

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

OFFICE OF ADJUDICATIONS

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IN THE MATTER OF

STEWARDSHIP PERMIT NO. DEP/HWM/CS-134-003

STRATFORD ARMY ENGINE PLANT

OCTOBER 2, 2008

PROPOSED FINAL DECISION

In an August 1, 2008 notice, the DEP tentatively determined it would issue a Stewardship Permit to the applicant to facilitate environmental cleanup, closure and monitoring activities at the Stratford Army Engine Plant in Stratford. General Statutes §§22a-6, 22a-6h, 22a-449(c) and Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§22a-449(c)-110 and §§22a-133(k)-2(f)(2). The hearing in this matter was conducted and concluded on September 10, 2008. The record was left open until September 15 for the receipt of written comments from the public. No comments were received.

The applicant, the DEP, and the intervenor have signed and filed a revised agreed draft decision¹ for my consideration and adoption as my proposed final decision. Regs., Conn. State Agencies 22a-3a-6(3)(A)(i). The parties and the intervenor have also submitted an agreement to waive the 15-day period for the filing of exceptions to my decision. 22a-3a-6(y)(3)(A).

I have reviewed the agreed draft decision and the record in this matter, including the application and documentation relevant to the tentative determination and the draft permit. I have also reviewed the testimony of the applicant and the DEP, both in writing and as presented at the hearing. Based on this review, I find that the application and proposed draft permit meet the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.

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¹ The applicant submitted revisions that are included in the agreement.

The agreed draft decision submitted by the parties sufficiently states the findings of fact and conclusions of law necessary to support my conclusion. Its fifteen findings of fact are supported in the record, particularly applicant's exhibit 1, the permit application, and DEP exhibits 2, 4 and 6, the tentative determination, the permit fact sheet, and a copy of the draft permit. Correspondence from the U.S. EPA (indicating it has no comment) is in the record as DEP exhibit 14, as is documentation of compliance with notification requirements by the DEP (DEP exhibits 1, 3 and 5).

Based on this complete record and the parties' clear and concise presentation of the issues at issue in this matter, I accept the attached agreed draft decision and adopt it as my proposed final decision. I therefore recommend that this Stewardship Permit be issued without delay.

Janice B. Deshais, Hearing Officer