

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (IDEM)

Environmental Regulation Executive Summary - Land & Waste Permits

The following is intended to be a high-level guide for businesses seeking to navigate Indiana's environmental land regulations. The executive summary provides information on the most common permitting needs related to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM) Office of Land Quality. All forms that may be necessary when submitting a permit application may be found on the IDEM forms page, [here](#).

OFFICE OF LAND QUALITY

Administered by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management

The Office of Land Quality (OLQ) is primarily responsible for protecting one of Indiana's most valuable resources, land. To achieve its goal, OLQ enforces regulations to make sure businesses are managing waste in safe ways. This includes animal farms, which can create large amounts of manure. Additionally, OLQ regulates storage tanks to minimize the possibility and impact of any underground leaks. If the environment or public health is put at risk due to contamination, OLQ ensures that cleanups are prompt and effective. There are two major permit types issued by OLQ, hazardous waste management permits and solid waste permits.

OPERATING PERMITS

1. **Hazardous Waste Management Permits**

Description: Hazardous waste management must comply with the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which IDEM has been authorized by U.S. EPA to implement the majority of the RCRA hazardous waste program. Hazardous waste is defined as solid waste that may contribute to an increase in mortality, cause or contribute to serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness, or pose a substantial hazard to human and environmental health presently or in the future. The severity of the hazardous waste is accounted for through the quantity, concentration, and characteristics of the waste.

Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act requires a permit for the treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) of any hazardous waste. Owners and operators of hazardous waste management units must have permits during the active life (including the closure period) of the unit. Neither construction of the TSD facility nor permitted TSD activities can begin until a Final Hazardous Waste Management Permit has been issued.

Timeline: Depends on project's circumstances

Base Fee: Fees include new application, modification, and renewal fees, as well as annual operation fees and the type of waste being disposed. These vary greatly by type of facility, and an application is not considered received until the fee is received as well. A full list of fees may be found [here](#).

2. **Solid Waste Permits**

Description: Any entity seeking to conduct solid waste operations in Indiana must receive IDEM approval and submit the appropriate permit application. IDEM regulated solid waste includes: residential and commercial garbage, industrial wastes, construction and demolition debris, ash residue, and medical waste.

Timeline: review process includes a 30-day public comment period.

Base Fee: Fees include new application, modification, or renewal fees, as well as annual operation fees. Fees vary greatly by type of facility, and an application is not considered received until the fee is received as well. A full list of fees may be found [here](#).