

Decommissioning and Reclamation Guidelines for Industrial Waste Works

Ash Olesen, Executive Director, Environmental Protection Branch
Presentation to SustainTech - March 22, 2018

Requirement for Decommissioning & Reclamation (D&R) Plans

- Section 2(s) of EMPA 2010 defines an Industrial Waste Works (IWW) facility as:
 - any facility/operation collecting, containing, storing, transmitting, treating, or disposing of industrial waste
- Section 9(1) of EMP General Regulations
 - Require Industrial Waste Works (IWW) facilities to acquire permits and submit a Financial Assurance (FA) for decommissioning and reclamation (D&R) costs
- Decommissioning and Reclamation Plans support the development of required financial assurances used to safeguard taxpayer funds from risk of insolvency.

Who will be impacted?

Section 8(2) of the EMP Regulations identifies Regulated IWW Facilities:

- Mining or milling operations;
- Petroleum upgraders and refineries;
- Coal-fired power generating plants;
- Ethanol or biodiesel processing plants;
- Canola and oilseeds crushing facilities;
- wood treatment facilities;
- wood product manufacturing facilities; and
- Facilities that treat, store, transport or dispose of specific thresholds of industrial, hazardous or solid waste.

When Does the Provision Take Effect?

- Financial Assurances for IWW's are required to be in place by January 1, 2020 and therefore D&R plans should be completed by operators well before this date to allow for review and approval of the plan by the ministry.

Detail Requirements within a D&R Plan

- The level of detail required in D&R Plans should be relative to the risks associated with the work required and the potential for impacts while being sufficient for the calculation of cost estimates.
- D&R Plans should describe the expected state of the site upon completion of operations allowing for expected future land uses.
- Site assessment information that is usually required for property transactions can provide much useful information for D&R planning.

D&R Plan Considerations

- Proposed end use of the decommissioned site;
- Predicted timelines for work to be conducted;
- Applicable land use plans;
- Monitoring programs during the decommissioning and post-decommissioning stages;
- Cost estimates;
- Contingency measures if initial work does meet objectives; and
- Reference to guidance information and assumptions used to calculate cost estimates (eg. Roadbuilders Guide for hourly equipment rates).

Final Facility Closure Objective/Criteria

General objective for all D&R Plans should be to leave all areas that were disturbed during operations in a condition that is consistent with the surrounding environment.

- Dams, Dykes, and Other Containment Structures
- Support infrastructure: residences, offices, water and sewage systems
- Transportation Infrastructure
- Wells and Piezometers

Submission of D&R Plan

- D&R Plans should be submitted through the Ministry of Environment portal
- [Login by going to: https://envonline.gov.sk.ca/login](https://envonline.gov.sk.ca/login)
- Client Service Support: 1-800-567-4224 to get information on how to get an account and make submissions through the portal.

Next Steps

- Ministry will finalize a D&R Guideline by end of April 2018.
- Make the guideline available through the ministry's website or through assigned Environmental Protection Officers.
- Provide support to stakeholders through engagement sessions on the guideline.

Questions?

Thank-you!

For more information regarding D&R requirements
for IWW Facilities please contact:

Jerry Wudrich

Director, Mining, Industry and Audit

Email: gerald.wudrich@gov.sk.ca

Phone: 306-933-7461

saskatchewan.ca