The following DSCA Program Stakeholder update covers October–December 2017.

Meeting Minutes

The November 20, 2017 Stakeholder meeting minutes are located on the DSCA website at www.ncdsca.org, under the DSCA Stakeholder Work Group link. If you have corrections or comments, please email Pete Doorn at peter.doorn@ncdenr.gov.

Staffing News

The DSCA Compliance Program is in the process of hiring a new inspector to fill an Environmental Senior Specialist position to serve as a Compliance Officer for DSCA.

Rules and Legislation

As part of the mandatory Rule Review process, DSCA presented their rules at the January 10, 2018 GWWM Committee meeting and the January 11, 2018 EMC meeting. The rules identified as necessary with substantive public interest were approved by the EMC to proceed to public notice and hearing. The twelve rules identified as necessary with public interest include 15A NCAC 02S .0101, .0102, .0201, .0202, .0301, .0501, .0502, .0503, .0506, .0507, .0508, and .0509. Proposed amendments to these rules include technical corrections, clarification of form requirements and No Further Action criteria, and redefining “site specific target level” to be consistent with risk-based standards for DEQ’s cleanup programs. The public comment period will be held February 15, 2018 – April 16, 2018, and a public hearing is scheduled for March 6, 2018, at 6:00 pm in the DENR Green Square Training Room (1210) at 217 West Jones Street, Raleigh NC, 27603. The four DSCA rules identified as necessary without substantive public interest include 15A NCAC 02S .0103, .0302, .0504, and .0505, which will be automatically re-adopted as written.

Proposed DSCA re-authorization legislation has been submitted to the department for the General Assembly’s consideration in the upcoming short legislative session. The proposed statute amendments would extend the DSCA program and funding an additional 10 years.

Fund Statistics

A summary of the fund statistics for July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 is available on the DSCA website at www.ncdsca.org, under the DSCA Stakeholder Work Group link. Fund receipts for the first two quarters of FY2017-18 were $4,315,195.66, while disbursements for the same period were $3,519,702.19. As of January 31, 2018, the DSCA Fund balance was $6,509,782.18, with $2,367,365.42 encumbered in environmental engineering contracts. Funds are encumbered into active contracts as needed and as funds become available.
Remediation Program

Closures

Since the November 20, 2017 Stakeholder meeting, four additional clean-up sites were granted “No Further Action” (NFA) status, bringing the total number of closed DSCA sites to 76. The latest NFA letters were issued for Sno-White Cleaners in Charlotte (DC600085), Hilkers Cleaners in Raleigh (920025), Ideal Cleaners in Raleigh (DC920026), and Yong’s Cleaners in Greensboro (DC410040). A complete list of closed DSCA clean-up sites can be found at www.ncdsca.org, under DSCA Active Dry-cleaning and Remediation Site Inventories.

An additional 45 DSCA sites are undergoing preparations for closure, which include a detailed human health risk assessment, preparation of a site-wide risk management plan, and a period to solicit and collect public comments on the site management strategy. Sites that are in public comment can be found at www.ncdsca.org, under the link for Public Notices and Announcements.

Online ePayment Option

During the most recent co-payment invoice cycle, DSCA began offering an option to pay petitioner invoices online. The new ePayment option accepts: (i) fund transfers from your bank account (no processing fee); (ii) MasterCard, Visa, or Discover credit cards (2.65% processing fee); and (iii) debit cards ($3.95 flat processing fee). For more information, visit the DSCA website or go directly to DSCA’s ePayment page at: http://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/dry-cleaning-solvent-cleanup-act-program/dsca-epayments. New petitioners may also pay application fees online using this system.

Next Stakeholder Work Group Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am on Thursday, April 26, 2018, in the 1st Floor Training Room in the DEQ Green Square Building located at 217 West Jones Street in Raleigh. An agenda will be made available prior to the April meeting.