SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Partnering with Idaho's Local Public Health Districts to Ensure Healthy Communities!

IACC Annual Conference June 5, 2024



- Laws and Regulations governing solid waste
- Potential for Conflict of Interest
- Waste Management Infrastructure
- Regulatory Compliance
- Limited Funding

IDAHO CODE AND RULES APPLICABLE TO SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITES AND MANAGEMENT

• Idaho Title 31 Chapter 44 – Solid Waste Disposal Sites

31-4402 – Authority granted to county commissioners to acquire, establish, maintain, and operate solid waste disposal systems.

Idaho Title 39 Chapter 4 – Districting law

- 39-414(13) Authority granted to the board of health of each public health district to administer and certify solid waste disposal site operations, closure, and post-closure procedures per Idaho Code Title 39 Chapter 74.
- Idaho Title 39 Chapter 74 Idaho Solid Waste Facilities Act
 - > Delineates the responsibilities of the health districts, counties, and DEQ.
- IDAPA 58.01.06 rules specific to Solid Waste Management

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEQ AND PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICTS

Outlines the roles and responsibilities of DEQ and public health districts for the solid waste program

- Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Sites
- All Non-Municipal Solid Waste Facilities and Activities
- Enforcement of Solid Waste Program
 - Municipal Solid Waste Landfills
 - Non-municipal Solid Waste Landfills

PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICTS

- ✓ Approve or disapprove the operations plan
- ✓ Approve or disapprove the Closure and Post-closure plans
- ✓ Conduct annual inspections of the landfill
- ✓ Recertify operating procedures and conduct joint reviews with DEQ periodically
- ✓ Work with counties and cities on solid waste management issues, and make referrals to DEQ as needed
- \checkmark Assist DEQ with enforcement
- Investigate complaints and attempt resolution through education and technical assistance

POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- Public Health Districts are regulating single countyowned or multi-county owned & operated landfills.
 - Inspections & enforcement actions are now funded solely by the counties.

WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

- Aging waste management infrastructure.
- Landfill capacity constraints.
- Growing population = increased waste generation = more landfills needed.
- DEQ: # of small, exempt landfills will be cut drastically over the next 10 years.
- Focus will shift to regional landfills to meet solid waste management needs.



REGULATORY COMPLIANCE ISSUES

- 1. Lack of training from DEQ.
- Adherence to various regulations/standards to ensure environmental protection and public health.
- Lack of training may result in non-compliance, legal issues, and environmental harm.



FUNDING/RESOURCES



- Adequate funding is essential for ensuring effective compliance and enforcement of solid waste regulations, including:
 - Monitoring waste disposal activities
 - Conducting inspections
 - Investigating complaints
 - Taking enforcement actions when violations occur and are not resolved
- Inadequate funding can:
 - Weaken enforcement efforts
 - Increased non-compliance
 - Illegal dumping
 - Environmental violations

THANK YOU

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