

DEQ  
Solid and Hazardous  
Waste Division  
~~FEB 28 2020~~  
Solid and Hazardous  
Waste Division

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
STATE OF WYOMING

FEB 21 2020

IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON CONSENT )  
ISSUED TO BIG HORN COUNTY SOLID )  
WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT FOR THE )  
SOUTH BIGHORN COUNTY LANDFILL )

**FILED**

JAN 27 2020

Docket No. 5997-20

Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary  
Environmental Quality Council

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON CONSENT

House Bill 0066, commonly referred to as the Cease and Transfer bill, was enacted by the Wyoming legislature in the 2013 general session. Under this bill, Wyoming Statutes (W.S.) [35-11-528](#) through W.S. [35-11-532](#) were enacted enabling municipal solid waste (MSW) facility operators to receive funds to assist in the building of MSW transfer stations and for closure of small landfills. To be eligible for funding, operators must enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Solid and Hazardous Waste Division (SHWD); implement and revise the community's solid waste management plan; cease disposal of all MSW streams at the closing facility; and conform with applicable statutes (cited above).

The MOA requires the operator to enter into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the DEQ within 180 days from the effective date of the MOA. The AOC is an agreement between the DEQ and the Big Horn County Solid Waste Disposal District (District) issued for the purpose of establishing a schedule for the District to take specified actions to maintain compliance with solid waste regulations and with the MSW Cease and Transfer Program requirements.

Therefore, pursuant to W.S. [35-11-501](#) and W.S. [35-11-528](#) through [35-11-532](#), the DEQ is issuing this AOC, with the District's concurrence, to establish the following schedule which requires the District to take specified actions to ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.

WHEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. No later than January 31, 2020, the District shall submit a permit application for a Chapter 2 MSW closure permit to the DEQ unless an alternate date is approved in writing by the Administrator. The permit application shall contain a project schedule including the following items:
  - a. Date by which contract documents are to be submitted to DEQ staff for approval.
  - b. Date by which all permits, easements, rights of way, are to be approved or finalized/signed,

- c. Date by which the published call for bids are approved by DEQ staff.
  - d. Construction start date
  - e. Substantial completion date
  - f. Construction end date
2. In the event that DEQ/SHWD determines that any item(s) in the submitted closure permit application are incomplete or technically inadequate, DEQ/SHWD will notify the District of the deficiencies in writing. The District shall submit revisions necessary to address any identified deficiencies within thirty (30) days of receipt of the letter identifying the deficiencies.
  3. Disposal of all waste shall cease by June 1, 2021 unless an alternate date is approved in writing by the Administrator.
  4. The District shall place intermediate cover by July 1, 2021 for all disposal cells containing MSW that will remain active for the temporary disposal of construction and demolition waste to achieve acceptable closure contours unless an alternate date is approved in writing by the Administrator.
  5. The District is authorized to operate the South Big Horn landfill in accordance with the existing permit application through July 1, 2021 unless an alternate date is approved in writing by the Administrator.
  6. The closure permit shall include a schedule for completion of all closure activities. DEQ will review the closure permit application in accordance with solid waste rules and regulations Chapters 1, 2, and 7.
  7. The District agrees to complete closure activities as described in the approved closure permit.
  8. The District agrees to conform to all requirements of W.S. 35-11-532.
  9. The District shall notify DEQ of any changes, irregularities and or problems encountered while carrying out the terms of this agreement. These may include but are not limited to: change orders, contract interpretation issues, withholding liens and scheduling alterations. All change orders shall be approved in writing by DEQ before implementation.
  10. The District agrees not to advertise the project for bids until plans and specifications (including but not limited to engineer's cost estimate, with bid extensions and detailed cost estimates, which should include estimated costs of major components for the project) have been approved by DEQ.
  11. Within one (1) year of receipt of Cease and Transfer project funds, the District shall begin the project. The District shall complete construction in accordance with the schedule in the permit issued by the DEQ. The District shall receive written approval from DEQ before implementing changes which delay the project schedule.
  12. In the event the District is unable to draw all funds from the State Land and Investment Board (SLIB) for the closure project by July 1, 2022 (see SLIB Loan and/or Grant Agreement(s) with the District) the District may request an extension

from the Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI) and/or DEQ, at least ninety (90) days prior to this date.

13. In the event that archaeological artifacts or historical resources are unearthed during construction excavation, the District shall stop, or cause to be stopped, construction activities, notify the superintendent of the State Historical Preservation Office and the DEQ of such unearthing, and follow all applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing such occurrences.
14. The DEQ shall file this AOC with the Wyoming Environmental Quality Council (EQC) after all parties execute the AOC.
15. This AOC is issued with the District's consent, therefore the District will not file a request for hearing before the EQC to contest the validity of its terms under W.S. 35-11-701(c)(ii). However, the District reserves the right to request a hearing before the EQC to contest the later enforcement of terms of this order.
16. The effective date of this AOC is the date the final signature is attached.
17. Neither the District nor DEQ shall have any claim against the other for attorneys' fees nor other costs incurred throughout the process outlined above, including costs incurred in the preparation of this AOC. Each party shall bear its own attorney fees and costs, if any, incurred through the date that both parties sign this AOC. Each party assumes the risk of any liability arising from its own conduct. Neither party agrees to insure, defend, or indemnify the other.
18. The parties do not intend to create in any other individual or entity the status of third party beneficiary, and this AOC shall not be construed to create such status. The rights, duties, and obligations contained in this AOC shall operate only between the parties to this AOC and shall inure solely to the benefit of the parties to this AOC. The parties to this AOC intend and expressly agree that only parties signatory to this AOC shall have any legal or equitable right to seek to enforce this AOC, to seek any remedy arising out of a party's performance or failure to perform any term or condition of this AOC, or to bring an action for the breach of this AOC.
19. The State of Wyoming, DEQ, or the District, do not waive sovereign immunity by entering into this AOC and specifically retain immunity and all defenses available to them as sovereigns pursuant to Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 1-39-104(a) and all other state law.
20. Either party may request changes to this AOC. Any changes, modifications, revisions, or amendments to this AOC that are mutually agreed upon by the parties shall be incorporated by written instrument, executed, and signed by all parties to this AOC.
21. The laws of the State of Wyoming shall govern the construction, interpretation, and enforcement of this AOC. The Courts of the State of Wyoming shall have jurisdiction over this AOC and the parties, and the venue shall be the First Judicial District, Laramie County, Wyoming.
22. Should any portion of this AOC be judicially determined to be illegal or unenforceable, the remainder of the AOC shall continue in full force and effect, and the parties may renegotiate the terms affected by the severance.

23. Each party represents that they are authorized to enter into this AOC, agree to comply with and to be bound by the terms of this AOC, and further agree that they will not contest the basis or validity of this AOC. This AOC shall become binding upon the parties once executed by all parties.


**Authority**

The signatories certify that they are duly authorized to bind their respective Parties to this Administrative Order on Consent.

WE HEREBY CONSENT to the provisions of this Administrative Order on Consent:

**FOR THE WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY:**

Date: 2/21, 2020 By:   
Todd Parfitt, Director  
Department of Environmental Quality

Date: 2/21, 2020 By:   
Luke Esch, Administrator  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Division

**FOR THE BIG HORN COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT:**

Date: 2/18, 2020 By:   
Ron McArthur, Chairman  
Big Horn County Solid Waste Disposal District

January 24, 2020

AOC for Big Horn Solid Waste Disposal District

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