

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO RENEW  
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT POST CLOSURE PERMIT  
TESTAMERICA LABORATORIES, INC.**

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Division of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) has tentatively decided to reissue a hazardous waste post closure permit to TestAmerica Laboratories (TestAmerica) for a closed Hazardous waste landfill. The facility and landfill (EPA ID TND054692967) are located at 5815 Middlebrook Pike in Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee 37921. **TDEC invites the public to submit comments on this proposal during a 45-day comment period ending on September 5, 2024.**

The current permit, TNHW-159, was issued September 30, 2014, and was effective for ten years. TestAmerica's submittal of the renewal application on April 3, 2024, at least six months prior to the expiration date, allows continued operations under the existing permit pending a final decision being made on the application. TestAmerica held a pre-application public meeting on April 1, 2024, as announced in the February 29, 2024, edition of Knoxville News Sentinel. No members of the public attended the meeting.

Until October 1983, the previous operators of the facility disposed solvent and acid wastes into two rock-filled pits behind the laboratory building. In January 1984, contaminated soils, waste materials, and limestone were removed from the pits and sent off-site for proper disposal. Since solvent contamination remained in the soils after excavation, a cap was constructed over the area and the site was closed as a hazardous waste landfill requiring a permit for post-closure care. Because the disposal also contaminated the aquifer underlying the landfill, the permit issued by DSWM included requirements for groundwater monitoring and remedial action. The draft renewal permit contains provisions that will require TestAmerica to continue the monitoring and maintenance of the landfill, operating the groundwater extraction and treatment system, providing site security, and maintaining financial assurance to cover the cost for performing those duties throughout the post-closure care period.

The proposed permit includes conditions for corrective action of solid waste management units and areas of concern. TestAmerica will be required to investigate any release of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents discovered at the facility, regardless of the time at which waste was placed in a unit, and to take appropriate corrective action for any such release. At this time, there are no units that require further action. Other proposed permit conditions include notification of imminent hazards and compliance with land disposal restrictions, and organic air emission standards.

Based on the review of the renewal application and as authorized pursuant to Tennessee Rule 0400-12-01-.07(7), DSWM has determined the application to be complete and has prepared a draft permit. DSWM proposes to reissue the permit under the authority of the Tennessee Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1977, as amended, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-212-101 et seq., and Rule Chapter 0400-12-01, Hazardous Waste Management. In accordance with Rule 0400-12-01-.07(7)(e), this notice requires a 45-day comment period, beginning on the date of this publication and the opportunity to request a public hearing. A fact sheet has been prepared that provides additional information about the site and the proposed permit. Pending consideration of any contrary information received, it is the present intent of DSWM to reissue this permit. If reissued, the permit would be effective for ten years.

A public hearing will be held on August 29, 2024, at 5815 Middlebrook Pike in Knoxville, TN 37921 as well as via video teleconference. Information on how to join online is provided below. An information session will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., EDT for the public to inspect the draft permit with representatives from TestAmerica and TDEC. The formal hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m., EDT with a presentation from TDEC on the renewal permit. After the presentation, TDEC will receive oral comments from the public that will be recorded. The public may submit written comments at the meeting.

Those who wish to join the public hearing virtually can do so by using the following link: [tn.gov/environment/notices/testamerica/hearing](https://tn.gov/environment/notices/testamerica/hearing). Information regarding how to join by computer will be posted to this website at least 3 days prior to the public hearing. Online participants will be able to view maps, pictures, and other content that will be shared.

Electronic copies of the draft permit and fact sheet are available online at [tn.gov/environment/notices/testamerica](https://www.tn.gov/environment/notices/testamerica) and at the DSWM Central Office on the 7th Floor of the Davey Crocket Tower, 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37243 (615-532-0780). Paper copies of the draft permit are available for public inspection at the Bearden Branch Library, 100 Golf Club Road, Knoxville, TN, 37919, and at the TDEC Knoxville Environmental Field Office, 3711 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921 (865-594-6035).

To comment on the proposed post closure permit renewal contact Ms. Beverly Philpot, Hazardous Waste Program Manager, Division of Solid Waste Management; Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation; Davy Crocket Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor; 500 James Robertson Parkway; Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1535 (615-795-1188), [Beverly.Philpot@tn.gov](mailto:Beverly.Philpot@tn.gov). **Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. CDT, on September 5, 2024, to assure consideration.**

After considering all comments, DSWM will make a final decision to either issue or deny the permit. Notice will be given to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice of the final decision. At the time a final decision is issued, a Response to Comments document addressing all significant input received on the draft permit will be made available to the public. The final decision shall become effective upon signing by the Director of DSWM.

TDEC is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action (EEO/AA) employer. TDEC does not unlawfully discriminate on any basis prohibited by applicable law in any of its programs, services, or activities.

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](mailto:Solid.Waste@tn.gov) or call 615-532-0780.

**NOTICE ISSUED: July 22, 2024**

