CHAPTER 116

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

116.07 POWERS AND DUTIES.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 2a. **Exemptions from standards.** No standards adopted by any state agency for limiting levels of noise in terms of sound pressure which may occur in the outdoor atmosphere shall apply to (1) segments of trunk highways constructed with federal interstate substitution money, provided that all reasonably available noise mitigation measures are employed to abate noise, (2) an existing or newly constructed segment of a highway, provided that all reasonably available noise mitigation measures, as approved by the commissioners of the department of transportation and pollution control agency, are employed to abate noise, (3) except for the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, an existing or newly constructed segment of a road, street, or highway under the jurisdiction of a road authority of a town, statutory or home rule charter city, or county, except for roadways for which full control of access has been acquired, (4) skeet, trap or shooting sports clubs, or (5) motor vehicle race events conducted at a facility specifically designed for that purpose that was in operation on or before July 1, 1983. Nothing herein shall prohibit a local unit of government or a public corporation with the power to make rules for the government of its real property from regulating the location and operation of skeet, trap or shooting sports clubs, or motor vehicle race events conducted at a facility specifically designed for that purpose that was in operation on or before July 1, 1983.

[For text of subds 3 to 4a, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 4b. **Permits; hazardous waste facilities.** (a) The agency shall provide to the office of environmental assistance established in section 115A.055, copies of each permit application for a hazardous waste facility immediately upon its submittal to the agency. The agency shall request recommendations on each permit application from the office and shall consult with the office on the agency's intended disposition of the recommendations. Except as otherwise provided in sections 115A.18 to 115A.30, the agency shall commence any environmental review required under chapter 116D within 120 days of its acceptance of a completed permit application. The agency shall respond to a permit application for a hazardous waste facility within 120 days following a decision not to prepare environmental documents or following the acceptance of a negative declaration notice or an environmental impact statement. Except as otherwise provided in sections 115A.18 to 115A.30, within 60 days following the submission of a final permit application for a hazardous waste facility, unless a time extension is agreed to by the applicant, the agency shall issue or deny all permits needed for the construction of the proposed facility.

(b) The agency shall promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 14 for all hazardous waste facilities. The rules shall require:

(1) contingency plans for all hazardous waste facilities which provide for effective containment and control in any emergency condition;

(2) the establishment of a mechanism to assure that money to cover the costs of closure and postclosure monitoring and maintenance of hazardous waste facilities will be available;

(3) the maintenance of liability insurance by the owner or operator of hazardous waste facilities during the operating life of the facility.

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Subd. 4d. **Permit fees.** (a) The agency may collect permit fees in amounts not greater than those necessary to cover the reasonable costs of reviewing and acting upon applications for agency permits and implementing and enforcing the conditions of the permits pursuant to agency rules. Permit fees shall not include the costs of litigation. The agency shall adopt rules under section 16A.1285 establishing a system for charging permit fees collected under this subdivision. The fee schedule must reflect reasonable and routine permitting, implementation, and enforcement costs. The agency may impose an additional enforcement fee to be collected for a period of up to two years to cover the reasonable costs of implementing and enforcing the conditions of a permit under the rules of the agency. Any money collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the environmental fund.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), and section 16A.1285, subdivision 2, the agency shall collect an annual fee from the owner or operator of all stationary sources, emission facilities, emissions units, air contaminant treatment facilities, treatment facilities, potential air contaminant storage facilities, or storage facilities subject to the requirement to obtain a permit under subchapter V of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., or section 116.081. The annual fee shall be used to pay for all direct and indirect reasonable costs, including attorney general costs, required to develop and administer the permit program requirements of subchapter V of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., and sections of this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter related to air contamination and noise. Those costs include the reasonable costs of reviewing and acting upon an application for a permit; implementing and enforcing statutes, rules, and the terms and conditions of a permit; emissions, ambient, and deposition monitoring; preparing generally applicable regulations; responding to federal guidance; modeling, analyses, and demonstrations; preparing inventories and tracking emissions; and providing information to the public about these activities.

(c) The agency shall adopt fee rules in accordance with the procedures in section 16A.1285, subdivision 5, that:

(1) will result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph (b), of an amount not less than $25 per ton of each volatile organic compound; pollutant regulated under United States Code, title 42, section 7411 or 7412 (section 111 or 112 of the federal Clean Air Act); and each pollutant, except carbon monoxide, for which a national primary ambient air quality standard has been promulgated;

(2) may result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph (b), of an amount not less than $25 per ton of each pollutant not listed in clause (1) that is regulated under this chapter or air quality rules adopted under this chapter; and

(3) shall collect, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph (b), the amount needed to match grant funds received by the state under United States Code, title 42, section 7405 (section 105 of the federal Clean Air Act).

The agency must not include in the calculation of the aggregate amount to be collected under clauses (1) and (2) any amount in excess of 4,000 tons per year of each air pollutant from a source. The increase in air permit fees to match federal grant funds shall be a surcharge on existing fees. The commissioner may not collect the surcharge after the grant funds become unavailable. In addition, the commissioner shall use nonfee funds to the extent practical to match the grant funds so that the fee surcharge is minimized.

(d) To cover the reasonable costs described in paragraph (b), the agency shall provide in the rules promulgated under paragraph (c) for an increase in the fee collected in each year by the percentage, if any, by which the Consumer Price Index for the most recent calendar year ending before the beginning of the year the fee is collected exceeds the Consumer Price Index for the calendar year 1989. For purposes of this paragraph the Consumer Price Index for any calendar year is the average of the Consumer Price Index for all–urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor, as of the close of the 12–month period ending on August 31 of each calendar year. The revision of the Consumer Price Index that is most consistent with the Consumer Price Index for calendar year 1989 shall be used.

(e) Any money collected under paragraphs (b) to (d) must be deposited in an air quality account in the environmental fund and must be used solely for the activities listed in paragraph (b).

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(f) Persons who wish to construct or expand an air emission facility may offer to reimburse the agency for the costs of staff overtime or consultant services needed to expedite permit review. The reimbursement shall be in addition to fees imposed by paragraphs (a) to (d). When the agency determines that it needs additional resources to review the permit application in an expedited manner, and that expediting the review would not disrupt air permitting program priorities, the agency may accept the reimbursement. Reimbursements accepted by the agency are appropriated to the agency for the purpose of reviewing the permit application. Reimbursement by a permit applicant shall precede and not be contingent upon issuance of a permit and shall not affect the agency's decision on whether to issue or deny a permit, what conditions are included in a permit, or the application of state and federal statutes and rules governing permit determinations.

[For text of subds 4e to 6, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 7. **Counties; processing of applications for animal lot permits.** Any Minnesota county board may, by resolution, with approval of the pollution control agency, assume responsibility for processing applications for permits required by the pollution control agency under this section for livestock feedlots, poultry lots or other animal lots. The responsibility for permit application processing, if assumed by a county, may be delegated by the county board to any appropriate county officer or employee.

(a) For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "processing" includes:

(1) the distribution to applicants of forms provided by the pollution control agency;

(2) the receipt and examination of completed application forms, and the certification, in writing, to the pollution control agency either that the animal lot facility for which a permit is sought by an applicant will comply with applicable rules and standards, or, if the facility will not comply, the respects in which a variance would be required for the issuance of a permit; and

(3) rendering to applicants, upon request, assistance necessary for the proper completion of an application.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "processing" may include, at the option of the county board, issuing, denying, modifying, imposing conditions upon, or revoking permits pursuant to the provisions of this section or rules promulgated pursuant to it, subject to review, suspension, and reversal by the pollution control agency. The pollution control agency shall, after written notification, have 15 days to review, suspend, modify, or reverse the issuance of the permit. After this period, the action of the county board is final, subject to appeal as provided in chapter 14.

(c) For the purpose of administration of rules adopted under this subdivision, the commissioner and the agency may provide exceptions for cases where the owner of a feedlot has specific written plans to close the feedlot within five years. These exceptions include waiving requirements for major capital improvements.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, a discharge caused by an extraordinary natural event such as a precipitation event of greater magnitude than the 25–year, 24–hour event, tornado, or flood in excess of the 100–year flood is not a "direct discharge of pollutants."

(e) In adopting and enforcing rules under this subdivision, the commissioner shall cooperate closely with other governmental agencies.

(f) The pollution control agency shall work with the Minnesota extension service, the department of agriculture, the board of water and soil resources, producer groups, local units of government, as well as with appropriate federal agencies such as the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, to notify and educate producers of rules under this subdivision at the time the rules are being developed and adopted and at least every two years thereafter.

(g) The pollution control agency shall adopt rules governing the issuance and denial of permits for livestock feedlots, poultry lots or other animal lots pursuant to this section. A feedlot permit is not required for livestock feedlots with more than ten but less than 50 animal units; provided they are not in shoreland areas. These rules apply both to permits issued by counties and to permits issued by the pollution control agency directly.

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(h) The pollution control agency shall exercise supervising authority with respect to the processing of animal lot permit applications by a county.

(i) After May 17, 1997, any new rules or amendments to existing rules proposed under the authority granted in this subdivision, must be submitted to the members of legislative policy committees with jurisdiction over agriculture and the environment prior to final adoption. The rules must not become effective until 90 days after the proposed rules are submitted to the members.

Subd. 7a. **Notice of application for livestock feedlot permit.** A person who applies to the pollution control agency or a county board for a permit to construct or expand a feedlot with a capacity of 500 animal units or more shall, not later than ten business days after the application is submitted, provide notice to each resident and each owner of real property within 5,000 feet of the perimeter of the proposed feedlot. The notice may be delivered by first class mail, in person, or by the publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the affected area and must include information on the type of livestock and the proposed capacity of the feedlot. Notification under this subdivision is satisfied under an equal or greater notification requirement of a county conditional use permit.

[For text of subds 8 and 9, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 10. [Repealed, 1997 c 231 art 13 s 20]

[For text of subd 11, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 7 art 1 s 36; 1997 c 143 s 1; 1997 c 158 s 1; 1997 c 216 s 113,114*

116.0713 LIVESTOCK ODOR.

The pollution control agency must:

(1) monitor and identify potential livestock facility violations of the state ambient air quality standards for hydrogen sulfide, using a protocol for responding to citizen complaints regarding feedlot odor and its hydrogen sulfide component, including the appropriate use of portable monitoring equipment that enables monitoring staff to follow plumes;

(2) when livestock production facilities are found to be in violation of ambient hydrogen sulfide standards, take appropriate actions necessary to ensure compliance, utilizing appropriate technical assistance and enforcement and penalty authorities provided to the agency by statute and rule.

History: *1997 c 216 s 115*

116.17 MINNESOTA STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL BONDS.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 2. **Issuance of bonds.** Upon request by resolution of the agency and upon authorization as provided in subdivision 1 the commissioner of finance shall sell and issue Minnesota state water pollution control bonds in the aggregate amount requested, upon sealed bids and upon such notice, at such price, in such form and denominations, bearing interest at a rate or rates, maturing in amounts and on dates, with or without option of prepayment upon notice and at specified times and prices, payable at a bank or banks within or outside the state, with provisions, if any, for registration, conversion, and exchange and for the issuance of temporary bonds or notes in anticipation of the sale or delivery of definitive bonds, and in accordance with further provisions, as the commissioner of finance shall determine, subject to the approval of the attorney general, but not subject to chapter 14, including section 14.386. 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 appurtenant interest coupons and their seals may be printed, lithographed, engraved, stamped, or otherwise reproduced thereon, except that each bond shall be authenticated by the manual signature on its face of one of the officers or of an authorized representative of a bank designated by the commissioner as registrar or other authenticating agent. The commissioner of finance shall ascertain and certify to the purchasers of the bonds the performance and existence of all

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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.

[For text of subds 3 to 6, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 187 art 5 s 14*

116.18 WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FUNDS; APPROPRIATIONS AND BONDS.

[For text of subds 1 to 3b, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 3c. **Individual on–site treatment systems program.** (a) Beginning in fiscal year 1989, up to ten percent of the money to be awarded as grants under subdivision 3a in any single fiscal year, up to a maximum of $1,000,000, may be set aside for the award of grants by the agency to municipalities to reimburse owners of individual on–site wastewater treatment systems for a part of the costs of upgrading or replacing the systems.

(b) An individual on–site treatment system is a wastewater treatment system, or part thereof, that uses soil treatment and disposal technology to treat 5,000 gallons or less of wastewater per day from dwellings or other establishments.

(c) Municipalities may apply yearly for grants of up to 50 percent of the cost of replacing or upgrading individual on–site treatment systems within their jurisdiction, up to a limit of $5,000 per system or per connection to a cluster system. Before agency approval of the grant application, a municipality must certify that:

(1) it has adopted and is enforcing the requirements of Minnesota Rules governing individual sewage treatment systems;

(2) the existing systems for which application is made do not conform to those rules, are at least 20 years old, do not serve seasonal residences, and were not constructed with state or federal funds; and

(3) the costs requested do not include administrative costs, costs for improvements or replacements made before the application is submitted to the agency unless it pertains to the plan finally adopted, and planning and engineering costs other than those for the individual site evaluations and system design.

(d) The federal and state regulations regarding the award of state and federal wastewater treatment grants do not apply to municipalities or systems funded under this subdivision, except as provided in this subdivision.

(e) The agency shall adopt permanent rules regarding priorities, distribution of funds, payments, inspections, procedures for administration of the agency's duties, and other matters that the agency finds necessary for proper administration of grants awarded under this subdivision.

[For text of subds 3d to 6, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 246 s 13*

116.44 SENSITIVE AREAS; STANDARDS.

Subdivision 1. **List of areas.** By January 1, 1983, the pollution control agency shall publish a preliminary list of counties determined to contain natural resources sensitive to the impacts of acid deposition. Sensitive areas shall be designated on the basis of:

(a) the presence of plants and animal species which are sensitive to acid deposition;

(b) geological information identifying those areas which have insoluble bedrock which is incapable of adequately neutralizing acid deposition; and

(c) existing acid deposition reports and data prepared by the pollution control agency and the federal environmental protection agency. The pollution control agency shall conduct public meetings on the preliminary list of acid deposition sensitive areas. Meetings shall be concluded by March 1, 1983, and a final list published by May 1, 1983.

[For text of subd 2, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 187 art 1 s 11*

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116.76 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 8, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 9. **Generator.** "Generator" means a person whose activities produce infectious waste. "Generator" does not include a person who produces sharps as a result of administering medication to oneself. "Generator" does not include an ambulance service licensed under section 144E.10, an eligible board of health, community health board, or public health nursing agency as defined in section 116.78, subdivision 10, or a program providing school health service under section 123.35, subdivision 17.

[For text of subds 10 to 18, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 199 s 14*

116.85 MONITORS REQUIRED FOR OTHER INCINERATORS.

Subdivision 1. **Emission monitors.** Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, an incinerator permit that contains emission limits for dioxin, cadmium, chromium, lead, or mercury must, as a condition of the permit, require the installation of an air emission monitoring system approved by the commissioner. The monitoring system must provide continuous measurements to ensure optimum combustion efficiency for the purpose of ensuring optimum dioxin destruction. The system shall also be capable of providing a permanent record of monitored emissions that will be available upon request to the commissioner and the general public. The commissioner shall provide periodic inspection of the monitoring system to determine its continued accuracy.

Subd. 1a. **Mercury testing.** (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a facility holding an incinerator permit that contains emission limits for mercury must, as a condition of the permit, conduct periodic stack testing for mercury as described by this subdivision. Hospital waste incinerators having a design capacity of less than 3,000,000 BTUs per hour may use mercury segregation practices as an alternative to stack testing if allowed by applicable federal requirements, with the approval of the commissioner.

(b) A facility shall conduct stack testing for mercury at intervals not to exceed three months. An incinerator facility burning greater than 30 percent by weight of refuse-derived fuel must conduct periodic stack testing for mercury at intervals not to exceed 12 months unless a previous test showed a permit exceedence after which the agency may require quarterly testing until permit requirements are satisfied. With the approval of the commissioner, an incinerator facility may use methods other than stack testing for determining mercury in air emissions.

(c) After demonstrating that mercury emissions have been below 50 percent of the facility's permitted mercury limit for three consecutive years, as tested under the conditions of paragraph (b), an incinerator facility may choose to conduct stack testing once every three years or according to applicable federal requirements, whichever is more stringent. The facility shall notify the commissioner of its alternative mercury testing schedule, and the commissioner shall include operating conditions in the facility's permit that ensure that the facility will continue to emit mercury emissions less than 50 percent of the applicable standard.

(d) If a test conducted under the provisions of paragraph (c) shows mercury emissions greater than 50 percent of the facility's permitted mercury limit, the facility shall conduct annual mercury stack sampling until emissions are below 50 percent of the facility's permitted mercury limit. Once the facility demonstrates that mercury emissions are again below 50 percent of the facility's permitted mercury limit, the facility may resume testing every three years or according to federal requirements, whichever is more stringent, upon notifying the commissioner.

(e) In amending, modifying, or reissuing a facility's air emissions permit which contains a provision that restricts mercury emissions from the facility the commissioner shall, at a minimum, continue that permit restriction at the same level unless the applicant demonstrates that no good cause exists to do so.

[For text of subds 2 to 4, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 189 s 1*

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116.92 MERCURY EMISSIONS REDUCTION.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 3. **Labeling; products containing mercury.** A manufacturer or wholesaler may not sell and a retailer may not knowingly sell any of the following items in this state that contain mercury unless the item is labeled in a manner to clearly inform a purchaser or consumer that mercury is present in the item and that the item may not be placed in the garbage until the mercury is removed and reused, recycled, or otherwise managed to ensure that it does not become part of solid waste or wastewater:

(1) a thermostat or thermometer;

(2) an electric switch, individually or as part of another product, other than a motor vehicle;

(3) an appliance;

(4) a medical or scientific instrument; and

(5) an electric relay or other electrical device.

[For text of subds 4 and 5, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 5a. **Displacement relays.** (a) A manufacturer of a displacement relay that contains mercury is responsible for the costs of collecting and managing its displacement relays to ensure that the relays do not become part of the solid waste stream.

(b) A manufacturer of a displacement relay that contains mercury shall, in addition to the requirements of subdivision 3, provide incentives for, and sufficient information to, purchasers and consumers of the relay to ensure that the relay does not become part of the waste stream. A manufacturer that has complied with this subdivision is not liable for improper disposal by purchasers or consumers of its relays.

(c) A manufacturer subject to this subdivision, or an organization of such manufacturers and its officers, members, employees, and agents, may participate in projects or programs to collect and properly manage waste displacement relays. Any person who participates in such a project or program is immune from liability under state law relating to antitrust, restraint of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce for activities related to the collection and management of the relays under this subdivision.

(d) For the purposes of this subdivision, a "displacement relay" means an electric flow control device having one or more poles that contain metallic mercury and a plunger which, when energized by a magnetic field, moves into a pool of mercury, displacing the mercury sufficiently to create a closed electrical circuit.

[For text of subds 6 to 8, see M.S.1996]

Subd. 8a. **Ban; mercury manometers.** After June 30, 1997, mercury manometers for use on dairy farms may not be sold or installed, nor may mercury manometers in use on dairy farms be repaired. After December 31, 2000, all mercury manometers on dairy farms must be removed from use.

[For text of subd 9, see M.S.1996]

History: *1997 c 62 s 2,3; 1997 c 216 s 116*

NOTE: Subdivision 5a, as added by Laws 1997, chapter 62, section 3, is effective July 1, 1998. Laws 1997, chapter 62, section 4.

116.925 ELECTRIC ENERGY; MERCURY EMISSIONS REPORT.

Subdivision 1. **Report.** To address the shared responsibility between the providers and consumers of electricity for the protection of Minnesota's lakes, each electric utility, as defined in section 216B.38, subdivision 5, and each person that generates electricity in this state for that person's own use or for sale at retail or wholesale shall provide to the commissioner of the pollution control agency by April 1 an annual report of the amount of mercury emitted in generating that electricity at that person's facilities for the previous calendar year.

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Subd. 2. **Contents of report.** A report must include:

(1) a list of all generation facilities owned or operated by the utility or person subject to subdivision 1;

(2) all readily available information regarding the amount of electricity purchased by the utility or person subject to subdivision 1, for use in the state; and

(3) information for each facility owned or operated by the utility or person subject to subdivision 1, stating: (i) the amount of electricity generated at the facility for use or for sale in this state at retail or wholesale; (ii) the amount of fuel used to generate that electricity at the facility; and (iii) the amount of mercury emitted in generating that electricity in the previous calendar year, based on emission factors, stack tests, fuel analysis, or other methods approved by the commissioner. The report must include the mercury content of the fuel if it is determined in conjunction with a stack test.

(b) The following are de minimis standards for small and little–used generation facilities:

(1) less than 240 hours of operation by the combustion unit per year;

(2) a fuel capacity input at the combustion unit of less than 150,000,000 British thermal units per hour; or

(3) an electrical generation unit with maximum output of less than or equal to 15 megawatts.

A utility or person subject to this section who owns or operates a combustion unit that qualifies under one of these de minimis standards is not required to provide the information described in paragraph (a) for that combustion unit.

(c) A report need not be filed for a combustion device for a year in which the device has documented mercury emissions of three pounds or less.

Subd. 3. **Report to consumers.** By January 1, 1999, and biennially thereafter in the report on air toxics required under section 115D.15, the commissioner shall report the amount of mercury emitted in the generation of electricity.

History: *1997 c 191 art 2 s 2*

116.991 [Repealed, 1997 c 216 s 160]

116.992 [Repealed, 1997 c 216 s 160]

116.993 SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A small business environmental improvement revolving loan program is established to provide loans to small businesses for the purpose of capital equipment purchases that will meet or exceed environmental rules and regulations or for investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites. The small business environmental improvement revolving loan program replaces the small business environmental loan program in Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 116.991, and the hazardous waste generator loan program in Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 115B.223.

Subd. 2. **Eligible borrower.** To be eligible for a loan under this section, a borrower must:

(1) be a small business corporation, sole proprietorship, partnership, or association;

(2) be a potential emitter of pollutants to the air, ground, or water;

(3) need capital for equipment purchases that will meet or exceed environmental regulations or need capital for site investigation and cleanup;

(4) have less than 50 full–time employees;

(5) have an after tax profit of less than $500,000; and

(6) have a net worth of less than $1,000,000.

Subd. 3. **Loan application and award procedure.** The commissioner of the pollution control agency may give priority to applicants that include, but are not limited to, those subject to Clean Air Act standards adopted under United States Code, title 42, section 7412,

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those undergoing site investigation and remediation, those involved with facility wide environmental compliance and pollution prevention projects, and those determined by the commissioner to be small business outreach priorities. The commissioner shall decide whether to award a loan to an eligible borrower based on:

(1) the applicant's financial need;

(2) the applicant's ability to secure and repay the loan; and

(3) the expected environmental benefit.

Subd. 4. **Screening committee.** The commissioner shall appoint a screening committee to evaluate applications and determine loan awards. The committee shall have diverse expertise in air quality, water quality, solid and hazardous waste management, site response and cleanup, pollution prevention, and financial analysis.

Subd. 5. **Limitation on loan obligation.** Numbers of applications accepted, evaluated, and awarded are based upon the available money in the small business environmental improvement loan account.

Subd. 6. **Loan conditions.** A loan made under this section must include:

(1) an interest rate that is four percent or one–half the prime rate, whichever is greater;

(2) a term of payment of not more than seven years; and

(3) an amount not less than $1,000 or exceeding $50,000.

History: *1997 c 216 s 117*

116.994 SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN ACCOUNT.

The small business environmental improvement loan account is established in the environmental fund. Repayments of loans made under section 116.993 must be credited to this account. This account replaces the small business environmental loan account in Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 116.992, and the hazardous waste generator loan account in Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 115B.224. The account balances and pending repayments from the small business environmental loan account and the hazardous waste generator account will be credited to this new account. Money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner for loans under this section.

History: *1997 c 216 s 118*

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