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Kathy Cooper

From: ecomment@pa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 10:50 AM
To: Environment-Committee@pasenate.com; IRRC; eregop@pahousegop.com; environmentalcommittee@pahouse.net; regcomments@pa.gov; ntroutman@pasen.gov
Cc: c-jflanaga@pa.gov
Subject: Comment received - Proposed Rulemaking: Air Quality Fee Schedule Amendments (#7-536)



Re: eComment System

The Department of Environmental Protection has received the following comments on Proposed Rulemaking: Air Quality Fee Schedule Amendments (#7-536).

Commenter Information:

Thomas Norris
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IRRC
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Comments entered:

Regarding 127.709 Asbestos abatement or regulated demolition or renovation project notification.

This proposed rulemaking does not differentiate between an initial notification and any subsequent revised notifications. Oftentimes a single project requires a revised notification to the initial notification, and oftentimes more than one revision is needed (which is very common). Does the fee apply to both the initial and all subsequent revised notifications? Applying the fee to revised notifications could dissuade an owner/operator from submitting subsequent revised notifications to avoid paying another fee for the same project. Applying a fee to revised notifications would make it difficult for owners/contractors to pre-determine project costs, which could negatively effect their ability to accurately bid on projects. Given that Pennsylvania has adopted an online notification process, state employee administrative time has significantly decreased since the time this rulemaking was first conceived. The burden to submit notification lies with the owner/operator to create a Greenport account and submit the notification information themselves, with minimal-to-none state employee time assistance. Subjecting owners/operators to a revised notification fee would increase budgetary difficulties for projects with a limited budget (Ex: municipal blight). Implementing this fee (initial and/or revised) would apply to fire training projects, which are allowable under the law to provide very beneficial onsite firefighting trainings, these fees could dissuade these types of projects. These concerns should be taken into account in determining any asbestos notification fees. At the very least, the fee should apply only to initial notifications and not to any subsequent revised notification(s). The fee should be waived for revised notifications. 127.709 needs language which clarifies fee applicability and should clearly indicate the fee applies only to initial notifications and not to any revised notifications.

No attachments were included as part of this comment.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jessica Shirley

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