediate;

(b) an assessment of whether, within the terms of subdivision 1, substantive issues exist which were not decided by the certification of need and which cannot be resolved effectively through normal administrative and judicial procedures;

(c) a preliminary definition of the facts and issues in dispute and actions and decisions being considered;

(d) a description of the diverse parties having a legitimate and direct interest in the outcome of the dispute.

**Subd. 3. Suspension of review process; intervention proceeding.** Following the report of the intervenor, the legislative commission may suspend the review process for an additional period not to exceed 90 days for an intervention proceeding. The intervention proceeding shall not consider issues previously decided by the board's certification of need. The intervenor shall be in charge of the intervention proceeding and may call for such participation and establish such procedures as he deems necessary and appropriate to facilitate agreement. The intervenor shall keep the chairperson of the legislative commission informed on the progress of the intervention proceeding, particularly with respect to agreements or proposed agreements which may require action or decisions not within the authority of the agency or board, legislative action, or public financial assistance. The intervenor shall make recommendations to the commission respecting any such agreements or proposed agreements. The commission may make recommendations to the intervenor respecting any such agreement or proposed agreement. If the commission approves of an agreement, or a decision based upon an agreement, which requires action or decisions not within the authority of the agency or board, legislative action, or public financial assistance, the commission shall cause the matter and recommendations to be submitted to the legislature for consideration.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 12

### 115A.30 JUDICIAL REVIEW.

Any civil action maintained by or against the agency or board under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 shall be brought in the county where the board is located and shall take precedence over all other matters of a civil nature and be expedited to the maximum extent possible. Any person aggrieved by a final decision of the board authorizing facilities under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 may appeal therefrom within 30 days as provided in chapter 15. No civil action shall be maintained pursuant to section 116B.03 with respect to conduct taken by a person pursuant to any environmental quality standard, limitation, regulation, rule, order, license, stipulation agreement or permit issued by the board under sections 115A.18 to 115A.30. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 116B to the contrary, in any action brought under that chapter with respect to any decision or conduct undertaken by any person or the board or agency pursuant to sections 115A.18 to 115A.30 after the period for appeal under this section has lapsed, the plaintiff shall have the burden of proving that the evidence required under section 116B.10 was not reasonably available within the time provided for appeal. The trial court shall, upon motion of any prevailing non-governmental party, award costs, disbursements, reasonable attorney's fees, and reasonable expert witness fees, if the court finds the action hereunder was commenced or defended in bad faith or was frivolous.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 3 s 13

## ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

### 115A.32 RULES.

The board shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 15 to govern its activities under sections 115A.32 to 115A.39.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 1

**115A.33 ELIGIBILITY; REQUEST FOR REVIEW.**

The following persons shall be eligible to request supplementary review by the board pursuant to sections 115A.32 to 115A.39: (a) a generator of sewage sludge within the state who has been issued permits by the agency for a facility to dispose of sewage sludge or solid waste resulting from sewage treatment; (b) a political subdivision which has been issued permits by the agency, or a political subdivision acting on behalf of a person who has been issued permits by the agency, for a solid waste facility which is no larger than 250 acres, not including any proposed buffer area, and located outside the metropolitan area; (c) a generator of hazardous waste within the state who has been issued permits by the agency for a hazardous waste facility to be owned and operated by the generator, on property owned by the generator, and to be used by the generator for managing the hazardous wastes produced by the generator only; (d) a person who has been issued permits by the agency for a commercial hazardous waste processing facility at a site included in the board's inventory of preferred sites for such facilities adopted pursuant to section 115A.09. The metropolitan waste control commission shall not be eligible to request review under clause (a) for a sewage sludge disposal facility. The metropolitan waste control commission shall not be eligible to request review under clause (a) for a solid waste facility with a proposed permitted life of longer than four years. The board may require completion of a plan conforming to the requirements of section 115A.46, before granting review under clause (b). A request for supplementary review shall show that the required permits for the facility have been issued by the agency and that a political subdivision has refused to approve the establishment or operation of the facility.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 2

**115A.34 APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY BOARD MEMBERS.**

Within 45 days of the submission of a request determined by the board to satisfy the requirements for review under sections 115A.32 to 115A.39, temporary board members shall be added to the board for the purpose of the supplementary review. Three members shall be selected by the governing body of the city or town in which the chairperson of the waste management board determines the facility would be principally located, and three members shall be selected by the governing body of the county in which the chairperson of the waste management board determines the proposed facility would be principally located. If the proposed facility is located in unorganized territory, all six members shall be selected by the governing board of the county. Temporary members shall be residents of the county in which the proposed facility would be located and shall be selected to represent broadly the local interests that would be directly affected by the proposed facility. At least one member appointed by the city or town shall live within one mile of the proposed facility, and at least one member appointed by the county shall be a resident of a city or town in which the proposed facility would be located. Temporary board members shall serve for terms lasting until the board has taken final action on the facility.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 3

**115A.35 REVIEW PROCEDURE.**

The board shall meet to commence the supplementary review within 90 days of the submission of a request determined by the board to satisfy the requirements for review under this section. At the meeting commencing the review the chairperson shall recommend and the board establish a scope and procedure, in accordance with the rules of the board, for review and final decision on the proposed facility. The procedure shall require the board to make a final decision on the proposed facility within 90 days following the commence-

ment of review. The procedure shall require the board to hold, at the call of the chairperson, at least one public hearing in the county within which the proposed facility would be located. A majority of permanent members of the board shall be present at the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted for the board by the state office of administrative hearings in a manner determined by the hearing examiner to be consistent with the expeditious completion of the proceedings as required by sections 115A.32 to 115A.39. The hearing shall not be deemed a contested case under chapter 15. Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in the area for two successive weeks ending at least 15 days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall describe the proposed facility, its location, the permits, and the board's scope and procedure for review. The notice shall identify a location or locations within the city or town and county where the permit applications, the agency permits, and the board's scope and procedure for review are available for review and where copies may be obtained.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 4; 1980 c 615 s 60

### **115A.36 SCOPE AND CONTENT OF REVIEW.**

In its review and final decision on the proposed facility, the board shall consider at least the following matters:

(a) the risk and effect of the proposed facility on local residents, units of government, and the local public health, safety, and welfare, including such dangers as an accidental release of wastes during transportation to the facility, water, air, and land pollution, and fire or explosion where appropriate, and the degree to which the risk or effect may be alleviated;

(b) the consistency of the proposed facility with, and its effect on, existing and planned local land use and development; local laws, ordinances, and permits; and local public facilities and services;

(c) the adverse effects of the facility on agriculture and natural resources and opportunities to mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects by additional stipulations, conditions, and requirements respecting the proposed facility at the proposed site;

(d) the need for the proposed facility, especially its contribution to abating solid and hazardous waste disposal, the availability of alternative sites, and opportunities to mitigate or eliminate need by additional and alternative waste management strategies or actions of a significantly different nature;

(e) whether, in the case of solid waste resource recovery facilities, the applicant has considered the feasible and prudent waste processing alternatives for accomplishing the purposes of the proposed project and has compared and evaluated the costs of the alternatives, including capital and operating costs, and the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 5

### **115A.37 FINAL DECISION OF BOARD.**

**Subdivision 1. Approval or disapproval.** In its final decision on the proposed facility, the board may either approve or disapprove the proposed facility at the proposed site. The board's approval shall embody all terms, conditions, and requirements of the permitting agencies, provided that the board may: (a) finally resolve any conflicts between state agencies regarding permit terms, conditions, and requirements, and (b) require more stringent permit terms, conditions, and requirements respecting the design, construction, operation, inspection, monitoring, and maintenance of the proposed facility at the proposed site. The board's resolution of conflicts under clause (a) shall be in favor of the more stringent terms, conditions, and requirements.

Subd. 2. **Decision paramount.** The decision of the board to approve a facility shall be final and shall supersede and preempt requirements of state agencies and political subdivisions, excepting only those terms, conditions, and requirements of permitting agencies embodied in the board's approval and except as provided in subdivision 3. The permitting agencies shall issue or amend the permits for the facility within 60 days following and in accordance with the final decision of the board, and all permits shall conform to the terms, conditions, and requirements of the board's decision. No charter provision, ordinance, regulation, permit, or other requirement of any state agency or political subdivision shall prevent or restrict the establishment, operation, expansion, continuance, or closure of the facility in accordance with the final decision of the board and permits issued pursuant thereto.

Subd. 3. **Local requirements.** A political subdivision may impose reasonable requirements respecting the construction, inspection, operation, monitoring, and maintenance of a facility. Any such requirements shall be subject to review by the agency to determine their reasonableness and consistency with the establishment and use of a facility in accordance with the final decision of the board and permits issued pursuant thereto. The agency may approve, disapprove, suspend, modify, or reverse any such requirements. The decision of the agency shall be final.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 6

### 115A.38 RECONCILIATION PROCEDURES.

Subdivision 1. **Reports to legislative commission.** At least 30 days before making a final decision under section 115A.37 in a review brought pursuant to section 115A.33, clause (d), the board through its chairperson may report to the legislative commission describing permit conditions or requirements being considered which are not within the existing authority of the agency or the board or which would require legislation or public financial assistance. In any such report the chairperson of the board may request intervention in the review pursuant to subdivisions 2 and 3.

Subd. 2. **Pre-intervention assessment.** If the legislative commission determines that intervention might be warranted under the terms of subdivision 1, the commission may suspend the review process for up to 60 days to allow a pre-intervention assessment. The pre-intervention assessment shall be conducted by an independent, impartial, and qualified public intervenor appointed by the commission with the advice and consent of the parties to the dispute. The intervenor shall report to the commission. The report shall include:

(a) an assessment of whether the dispute is ripe for mediation and whether the parties are willing to mediate;

(b) an assessment of whether, within the terms of subdivision 1, substantive issues exist which cannot be resolved effectively through normal administrative and judicial procedures;

(c) a preliminary definition of the facts and issues in dispute and actions and decisions being considered;

(d) a description of the diverse parties having a legitimate and direct interest in the outcome of the dispute.

Subd. 3. **Suspension of review process; intervention proceeding.** Following the report of the intervenor, the legislative commission may suspend the review process for an additional period not to exceed 90 days for an intervention proceeding. The intervenor shall be in charge of the intervention proceeding and may call for such participation and establish such procedures as he deems necessary and appropriate to facilitate agreement. The intervenor shall keep the chairman of the legislative commission informed on the progress of the inter-

vention proceeding, particularly with respect to agreements or proposed agreements which may require action or decisions not within the authority of the agency or board, legislative action, or public financial assistance. The intervenor shall make recommendations to the commission respecting any such agreements or proposed agreements. The commission may make recommendations to the intervenor respecting any such agreement or proposed agreement. If the commission approves of an agreement, or a decision based upon an agreement, which requires action or decisions not within the authority of the agency or board, legislative action, or public financial assistance, the commission shall cause the matter and recommendations to be submitted to the legislature for consideration.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 7

#### **115A.39 JUDICIAL REVIEW.**

Judicial review with respect to conduct or decisions in supplementary reviews brought pursuant to section 115A.33, clauses (c) or (d), shall be as provided in section 115A.30.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 4 s 8

### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

#### **115A.42 ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.**

There is established a planning assistance program to provide technical and financial assistance to political subdivisions of the state for the purpose of encouraging and improving regional and local solid waste management planning activities and efforts. The program shall be administered by the agency pursuant to rules promulgated under chapter 15, except in the metropolitan area where the program shall be administered by the metropolitan council pursuant to chapter 473. The agency and the metropolitan council shall ensure conformance with federal requirements and programs established pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 and amendments thereto.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 5 s 1

#### **115A.43 ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.**

Political subdivisions shall be eligible for assistance under the program.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 5 s 2

#### **115A.44 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**

Eligible recipients may receive grants for up to 50 percent of the cost of the planning activity, except that planning by a regional development commission and joint planning by two or more contiguous counties or political subdivisions located in two or more contiguous counties may receive grants for up to 100 percent of the cost of the planning activity. Financial assistance provided under the program may be used to employ staff, contract with other units of government or qualified consultants, and pay such other planning expenses as the agency or metropolitan council may allow.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 5 s 3

#### **115A.45 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

The agency and metropolitan council shall provide for technical assistance for eligible recipients. The agency and metropolitan council shall provide model plans for regional and local solid waste management. The agency and metropolitan council may contract for the delivery of technical assistance by a regional development commission, any state or federal agency, or private consultants.



The agency shall prepare and publish an inventory of sources of technical assistance for solid waste planning, including studies, publications, agencies, and persons available.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 5 s 4

#### **115A.46 CONTENTS.**

Political subdivisions preparing plans under sections 115A.42 to 115A.46 are encouraged to consult with persons presently providing solid waste collection, processing, and disposal services in the preparation of the plan. Plans prepared by local units of government in the metropolitan area shall conform to the requirements of chapter 473. Plans prepared by political subdivisions outside the metropolitan area with assistance from the program shall conform to the requirements of this section. The plans shall describe existing collection, processing, and disposal systems, including schedules of rates and charges, financing methods, environmental acceptability, and opportunities for improvements in the systems. The plans shall include an estimate of the land disposal capacity in acre-feet which will be needed through the year 2000, on the basis of current and projected waste generation practices. The plans shall contain an assessment of opportunities to reduce the need for land disposal through waste reduction and resource recovery, the alternative degrees of reduction achievable, and a comparison of the costs of alternatives, including capital and operating costs, and the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators. The plans shall establish a siting procedure and development program to assure the orderly location, development, and financing of new or expanded solid waste facilities and services sufficient for a prospective ten-year period, including estimated costs and implementation schedules, proposed procedures for operation and maintenance, estimated annual costs and gross revenues, and proposals for the use of facilities after they are no longer needed or usable. The plans shall describe existing and proposed county and municipal ordinances and license and permit requirements relating to solid waste management and shall describe existing and proposed regulation and enforcement procedures. Plans for location, establishment, operation, maintenance, and post-closure use of facilities and facility sites, for ordinances, and for licensing, permit, and enforcement activities shall be consistent with the rules adopted by the agency pursuant to chapter 116. The plans shall address the resolution of conflicting, duplicative, or overlapping local management efforts. The plans shall address the establishment of joint powers management programs or waste management districts where appropriate. The plans shall address other matters as the rules of the agency may require consistent with the purposes of sections 115A.42 to 115A.46.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 5 s 5

### **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM**

#### **115A.49 ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSES AND PRIORITIES.**

There is established a solid waste management demonstration program to encourage and assist cities, counties, and solid waste management districts in the development and implementation of solid waste management projects of potential state wide application or significance and to transfer the knowledge and experience gained from such projects to other communities in the state. The program shall be administered so as to demonstrate the application of feasible and prudent alternatives to disposal, including waste reduction; waste separation by generators, collectors, and other persons; and waste processing. The program shall be administered by the agency and the board in accordance with the requirements of sections 115A.49 to 115A.54 and rules promulgated by the agency and the board pursuant to chapter 15. In administering the program, the

agency and the board shall give priority to areas where natural geologic and soil conditions are unsuitable for land disposal of solid waste and areas where the capacity of existing solid waste disposal facilities is determined by the agency or the board to be less than five years. In areas outside the metropolitan area, the agency and the board shall also give priority to projects serving more than one local government unit.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 1

#### **115A.50 ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.**

Eligible recipients for assistance under the program shall be limited to cities, counties, and solid waste management districts established pursuant to sections 115A.62 to 115A.72. Eligible recipients may apply for assistance under sections 115A.52 and 115A.53 on behalf of other persons.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 2

#### **115A.51 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**

Applications for assistance under the program shall demonstrate: (a) that the project is conceptually and technically feasible; (b) that affected political subdivisions are committed to implement the project, to provide necessary local financing, and to accept and exercise the government powers necessary to the project; (c) that operating revenues from the project, considering the availability and security of sources of solid waste and of markets for recovered resources, together with any proposed federal, state, or local financial assistance, will be sufficient to pay all costs over the projected life of the project; (d) that the applicant has evaluated the feasible and prudent alternatives to disposal and has compared and evaluated the costs of the alternatives, including capital and operating costs, and the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators. The agency or the board may require completion of a comprehensive solid waste management plan conforming to the requirements of section 115A.46, before accepting an application.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 3

#### **115A.52 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**

The agency and the board shall ensure the delivery of the technical assistance necessary for proper implementation of each demonstration project funded under the program. The agency and the board may contract for the delivery of technical assistance by any state or federal agency, a regional development commission, the metropolitan council, or private consultants and may use program funds to reimburse the agency, commission, council, or consultants. The agency and the board shall prepare and publish an inventory of sources of technical assistance, including studies, publications, agencies, and persons available. The agency and the board shall ensure statewide benefit from projects assisted under the demonstration program by developing exchange and training programs for local officials and employees and by using the experience gained in demonstration projects to provide technical assistance and education for other solid waste management projects in the state.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 4

#### **115A.53 WASTE REDUCTION AND SEPARATION PROJECTS.**

The agency shall provide technical assistance and grants to projects which demonstrate waste reduction; waste separation by generators, collectors, and other persons; and collection systems for separated waste. Activities eligible for assistance under this section include legal, financial, economic, educational, marketing, social, governmental, and administrative activities related to the imple-

mentation of the project. Preliminary planning and development, feasibility study, and conceptual design costs shall also be eligible activities, but no more than 20 percent of program funds shall be used to fund those activities. The rules of the agency shall prescribe the level or levels of local funding required for grants under this section.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 5

#### 115A.54 WASTE PROCESSING FACILITIES.

**Subdivision 1. Purposes; public interest; declaration of policy.** The legislature finds that the establishment of waste processing facilities and transfer stations serving such facilities is needed to manage properly the solid waste generated in the state and to conserve and protect the natural resources in the state and the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; that opportunities to establish the facilities and transfer stations are not being fully realized by individual political subdivisions or by agreements among subdivisions; and that therefore it is necessary to provide capital assistance to stimulate and encourage the acquisition and betterment of the facilities and transfer stations.

**Subd. 2. Administration; assurance of funds.** The board shall provide technical and financial assistance for the acquisition and betterment of the facilities and transfer stations from revenues derived from the issuance of bonds authorized by section 115A.58. Of money appropriated for the purposes of the demonstration program, at least 70 percent shall be distributed as loans, and the remainder shall be distributed as grants. An individual project may receive assistance totaling up to 100 percent of the capital cost of the project and grants up to 50 percent of the capital cost of the project. No grant or loan shall be disbursed to any recipient until the board has determined the total estimated capital cost of the project and ascertained that financing of the cost is assured by funds provided by the state, by an agency of the federal government within the amount of funds then appropriated to that agency and allocated by it to projects within the state, by any person, or by the appropriation of proceeds of bonds or other funds of the recipient to a fund for the construction of the project.

**Subd. 3. Obligations of recipient.** No grant or loan for any project shall be disbursed until the governing body of the recipient has made an irrevocable undertaking, by resolution, to use all funds made available exclusively for the capital cost of the project and to pay any additional amount by which the cost of the project exceeds the estimate by appropriation to the construction fund of additional funds or proceeds of additional bonds of the recipient. The resolution shall also indicate that any subsequent withdrawal of allocated or additional funds of the recipient will impair the obligation of contract between the state of Minnesota, the recipient, and the bondholders. The resolution shall pledge payment to the debt service account of all revenues of the project to the extent that they exceed costs and shall also obligate the recipient to levy a tax sufficient to make timely payments under the loan agreement, if a deficiency occurs in the amount of user charges, taxes, special assessments, or other moneys pledged for payment under the loan agreement. Each loan made to a recipient shall be secured by resolutions adopted by the board and the governing body of the recipient, obligating the recipient to repay the loan to the state treasurer in annual installments including both principal and interest. Installments shall be in an amount sufficient to pay the principal amount within the period required by the agency. The interest on the loan shall be calculated on the declining balance at a rate not less than the average annual interest rate on the state bonds of the issue from which proceeds of the loan were made. The resolution shall obligate the recipient to provide money for the repayment from user charges, taxes, special assessments or any other funds available to it.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 6 s 6

### STATE WASTE MANAGEMENT BONDS

#### 115A.57 WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND.

Subdivision 1. **Creation; receipts.** The commissioner of finance shall maintain a Minnesota state waste management fund. The fund shall receive the proceeds of state bonds and other money appropriated to the fund and disburse money for the acquisition of real property and interests in real property for hazardous waste facility sites and surrounding buffer areas, as authorized by section 115A.06, subdivision 4, and money to be granted or loaned to political subdivisions pursuant to the waste processing facility capital assistance program created by section 115A.54. The commissioner of finance and state treasurer shall deposit in the fund as received (a) all proceeds of Minnesota state waste management bonds, except accrued interest and premiums received upon the sale of the bonds; (b) all other money appropriated by law for purposes stated in sections 115A.57 to 115A.59, and (c) all money granted to the state for those purposes by the federal government or any agency thereof. All the receipts are annually appropriated for the purposes of the fund, and shall remain available until expended.

Subd. 2. **Disbursements.** Disbursements from the fund shall be made at the times and in the amounts authorized by the board in accordance with applicable state laws and the board's rules.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 7 s 1

#### 115A.58 MINNESOTA STATE WASTE MANAGEMENT BONDS.

Subdivision 1. **Authority to issue bonds.** The commissioner of finance shall sell bonds of the state of Minnesota for the prompt and full payment of which, together with interest, the full faith, credit, and taxing powers of the state are irrevocably pledged. Bonds shall be sold only upon request of the board and in the amount as may otherwise be authorized by this or a subsequently enacted law which authorizes the sale of additional bonds and the deposit of the proceeds in the state waste management fund. Any authorized amount of bonds in this law or any subsequently enacted law authorizing the issuance of bonds for the purposes of the state waste management fund, together with this section, constitute complete authority for the issue. The bonds shall not be subject to restrictions or limitations contained in any other law.

Subd. 2. **Issuance of bonds.** Upon request by the board and upon authorization as provided in subdivision 1, the commissioner of finance shall sell Minnesota state waste management bonds. The bonds shall be in the aggregate amount requested, and sold upon sealed bids upon the notice, at the price, in the form and denominations, bearing interest at the rate or rates, maturing in the amounts and on the dates (without option of prepayment or subject to prepayment upon the notice and at the times and prices), payable at the bank or banks within or outside the state (with provisions for registration, conversion, and exchange and for the issuance of notes in anticipation of the sale or delivery of definitive bonds), and in accordance with any further provisions as the commissioner of finance shall determine. The sale is subject to the approval of the attorney general, but not subject to the provisions of sections 15.0411 to 15.0422. The bonds shall be executed by the commissioner of finance and attested by the state treasurer under their official seals. The signatures of the officers on the bonds and any interest coupons and their seals may be printed, lithographed, engraved, or stamped thereon, except that each bond shall be authenticated by the manual signature on its face of one of the officers or of an officer of a bank designated by them as authenticating agent. The commissioner of finance shall ascertain and certify to the purchasers of the bonds the perfor-

mance and existence of all acts, conditions, and things necessary to make them valid and binding general obligations of the state of Minnesota, subject to the approval of the attorney general.

Subd. 3. **Expenses.** All expenses incidental to the sale, printing, execution, and delivery of bonds pursuant to this section, including but not limited to actual and necessary travel and subsistence expenses of state officers and employees for these purposes, and any expenses of litigation relating to the validity of the bonds, shall be paid from the waste management fund, and the amounts necessary are appropriated from that fund.

Subd. 4. **Debt service account in the state waste management fund.** The commissioner of finance shall maintain in the Minnesota state waste management fund a separate account to be called the state waste management debt service account. It shall record receipts of premium and accrued interest, loan repayments, project revenue or other money transferred to the fund and income from the investment of the money and record any disbursements to pay the principal and interest on waste management bonds. Income from investment shall be credited to the account in each fiscal year. The amount credited shall be equal to the average return that year on all funds invested by the state treasurer, as determined by the treasurer, times the average balance in the account that year.

Subd. 5. **Appropriations to debt service account; appropriation from account to pay debt service.** The premium and accrued interest received on each issue of Minnesota state waste management bonds, and all payments received in repayment of loans and other revenues received are appropriated to the debt service account. All income from the investment of the Minnesota state waste management fund is appropriated to the debt service account. In order to reduce the amount of taxes otherwise required to be levied, there is also appropriated to the debt service account from any funds available in the general fund on November 1 in each year, a sum of money sufficient in amount, when added to the balance then on hand, to pay all principal and interest on Minnesota waste management bonds due and to become due before July 1 in the second ensuing year. So much of the debt service account of the state waste management fund as is necessary to pay principal and interest on waste management bonds is annually appropriated from the debt service account for the payment of principal and interest of the waste management bonds. All funds appropriated by this subdivision shall be available in the debt service account prior to any levy of the tax in any year required by the Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 7.

Subd. 6. **Security.** On or before December 1 in each year the state auditor shall levy on all taxable property within the state whatever tax may be necessary to produce an amount sufficient, with all money currently credited to the debt service account, to pay the entire amount of principal and interest currently due and the principal and interest to become due before July 1 in the second year thereafter on Minnesota waste management bonds. This tax shall be levied upon all real property used for the purposes of a homestead, as well as other taxable property, notwithstanding the provisions of section 273.13, subdivisions 6 and 7, and shall be subject to no limitation of rate or amount until all the bonds and interest thereon are fully paid. The proceeds of this tax are appropriated to the debt service account. The principal of and interest on the bonds are payable from the proceeds of this tax.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 7 s 2

#### **115A.59 BOND AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION OF PROCEEDS.**

The commissioner of finance is authorized, upon request of the board, to sell Minnesota state waste management bonds in the amount of up to \$8,800,000

for the purpose of the waste processing facility capital assistance program under section 115A.54, and in the amount of up to \$6,200,000 for the purpose of acquiring real property and interests in real property for hazardous waste facility sites and buffer areas as authorized by section 115A.06, subdivision 4. The bonds shall be sold in the manner and upon the conditions prescribed in section 115A.58, and in the Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Sections 4 to 7. The proceeds of the bonds, except as provided in section 115A.58, subdivision 5, are appropriated to the Minnesota state waste management 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 waste management fund equal to the aggregate amount of the loans and grants then approved and not previously disbursed, plus the amount of the loans and grants to be approved in the current and the following fiscal year, as estimated by the board.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 7 s 3

### SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

#### 115A.62 PURPOSE; PUBLIC INTEREST; DECLARATION OF POLICY.

The legislature finds that the development of integrated and coordinated solid waste management systems is needed to manage properly the solid waste generated in the state and to conserve and protect the natural resources in the state and the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; that this need cannot always be met solely by the activities of individual political subdivisions or by agreements among subdivisions; and that therefore it is necessary to establish a procedure for the creation of solid waste management districts having the powers and performing the functions prescribed in sections 115A.62 to 115A.72.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 1

#### 115A.63 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS.

Subdivision 1. **Legal status.** Solid waste management districts established pursuant to sections 115A.62 to 115A.72 shall be public corporations and political subdivisions of the state.

Subd. 2. **Establishment by board.** The board may establish waste districts as public corporations and political subdivisions of the state, define the powers of such districts in accordance with sections 115A.62 to 115A.72, define and alter the boundaries of the districts as provided in section 115A.64, and terminate districts as provided in section 115A.66. The board shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 15 governing the establishment, alteration, and termination of districts.

Subd. 3. **Restrictions.** No waste district shall be established within the boundaries of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District established by Laws 1971, Chapter 478, as amended. No waste district shall be established wholly within one county. The board shall not establish a waste district within or extending into the metropolitan area, nor define or alter the powers or boundaries of a district, without the approval of the metropolitan council. The council shall not approve a district unless the articles of incorporation of the district require that the district will have the same procedural and substantive responsibilities, duties, and relationship to the metropolitan agencies as a metropolitan county. The board shall not establish a district unless the petitioners demonstrate that they are unable to fulfill the purposes of a district through joint action under section 471.59. The board shall require the completion of a comprehensive solid waste management plan conforming to the requirements of section 115A.46, by petitioners seeking to establish a district.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 2

**115A.64 PROCEDURE FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND ALTERATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Local petition.** Waste districts shall be established and their powers and boundaries defined or altered by the board only after petition requesting the action jointly submitted by the governing bodies of petitioners comprising at least one-half of the counties partly or wholly within the district. A petition for alteration shall include a resolution by the board of directors of the district approving the alteration.

Subd. 2. **Petition contents.** A petition requesting establishment or alteration of a waste district shall contain the information the board may require, including at least the following:

(a) the name of the proposed district;

(b) a description of the territory and political subdivisions within and the boundaries of the proposed district or alteration thereto, along with a map showing the district or alteration;

(c) resolutions of support for the district, as proposed to the board, from the governing body of each of the petitioning counties;

(d) a statement of the reason, necessity, and purpose for the district, plus a general description of the solid waste management improvements and facilities contemplated for the district showing how its activities will accomplish the purpose of the district and the purposes for waste resource districts stated in sections 115A.62 to 115A.72;

(e) articles of incorporation stating the powers of the district consistent with sections 115A.62 to 115A.72, including a statement of powers proposed pursuant to sections 115A.70 and 115A.71.

After the petition has been filed, no petitioner may withdraw from it except with the written consent of all other petitioners filed with the board.

Subd. 3. **Local review and comment.** At least 60 days before submitting the petition to the board, the petitioners shall publish notice of the petition in newspapers of general circulation in the proposed district and shall cause a copy of the petition to be served upon the agency, the governing body of each political subdivision which is wholly or partly within the proposed district or is affected by the proposed alteration and each regional development commission affected by the proposed district or alteration. Each entity receiving service shall have 60 days within which to comment to the petitioners on the petition and the proposed district or alteration. Proof of service, along with any comments received, shall be attached to the petition when it is submitted to the board.

Subd. 4. **Review procedures.** Upon receipt of the petition, the chairperson of the board shall determine whether the petition conforms in form and substance to the requirements of law and rule. If the petition does not conform to the requirements, the chairperson shall return it immediately to the petitioners with a statement describing the deficiencies and the amendments necessary to rectify them. If the petition does conform to the requirements, and if comments have been received objecting to the establishment or alteration of the district as proposed, the chairperson shall request the office of administrative hearings to conduct a hearing on the petition. The hearing shall be conducted in the proposed district in the manner provided in chapter 15 for contested cases. If no comments have been received objecting to the establishment of the district as proposed, the board may proceed to grant or deny the petition without the necessity of conducting a contested case hearing. If the petition conforms to the requirements of law and rule, the chairperson shall also immediately submit the petition to the solid waste and the technical advisory councils of the board for review and recommendation and shall forward the petition to the director of the agency, who shall prepare and submit to the board a report containing recommendations on the disposition of the petition. The director's report shall contain

at least the director's findings and conclusions on whether the proposed boundaries, purposes, powers, and management plans of the district or alteration thereto serve the purposes of waste resource districts, are appropriately related to the waste generation, collection, processing, and disposal patterns in the area, and are generally consistent with the purposes of the agency's regulatory program.

**Subd. 5. Corrections allowed.** No petition submitted by the requisite number of counties shall be void or dismissed on account of defects exposed in the hearing documents or report. The board shall permit the petition to be amended in form and substance to conform to the facts by correcting any errors in the description of the territory or any other defects.

**Subd. 6. Board order.** After considering the reports of the hearing examiner, if a contested case hearing has been held, and the recommendations of the advisory councils director of the agency, the board shall make a final decision on the petition. If the board finds and determines that the establishment or alteration of a district as proposed in the petition would not be in the public interest and would not serve the purposes of sections 115A.62 to 115A.72, it shall give notice to the petitioners of its intent to deny the petition. If a contested case hearing has not been held, the petitioners may request a hearing within 30 days of the notice of intent to deny the petition. The request shall be granted. Following the hearing and the report of the hearing examiner, the board shall make a final decision on the petition and mail a copy of its decision to the governing body of each affected political subdivision. If the board finds and determines that the establishment or alteration of a district as proposed in the petition would be in the public interest and would serve the purposes of sections 115A.62 to 115A.72, it shall, by order, establish the district, define its boundaries, and give it a corporate name by which, in all proceedings, it shall thereafter be known. The order shall include articles of incorporation stating the powers of the district and the location of its registered office. Upon the filing of a certified copy of the order of the board with the secretary of state, the district shall become a political subdivision of the state and a public corporation, with the authority, power, and duties prescribed in sections 115A.62 to 115A.72 and the order of the board. At the time of filing, a copy of the order shall be mailed by the board to the governing body of each political subdivision wholly or partly within the district or affected by the alteration of the district.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 3; 1980 c 615 s 60

#### **115A.65 PERPETUAL EXISTENCE.**

A waste district created under the provisions of sections 115A.62 to 115A.72 shall have perpetual existence to the extent necessary to perform all acts necessary and proper for carrying out and exercising the powers and duties expressly given in it. A district shall not be terminated except pursuant to section 115A.66.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 4

#### **115A.66 TERMINATION.**

**Subdivision 1. Petition.** Proceedings for the termination of a district shall be initiated by the filing of a petition with the board. The petition shall be submitted by the governing bodies of not less than one-half of the counties which are wholly or partly in the district. The petition shall state that the existence of the district is no longer in the public interest. The petitioners shall publish notice of the petition in newspapers of general circulation in the district and shall cause to be served upon each political subdivision wholly or partly within the district a copy of the petition, and proof of service shall be attached to the petition filed with the board.



Subd. 2. **Bond; payment of costs.** If the petition is dismissed or denied, the petitioners shall be required to pay all costs and expenses of the proceeding for termination. At the time of filing the petition a bond shall be filed by the petitioners with the board in such sum as the board determines to be necessary to ensure payment of costs.

Subd. 3. **Hearing; decision.** If objection is made to the board against the petition for termination, a contested case hearing on the petition shall be held in the waste district pursuant to chapter 15. If the board determines that the termination of the district as proposed in the petition would not be in the public interest, the board shall give notice to the petitioner of its intent to deny the petition. If a contested case hearing has not been held, the petitioner may request a hearing within 30 days of the notice of intent to deny the petition. The request shall be granted. Following the hearing and the report of the hearing examiner, the board shall make a final decision on the petition. If the petition is dismissed all costs of the proceeding shall be assessed against the petitioner. If the board determines that the existence of the district is no longer in the public interest, the board shall by its findings and order terminate the district. Upon the filing of a certified copy of the findings and order with the secretary of state the district shall cease to be a public corporation and a political subdivision of the state.

Subd. 4. **Limitation.** The board shall not entertain a petition for termination of a district within five years from the date of the formation of the district nor shall the board entertain a petition for termination of the same district more often than once in five years.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 5

#### 115A.67 ORGANIZATION OF DISTRICT.

The governing body of each county wholly or partly within the district shall appoint two persons to serve on the first board of directors of the district. The first chairperson of the board of directors shall be appointed by the chairperson of the waste management board and shall be a local elected official within the district. The first chairperson shall serve for a term of two years. Thereafter the chairperson shall be elected from outside the board of directors by majority vote of the board of directors. The first meeting of the board of directors shall be held at the call of the chairperson, after notice, for the purpose of proposing the bylaws, electing officers and for any other business that comes before the meeting. The bylaws of the district, and amendments thereto, shall be adopted by a majority vote of the board of directors unless the certificate of incorporation requires a greater vote. The bylaws shall state:

(a) the manner and time of calling regular meetings of the representatives and the board of directors, not less than once annually;

(b) the title, manner of selection, and term of office of officers of the district;

(c) the term of office of members of the board of directors, the manner of their removal, and the manner of filling vacancies on the board of directors;

(d) the powers and duties of the board of directors consistent with the order and articles of incorporation establishing the district;

(e) the definition of a quorum for meetings of the board of directors, which shall be not less than a majority of the members;

(f) the compensation and reimbursement for expenses for members of the board of directors, which shall not exceed that provided for in section 15.0575, subdivision 3; and

(g) such other provisions for regulating the affairs of the district as the board of directors shall determine to be necessary.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 6

#### **115A.68 REGISTERED OFFICE.**

Every district shall maintain an office in this state to be known as its registered office. When a district desires to change the location of its registered office, it shall file with the secretary of state, the board, and the director of the agency, a certificate stating the new location by city, town, or other community and the effective date of change. When the certificate has been duly filed, the board of directors may make the change without any further action.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 7

#### **115A.69 POWERS.**

Subdivision 1. **General.** A district shall have all powers necessary or convenient to perform its duties, including the powers provided in this section.

Subd. 2. **Actions.** The district may sue and be sued, and shall be a public body within the meaning of chapter 562.

Subd. 3. **Acquisition of property.** The district may acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, gift, or grant, any right, title, and interest in and to real or personal property deemed necessary for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment of its purposes, including positive and negative easements and water and air rights. Any local government unit and the commissioners of transportation, natural resources, and administration may convey to or permit the use of any property or facilities by the district, subject to the rights of the holders of any bonds issued with respect thereto, with or without compensation and without an election or approval by any other government agency. The district may hold the property for its purposes, and may lease or rent the property so far as not needed for its purposes, upon the terms and in the manner as it deems advisable. The right to acquire lands and property rights by condemnation shall be exercised in accordance with chapter 117. The district may take possession of any property for which condemnation proceedings have been commenced at any time after the issuance of a court order appointing commissioners for its condemnation.

Subd. 4. **Right of entry.** Whenever the district deems it necessary to the accomplishment of its purposes, the district or any member, employee, or agent thereof, when authorized by it, may enter upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations, provided that the entrance and activity is undertaken after reasonable notice and during normal business hours and provided that compensation is made for any damage to the property caused by the entrance and activity.

Subd. 5. **Gifts and grants.** The district may apply for and accept gifts, loans, or other property from the United States, the state, or any person for any of its purposes, may enter into any agreement required in connection therewith, and may hold, use, and dispose of the money or property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, loan or agreement.

Subd. 6. **Property exempt from taxation.** Any real or personal property owned, used, or occupied by the district for any authorized purpose is declared to be acquired, owned, used and occupied for public and governmental purposes, and shall be exempted from taxation by the state or any political subdivision of the state, provided that those properties shall be subject to special assessments levied by a political subdivision for a local improvement in amounts proportionate to and not exceeding the special benefit received by the properties from the improvement. No possible use of the properties in any manner differ-

ent from their use for solid waste management at the time shall be considered in determining the special benefit received by the properties. All bonds, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the district shall be exempted from taxation by the state or any political subdivision of the state. Interest on the obligations of the district shall be exempted from taxation in the same manner provided for interest on obligations qualifying under section 290.08, subdivision 7.

Subd. 7. **Facilities and services.** The district may construct, equip, develop, enlarge, improve, and operate solid waste facilities and services as it deems necessary and may negotiate contracts for the use of public or private facilities and services. The district shall contract with private persons for the construction, maintenance, and operation of facilities and services where the facilities and services are adequate and available for use and competitive with other means of providing the same service.

Subd. 8. **Rates; charges.** The district may establish and collect rates and charges for the facilities and services provided by the district and may negotiate and collect rates and charges for facilities and services contracted for by the district. The board of directors of the district may agree with the holders of district obligations which are secured by revenues of the district as to the maximum or minimum amounts which the district shall charge and collect for services provided by the district. Before establishing or raising any rates and charges the board of directors shall hold a public hearing regarding the proposed rates and charges. Notice of the hearing shall be published at least once in a legal newspaper of general circulation throughout the area affected by the rates and charges. Publication shall be no more than 45 days and no less than 15 days prior to the date of the hearing.

Subd. 9. **Disposition of property.** The district may sell or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property acquired by it which is no longer required for accomplishment of its purposes. The property shall be sold in the manner provided by section 458.196, insofar as practical. The district shall give notice of sale which it deems appropriate. When the district determines that any property which has been acquired from a government unit without compensation is no longer required, the district shall transfer it to the government unit.

Subd. 10. **Disposition of products and energy.** The district may use, sell, or otherwise dispose of all of the products and energy produced by its facilities. The district may, on a competitive basis, enter into short or long term contracts, make spot sales, solicit bids, enter into direct negotiations, deal with brokers, or use such other methods of disposal as it chooses, provided that the dealings of the district shall be on a competitive basis so as not to create an unfair or unreasonable advantage or restraint of trade on the part of the district. The district shall give particular consideration to the needs of purchasers in this state and shall actively promote sales to such purchasers so long as this can be done at prices and under conditions that meet constitutional requirements and that are consistent with the district's object of being financially self supporting to the greatest extent possible.

Subd. 11. **Contracts.** The district may enter into any contract necessary or proper for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment of its purposes.

Subd. 12. **Joint powers.** The district may act under the provisions of section 471.59, or any other law providing for joint or cooperative action between government units.

Subd. 13. **Research.** The district may conduct research studies and programs, collect and analyze data, prepare reports, maps, charts, and tables, and conduct all necessary hearings and investigations in connection with its work and may advise and assist other government units on planning matters within the scope of its powers, duties, and objectives.

Subd. 14. **Employees; contracts for services.** The district may employ persons or firms and contract for services to perform engineering, legal or other services necessary to carry out its functions.

Subd. 15. **Insurance.** The district may require any employee to obtain and file with it an individual bond or fidelity insurance policy. It may procure insurance in amounts it deems necessary to insure against liability of the board of directors and employees or both, for personal injury or death and property damage or destruction, with the force and effect stated in chapter 466, and against risks of damage to or destruction of any of its facilities, equipment, or other property as it deems necessary.

Subd. 16. **Review of projects.** The district may require that persons shall not acquire, construct, alter, reconstruct or operate a solid waste facility within the district without prior consultation with and approval of the district.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 8

### **115A.70 DESIGNATION OF RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITIES; REQUIRED USE.**

Subdivision 1. **General.** A district may be authorized by the order and articles of incorporation establishing the district to require that all or any portion of the solid waste that is generated within its boundaries or any service area thereof and is deposited within the state be taken for processing to a resource recovery facility or a transfer station serving a facility designated by the district.

Subd. 2. **Standards.** In determining whether to designate and require use of resource recovery facilities the district shall consider whether:

(a) the required use will result in the recovery of resources or energy from materials which would otherwise be wasted;

(b) the required use will lessen the demand for and use of land disposal;

(c) the required use is necessary for the financial support of the facility;

(d) less restrictive methods for ensuring an adequate solid waste supply are available;

(e) all other feasible and prudent waste processing alternatives for accomplishing the purposes of the proposed designation have been considered and the costs of the alternatives, including capital and operating costs, and the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators have been compared and evaluated.

Subd. 3. **Exemption.** The district shall not designate and require use of facilities for materials which are separated from solid waste and recovered for reuse or recycling by the generator, by a private person under contract with the generator or by a licensed solid waste collector.

Subd. 4. **Procedure.** The district shall proceed as follows when designating and requiring use of facilities:

(a) The district shall notify those persons whom the district has determined should use the facilities. Notification to political subdivisions, landfill operators, and licensed solid waste collectors shall be in writing. All other persons shall be notified at least by publication in a legal newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in the area. The notification shall specify types and quantities of solid wastes, plans for use of the solid wastes, the point of delivery of the solid wastes, and the fee to be charged. During a period of 90 days following the notification, the district shall negotiate with the persons within the areas to be served in order to develop contractual agreements on the terms of required use of the designated facilities.

(b) If contracts have not been made at the end of the 90 day period, or if persons subject to the required use have not made arrangements sufficient to justify exemption under subdivision 3, the district shall hold a public hearing to

take testimony on the required use of the designated facilities. The hearing shall be preceded by the notice required under clause (a).

(c) If contracts have not been made within 30 days after the public hearing, or if persons subject to the required use have not made arrangements sufficient to justify exemption under subdivision 3, the district may order any person identified in the notice of the district to use the designated facilities, starting at a specified date which shall be at least 30 days after the order has been issued.

No designation shall be invalid by reason of the district's failure to provide written notice to any of the entities listed in this subdivision.

**Subd. 5. Service guarantee.** The district shall not arbitrarily terminate, suspend, or curtail services provided to any person required pursuant to this section to use designated facilities without the consent of the person or without just cause.

**Subd. 6. Termination.** Use required under contract or order pursuant to this section may be terminated by a person upon an adequate showing to the district that the solid waste has value and that arrangements have been made by the person sufficient to justify exemption under subdivision 3, unless the district determines that the requirement must be continued to assure delivery of waste necessary to the financial support of the district facilities.

**History:** 1980 c 564 art 8 s 9

NOTE: This section is effective July 1, 1982. See Laws 1980, Chapter 564, Article 13, Section 3.

### 115A.71 BONDING POWERS.

**Subdivision 1. General.** A district may exercise the bonding powers provided in this section to the extent the powers are authorized by the order of the waste management board establishing the district and by its articles of incorporation.

**Subd. 2. Debt.** The district's bonds shall be sold, issued, and secured in the manner provided in chapter 475 for revenue bonds and the district shall have the same powers and duties as a municipality and its governing body in issuing revenue bonds under that chapter. No election shall be required. The bonds may be sold at any price and at public or private sale as determined by the district and shall not be subject to any limitation as to rate.

**Subd. 3. Revenue bonds.** A district may borrow money and incur indebtedness by issuing bonds and obligations which are payable solely:

(a) from revenues, income, receipts, and profits derived by the district from its operation and management of solid waste facilities;

(b) from the proceeds of warrants, notes, revenue bonds, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness issued and sold by the district which are payable solely from such revenues, income, receipts, and profits;

(c) from federal or state grants, gifts, or other moneys received by the district which are available therefor.

Every issue of revenue bonds by the district shall be payable out of any funds or revenues from any facility of the district, subject only to agreements with the holders of particular bonds or notes pledging particular revenues or funds. If any facility of the district is funded in whole or in part by Minnesota waste management bonds issued under sections 115A.57 to 115A.59, the state bonds shall take priority. The district may provide for priorities of liens in the revenues between the holders of district obligations issued at different times or under different resolutions. The district may provide for the refunding of any district obligation through the issuance of other district obligations entitled to rights and priorities similar in all respects to those held by the obligations that are refunded.

**History:** *1980 c 564 art 8 s 10*

**115A.72 AUDIT.**

The board of directors, at the close of each year's business, shall cause an audit of the books, records and financial affairs of the district to be made by a certified public accountant or the state auditor. Copies of a written report of the audit, certified to by the auditors, shall be placed and kept on file at the principal place of business of the district and shall be filed with the secretary of state and the board.

**History:** *1980 c 564 art 8 s 11*