What is the history of the hazardous waste program?

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), an amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, was passed in 1976. The main reason for the amendment was to address the growing volume of municipal and industrial solid waste generated across the United States. A few goals established by RCRA include: to protect human health and the environment from potential hazards of waste disposal, to reduce the amount of waste generated, and to ensure that waste produced are managed in an environmentally sound manner.

When RCRA was written, U.S. Congress’ intent was for the states to assume primary responsibility for implementing the hazardous waste regulations with oversight from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). U.S. EPA must approve each state as an authorized state. To become an authorized state, each must demonstrate that the state program is at least equivalent to and consistent with federal laws, provides adequate enforcement authority and provides availability of information similar to the federal program. Since 1989, the State of Ohio has been an authorized state by U.S. EPA for the majority of their hazardous waste program.

Currently, the State of Ohio is not authorized by U.S. EPA to issue a permit for organic air emissions (40 CFR Part 264, Subparts AA, BB, and CC) from hazardous waste units. U.S. EPA has drafted a RCRA permit to address organic air emissions from hazardous waste. U.S. EPA’s draft permit and the State of Ohio’s draft permit have been issued concurrently and both share the same comment period.
How can I become more involved?

All persons, including the applicant, may submit written comments relating to this draft action. Written comments or requests for a public meeting may be submitted before the end of the comment period to the address in the box on the front of the page. Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA will hold a public meeting if enough people request such a gathering. The agencies may modify the proposed permit or take other action based on new information or public comments, so your opinion is important.

The comment period begins on June 5, 2019, and ends on July 26, 2019. Copies of the permit application and the draft permit are available for review by the public at the following locations:

Ohio EPA, Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
(740) 385-8501

Ohio EPA, Central Office
Division of Environmental Response and Revitalization
Lazarus Government Center
50 West Town St., Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 644-2924

U.S. EPA, Region 5
Land and Chemicals Branch, LL-17J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590
(312) 886-3781

Copies of the Ohio draft permit and the federal draft permit are available for review by the public at:

Guernsey County Public Library
Crossroads Branch
63500 Byesville Road
Cambridge, OH 43725

The Ohio draft permit is available for review by the public online under the “What’s New” tab at:

http://www.epa.ohio.gov/derr/EnvironmentalResponseandRevitalization

The entire record for this draft action is available via Ohio EPA’s eDocument portal:

http://edocpub.epa.ohio.gov/publicportal/edochome.aspx

Using the search function, search under the document type of “Permit” and then refine the search using the package number, which is “603”.

The federal draft permit is available for review by the public online at:

https://www.epa.gov/oh/draft-r CRA-permit-amg-v anadium-Ilc

Within sixty (60) days of the close of the public comment period, Ohio EPA will, without prior hearing, issue the permit (or deny the request) in accordance with Chapter 3734 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC). If Ohio EPA approves the application, taking into account public comments, a renewal permit will be issued with terms and conditions as are necessary to ensure compliance with hazardous waste rules.

After the close of the public comment period, U.S. EPA will review all comments received and decide whether to issue the permit. The final decision will include notification to those who submitted written comments during the official comment period. U.S. EPA will also prepare and send to all responders a document answering significant comments. Within 30 days of a final decision, any person who submitted written comments or made a statement at the hearing if one is held may petition U.S. EPA’s Environmental Appeals Board to review the decision.
Draft Hazardous Waste Permit Renewal

What does the facility do?

AMG Vanadium LLC (AMG) is a catalyst reclaimer and produces metal products. AMG currently holds a valid permit that authorizes storage of hazardous waste in a containment building. Additionally, AMG operates under a variance which exempts the catalyst received by AMG from classification as a hazardous waste at the facility.

What would this hazardous waste permit allow the facility to do?

This permit allows AMG to store hazardous waste within containment buildings called Raw Material Storage Buildings. The total area of the storage buildings combined is 37,693 cubic yards and the total annual quantity of waste that can be accepted is 45,000 tons.

What is the regulatory basis to support this permit renewal?

The Director has determined that AMG has submitted an application for renewal one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the expiration date of its present permit which was issued by Ohio EPA on May 2, 2008. The Director has considered the application, inspection reports, a report regarding the facility’s compliance with the present permit, and the rules adopted under ORC Section 3734. The Director has found that the Part B permit application meets the Director’s performance standards and that the facility has a history of compliance with this chapter, rules adopted under it, the existing permit, and orders entered into, which demonstrates reliability, expertise, and competency to subsequently operate the facility under this chapter, the rules, and the permit.

Who can I contact for more information?

For additional information, please contact Emily Deshaies at 740-380-5253 or Jae Lee of the U.S. EPA Regional Office in Chicago, Illinois at (800) 621-8431 ext. 63781.