U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY SUBMITS HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT APPLICATION FOR HOLSTON ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) received a Part B hazardous waste management permit application from the U.S. Department of the Army on December 20, 2022, for two Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) units and a related Materials Handling Building (SDC-MHB). Holston Army Ammunition Plant (HSAAP), EPA ID TN5210020421) is located in Hawkins and Sullivan Counties at 4509 West Stone Drive, Kingsport, TN 37660 (see map). The co-operator, BAE Systems, Ordnance Systems Inc, manages the hazardous waste for this facility.

Prior to submitting the application on December 20, 2022, the facility held a Pre-Application Public Meeting on July 27, 2022, with a public notice issued on June 25, 2022, as required by Tennessee Rule 0400-12-01-.07(1)(m). The public will have another opportunity to comment when DSWM completes its review.

This permit will allow an additional thermal treatment technology to supplement and significantly reduce open burning operations at HSAAP, which treats hazardous waste explosives under TN hazardous waste permit (TNHW-148). The permit application includes two SDC units for the destruction of munitions (i.e., bulk explosive wastes) and the construction of one SDC-MHB housing operation to prepare the waste explosives for thermal treatment and package them into the required containers and weights for treatment in the SDC.

Under the existing RCRA Permit (TNHW-148), the total permitted amount of explosive hazardous waste treatment at HSAAP in the BPU is 1,250,000 pounds (lbs) annually. This RCRA permit application is not proposing to change the hazardous waste treatment permit limit at HSAAP. This permit application requests to retain the existing hazardous waste treatment permit limit of 1,250,000 lbs annually as a combined limit of hazardous waste treatment in the SDC-MHB/SDC units and in treatment units permitted under TNHW-148.

As set forth in the Regulations, a complete permit application, consisting of a Part A and a Part B, must include certain text, drawings, and other information adequate to demonstrate that the facility will fully comply with the various technical and administrative standards applicable to such a facility. Evaluation of the application involves an in-depth review of the application materials by DSWM staff, with support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, and subsequent correspondence between DSWM and the facility, identifying and correcting any deficiencies in the submitted information.

Once it determines the application is complete, DSWM will make a tentative decision to either grant or deny the permit and issue either a draft permit or a notice of intent to deny the permit. Public Notice will be given of this tentative decision, and the public will have at least 45 days to submit written comments on the draft permit/proposed action. A public hearing, if requested, may also be held to receive public comments within this public comment period. After considering the public comments received and making any appropriate revisions, the DSWM director will issue a final permit decision to either issue a final permit or terminate the existing permit. A Response to Comments will also be issued at that time.

Electronic copies of the application are available online at tn.gov/environment/notices/holston-receipt, at the DSWM Central Office on the 14th Floor of the Tennessee Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Nashville, TN 37243 (615-532-0780) and at DSWM's Johnson City Environmental Field Office, 2305 Silverdale Road, Johnson City, TN 37601-2162 (423-854-5400). Copies are available for review at the Kingsport Public Library, 400 Broad Street, Kingsport, TN 37660 (423-220-9489) and at the Mt. Carmel Public Library, 100 1/2 Main Street, Mt. Carmel, TN 37645 (423-357-4011).

Further information on this matter may be obtained by contacting Ms. Kathy Cole, HSAAP Staff Action Specialist, (423-578-6285), Kathy.O.Cole.civ@army.mil. Information, opinions, and inquiries may also be directed to Beverly Philpot in the Hazardous Waste Permitting Section of DSWM's Central Office at the TN Tower, 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 14th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243 (615-795-1188), email Beverly.Philpot@tn.gov or fax 615-532-0938.

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EEO/AA/ADAAA inquiries or complaints may be directed to the ADAAA Coordinator, TDEC HR Division, at 615-532-0200. Hearing-impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service (800-848-0298).

If it is hard for you to read, speak, or understand English, TDEC may be able to provide translation or interpretation services free of charge. Please contact Janelle Starke at 615-906-2950 for more information.

If you would like to receive notices like this directly, contact the DSWM's Central Office for a Mailing List Request Form. Email Solid.Waste@tn.gov or call 615-532-0780.

NOTICE ISSUED: January 20, 2023

