

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 1030

January Session, 2019

LCO No. **5524**

Referred to Committee on COMMERCE

Introduced by: (CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUDIT PERIOD FOR THE TRANSFER OF HAZARDOUS WASTE ESTABLISHMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsection (g) of section 22a-134a of the general statutes is
 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

4 (g) (1) (A) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, the 5 certifying party to a Form III shall, not later than seventy-five days 6 after the receipt of the notice that such form is complete or such later 7 date as may be approved in writing by the commissioner, submit a 8 schedule for the investigation of the parcel and remediation of the 9 establishment. Such schedule shall, unless a later date is specified in 10 writing by the commissioner, provide that the investigation shall be 11 completed within two years of the date of receipt of such notice, 12 remediation shall be initiated not later than three years after the date of 13 receipt of such notice and remediation shall be completed sufficient to 14 support either a verification or interim verification within a time frame 15 set forth in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of this subdivision. The 16 schedule shall also include a schedule for providing public notice of 17 the remediation prior to the initiation of such remediation in 18 accordance with subsection (i) of this section. Not later than two years 19 after the date of the receipt of the notice that the Form III is complete, 20 unless the commissioner has specified a later day, in writing, the 21 certifying party shall submit to the commissioner documentation, 22 approved in writing by a licensed environmental professional and in a 23 form prescribed by the commissioner, that the investigation has been 24 completed in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines. 25 Not later than three years after the date of the receipt of the notice that 26 the Form III is complete, unless the commissioner has specified a later 27 day in writing, the certifying party shall notify the commissioner in a 28 form prescribed by the commissioner that the remediation has been 29 initiated, and shall submit to the commissioner a remedial action plan 30 approved in writing by a licensed environmental professional in a 31 form prescribed by the commissioner. Notwithstanding any other 32 provision of this section, the commissioner may determine at any time 33 that the commissioner's review and written approval is necessary and 34 in such case shall notify the certifying party that the commissioner's 35 review and written approval is necessary. Such certifying party shall 36 investigate the parcel and remediate the establishment in accordance 37 with the schedule or the schedule specified by the commissioner.

(B) For a certifying party that submitted a Form III or Form IV
before October 1, 2009, when remediation of the entire establishment is
complete, the certifying party shall achieve the remediation standards
for the establishment sufficient to support a final verification and shall
submit to the commissioner a final verification by a licensed
environmental professional.

44 (C) For a certifying party that submits a Form III or Form IV after 45 October 1, 2009, not later than eight years after the date of receipt of 46 the notice that the Form III or Form IV is complete, unless the 47 commissioner has specified a later date in writing, the certifying party 48 shall achieve the remediation standards for the establishment sufficient 49 to support a final or interim verification and shall submit to the

50 commissioner such final or interim verification by a licensed 51 environmental professional. Any such final verification may include 52 and rely upon a verification for a portion of the establishment 53 submitted pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Verifications 54 shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the commissioner. The 55 certifying party may request a verification or interim verification filing 56 extension. The commissioner shall grant a reasonable extension if the 57 certifying party demonstrates to the commissioner's satisfaction that: 58 (i) Such certifying party has made reasonable progress toward 59 investigation and remediation of the establishment; and (ii) despite 60 best efforts, circumstances beyond the control of the certifying party 61 have significantly delayed the remediation of the establishment.

(D) A certifying party who submits an interim verification shall, until the remediation standards for groundwater are achieved, operate and maintain the long-term remedy for groundwater in accordance with the remedial action plan, the interim verification and any approvals by the commissioner, prevent exposure to the groundwater plume and submit annual status reports to the commissioner.

(E) The certifying party to a Form IV shall submit with the Form IV
a schedule for the groundwater monitoring and recording of an
environmental land use restriction, as applicable.

71 (2) (A) Notwithstanding the date the Form III or Form IV was 72 submitted, if a certifying party completes the remediation for a portion 73 of an establishment, such party may submit a verification or an interim 74 verification by a licensed environmental professional for any such 75 portion of an establishment. The certifying party shall be deemed to 76 have satisfied the requirements of this subsection for that portion of 77 the establishment covered by any such verification or interim 78 verification. If any portion of an establishment for which a verification 79 or interim verification is submitted pursuant to this subdivision is 80 transferred or conveyed or undergoes a change in ownership before 81 remediation of the entire establishment is complete that would not 82 otherwise be subject to the provisions of sections 22a-134 to 22a-134e,

inclusive, the certifying party shall provide notice to the commissioner
of such transfer, conveyance or change in ownership not later than
thirty days after any such transfer, conveyance or change in
ownership.

87 (B) Any certifying party who submits an interim verification for a 88 portion of an establishment on or before December 31, 2014, shall not 89 be required to record any environmental land use restriction, in 90 accordance with section 22a-133o, prior to submitting such interim 91 verification, provided such certifying party shall record such 92 environmental land use restriction, in accordance with section 22a-93 1330, on or before September 1, 2015, or a later date as approved, in writing, by the commissioner. If such environmental land use 94 95 restriction is not recorded on or before September 1, 2015, or such later 96 date, such interim verification shall be invalid and shall not be 97 recognized by the commissioner.

98 (3) (A) The commissioner may conduct an audit of any verification 99 or interim verification submitted pursuant to this section, but shall not conduct an audit of a final verification of an entire establishment 100 101 submitted pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection after [three 102 years] sixty days have passed since the date of the commissioner's 103 receipt of such final verification unless an exception listed in 104 subparagraph (C) of this subdivision applies. Upon completion of an 105 audit, the commissioner shall send written audit findings to the 106 certifying party and the licensed environmental professional who 107 verified. The [three-year] sixty-day time frame for an audit of a final 108 verification of an entire establishment shall apply to such final 109 verifications received by the commissioner after October 1, 2007.

(B) The commissioner may request additional information during an audit. If such information has not been provided to the commissioner within ninety days of the commissioner's request for such information or any longer time as the commissioner may determine in writing, the commissioner may either (i) suspend the audit, which for a final verification shall suspend the running of the [three-year] <u>sixty-day</u> audit time frame until such time as the commissioner receives all the
information requested, or (ii) complete the audit based upon the
information provided in the verification before the request for
additional information.

120 (C) The commissioner shall not conduct an audit of a final 121 verification of an entire establishment after [three years] sixty days 122 from receipt of such verification pursuant to this subdivision unless (i) 123 the commissioner has reason to believe that a verification was obtained 124 through the submittal of materially inaccurate or erroneous 125 information, or otherwise misleading information material to the 126 verification or that misrepresentations were made in connection with 127 the submittal of the verification, (ii) a verification is submitted 128 pursuant to an order of the commissioner pursuant to subsection (j) of 129 this section, (iii) any post-verification monitoring, or operations and 130 maintenance, is required as part of a verification and which has not 131 been done, (iv) a verification that relies upon an environmental land 132 use restriction was not recorded on the land records of the 133 municipality in which such land is located in accordance with section 134 22a-1330 and applicable regulations, (v) the commissioner determines 135 that there has been a violation of sections 22a-134 to 22a-134e, 136 inclusive, or (vi) the commissioner determines that information exists 137 indicating that the remediation may have failed to prevent a 138 substantial threat to public health or the environment.

Sec. 2. Subsection (p) of section 22a-134e of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

(p) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the fee for filing a Form II or Form IV for an establishment for which the commissioner has issued a written approval of a remediation under subsection (d) of section 22a-133x within [three years] <u>sixty days</u> of the date of the filing of the form shall be the total fee for a Form III specified in subsection (n) of this section and shall be due upon the filing of the Form II or Form IV.

- 149 (q) The requirements of this section shall not apply to a transfer of
- 150 property to a municipality under the provisions of section 12-157.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1October 1, 201922a-134a(g)Sec. 2October 1, 201922a-134e(p)

CE Joint Favorable