

**(e) Withdrawal of authorization**

Whenever the Administrator determines after public hearing that a State is not administering and enforcing a program authorized under this section in accordance with requirements of this section, he shall so notify the State and, if appropriate corrective action is not taken within a reasonable time, not to exceed ninety days, the Administrator shall withdraw authorization of such program and establish a Federal program pursuant to this subchapter. The Administrator shall not withdraw authorization of any such program unless he shall first have notified the State, and made public, in writing, the reasons for such withdrawal.

**(f) Availability of information**

No State program may be authorized by the Administrator under this section unless—

(1) such program provides for the public availability of information obtained by the State regarding facilities and sites for the treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste; and

(2) such information is available to the public in substantially the same manner, and to the same degree, as would be the case if the Administrator was carrying out the provisions of this subchapter in such State.

**(g) Amendments made by 1984 act**

(1) Any requirement or prohibition which is applicable to the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste and which is imposed under this subchapter pursuant to the amendments made by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 shall take effect in each State having an interim or finally authorized State program on the same date as such requirement takes effect in other States. The Administrator shall carry out such requirement directly in each such State unless the State program is finally authorized (or is granted interim authorization as provided in paragraph (2)) with respect to such requirement.

(2) Any State which, before November 8, 1984, has an existing hazardous waste program which has been granted interim or final authorization under this section may submit to the Administrator evidence that such existing program contains (or has been amended to include) any requirement which is substantially equivalent to a requirement referred to in paragraph (1) and may request interim authorization to carry out that requirement under this subchapter. The Administrator shall, if the evidence submitted shows the State requirement to be substantially equivalent to the requirement referred to in paragraph (1), grant an interim authorization to the State to carry out such requirement in lieu of direct administration in the State by the Administrator of such requirement.

**(h) State programs for used oil**

In the case of used oil which is not listed or identified under this subchapter as a hazardous waste but which is regulated under section 6935 of this title, the provisions of this section regarding State programs shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply to hazardous waste identified or listed under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §3006, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2809; amended Pub. L. 95-609, §7(i), Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3082; Pub. L. 98-616, title II, §§225, 226(a), 227, 228, 241(b)(2), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3254, 3255, 3260; Pub. L. 99-499, title II, §205(j), Oct. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 1703.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 6935(d)(1) of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original a reference to section 3012(d)(1) of Pub. L. 89-272, which was renumbered section 3014(d)(1) of Pub. L. 89-272 by Pub. L. 98-616 and is classified to section 6935(d)(1) of this title.

The Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, referred to in subsecs. (c)(3), (4), and (g), is Pub. L. 98-616, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3221, which amended this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1984 Amendment note set out under section 6901 of this title and Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

1986—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 99-499 added subsec. (h).

1984—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98-616, §§225, 241(b)(2), inserted “(and to enforce permits deemed to have been issued under section 6935(d)(1) of this title)”, and inserted provision at end that in authorizing a State program, the Administrator may base his findings on the Federal program in effect one year prior to submission of a State’s application or in effect on January 26, 1983, whichever is later.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 98-616, §227(1), (2), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and substituted “period ending no later than January 31, 1986” for “twenty-four month period beginning on the date six months after the date of promulgation of regulations under sections 6922 through 6925 of this title”.

Subsec. (c)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 98-616, §227(3), added pars. (2) to (4).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 98-616, §226(a), added subsec. (f).

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 98-616, §228, added subsec. (g).

1978—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-609 substituted “of” for “required for” wherever appearing and “may submit” for “submit”.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 98-616, title II, §226(b), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3254, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [enacting subsec. (f) of this section] shall apply with respect to State programs authorized under section 3006 [this section] before, on, or after the date of enactment of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 [Nov. 8, 1984].”

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of certain enforcement functions of Administrator or other official of Environmental Protection Agency under this chapter to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, and subsequent transfer to Secretary of Energy, then to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, see note set out under section 6903 of this title.

**§ 6927. Inspections****(a) Access entry**

For purposes of developing or assisting in the development of any regulation or enforcing the provisions of this chapter, any person who generates, stores, treats, transports, disposes of, or otherwise handles or has handled hazardous wastes shall, upon request of any officer, employee or representative of the Environmental Protection Agency, duly designated by the Administrator, or upon request of any duly designated officer, employee or representative of a

State having an authorized hazardous waste program, furnish information relating to such wastes and permit such person at all reasonable times to have access to, and to copy all records relating to such wastes. For the purposes of developing or assisting in the development of any regulation or enforcing the provisions of this chapter, such officers, employees or representatives are authorized—

(1) to enter at reasonable times any establishment or other place where hazardous wastes are or have been generated, stored, treated, disposed of, or transported from;

(2) to inspect and obtain samples from any person of any such wastes and samples of any containers or labeling for such wastes.

Each such inspection shall be commenced and completed with reasonable promptness. If the officer, employee or representative obtains any samples, prior to leaving the premises, he shall give to the owner, operator, or agent in charge a receipt describing the sample obtained and if requested a portion of each such sample equal in volume or weight to the portion retained. If any analysis is made of such samples, a copy of the results of such analysis shall be furnished promptly to the owner, operator, or agent in charge.

**(b) Availability to public**

(1) Any records, reports, or information (including records, reports, or information obtained by representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency) obtained from any person under this section shall be available to the public, except that upon a showing satisfactory to the Administrator (or the State, as the case may be) by any person that records, reports, or information, or particular part thereof, to which the Administrator (or the State, as the case may be) or any officer, employee or representative thereof has access under this section if made public, would divulge information entitled to protection under section 1905 of title 18, such information or particular portion thereof shall be considered confidential in accordance with the purposes of that section, except that such record, report, document, or information may be disclosed to other officers, employees, or authorized representatives of the United States concerned with carrying out this chapter, or when relevant in any proceeding under this chapter.

(2) Any person not subject to the provisions of section 1905 of title 18 who knowingly and willfully divulges or discloses any information entitled to protection under this subsection shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000 or to imprisonment not to exceed one year, or both.

(3) In submitting data under this chapter, a person required to provide such data may—

(A) designate the data which such person believes is entitled to protection under this subsection, and

(B) submit such designated data separately from other data submitted under this chapter.

A designation under this paragraph shall be made in writing and in such manner as the Administrator may prescribe.

(4) Notwithstanding any limitation contained in this section or any other provision of law, all

information reported to, or otherwise obtained by, the Administrator (or any representative of the Administrator) under this chapter shall be made available, upon written request of any duly authorized committee of the Congress, to such committee.

**(c) Federal facility inspections**

The Administrator shall undertake on an annual basis a thorough inspection of each facility for the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste which is owned or operated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to enforce its compliance with this subchapter and the regulations promulgated thereunder. Any State with an authorized hazardous waste program also may conduct an inspection of any such facility for purposes of enforcing the facility's compliance with the State hazardous waste program. The records of such inspections shall be available to the public as provided in subsection (b). The department, agency, or instrumentality owning or operating each such facility shall reimburse the Environmental Protection Agency for the costs of the inspection of the facility. With respect to the first inspection of each such facility occurring after October 6, 1992, the Administrator shall conduct a comprehensive ground water monitoring evaluation at the facility, unless such an evaluation was conducted during the 12-month period preceding October 6, 1992.

**(d) State-operated facilities**

The Administrator shall annually undertake a thorough inspection of every facility for the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste which is operated by a State or local government for which a permit is required under section 6925 of this title. The records of such inspection shall be available to the public as provided in subsection (b).

**(e) Mandatory inspections**

(1) The Administrator (or the State in the case of a State having an authorized hazardous waste program under this subchapter) shall commence a program to thoroughly inspect every facility for the treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste for which a permit is required under section 6925 of this title no less often than every two years as to its compliance with this subchapter (and the regulations promulgated under this subchapter). Such inspections shall commence not later than twelve months after November 8, 1984. The Administrator shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate regulations governing the minimum frequency and manner of such inspections, including the manner in which records of such inspections shall be maintained and the manner in which reports of such inspections shall be filed. The Administrator may distinguish between classes and categories of facilities commensurate with the risks posed by each class or category.

(2) Not later than six months after November 8, 1984, the Administrator shall submit to the Congress a report on the potential for inspections of hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities by nongovernmental inspectors as a supplement to inspections conducted

by officers, employees, or representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency or States having authorized hazardous waste programs or operating under a cooperative agreement with the Administrator. Such report shall be prepared in cooperation with the States, insurance companies offering environmental impairment insurance, independent companies providing inspection services, and other such groups as appropriate. Such report shall contain recommendations on provisions and requirements for a program of private inspections to supplement governmental inspections.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §3007, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2810; amended Pub. L. 95-609, §7(j), Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3082; Pub. L. 96-482, §12, Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2339; Pub. L. 98-616, title II, §§229-231, title V, §502(a), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3255, 3256, 3276; Pub. L. 102-386, title I, §104, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1507.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 102-386 in first sentence substituted “The Administrator shall undertake” for “Beginning twelve months after November 8, 1984, the Administrator shall, or in the case of a State with an authorized hazardous waste program the State may, undertake” and “department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States” for “Federal agency”, inserted after first sentence “Any State with an authorized hazardous waste program also may conduct an inspection of any such facility for purposes of enforcing the facility’s compliance with the State hazardous waste program.”, and inserted at end “The department, agency, or instrumentality owning or operating each such facility shall reimburse the Environmental Protection Agency for the costs of the inspection of the facility. With respect to the first inspection of each such facility occurring after October 6, 1992, the Administrator shall conduct a comprehensive ground water monitoring evaluation at the facility, unless such an evaluation was conducted during the 12-month period preceding October 6, 1992.”

1984—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 98-616, §502(a), modified directory language for amendment by sec. 12(b)(4) of Pub. L. 96-482.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 98-616, §229, added subsec. (c).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 98-616, §230, added subsec. (d).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 98-616, §231, added subsec. (e).

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-482, §12(a), substituted “chapter” for “subchapter”, “any officer, employee or representative” for “any officer or employee”, “duly designated officer, employee or representative” for “duly designated officer employee”, “such officers, employees or representatives” for “such officers or employees”, “furnish information relating to such wastes and permit” for “furnish or permit”, and “officer, employee or representative obtains” for “officer or employee obtains”, struck out “maintained by any person” after “establishment or other place”, substituted “officer, employee or representative obtains” for “officer or employee obtains”, and inserted “or has handled” after “otherwise handles” and “or have been” after “where hazardous wastes are”.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 96-482, §12(b)(1)-(3), designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted “or any officer, employee or representative thereof” before “has access under this section” and substituted “such information or particular portion thereof shall be considered” for “the Administrator (or the State, as the case may be) shall consider such information or portion thereof”.

Pub. L. 96-482, §12(b)(4), as modified by Pub. L. 98-616, §502(a), inserted “(including records, reports, or information obtained by representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency)” after “information”.

Subsec. (b)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 96-482, §12(b)(3), added pars. (2) to (4).

1978—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 95-609 substituted “disposed of, or transported from” for “or disposed of”.

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of certain enforcement functions of Administrator or other official of Environmental Protection Agency under this chapter to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, and subsequent transfer to Secretary of Energy, then to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, see note set out under section 6903 of this title.

### § 6928. Federal enforcement

#### (a) Compliance orders

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), whenever on the basis of any information the Administrator determines that any person has violated or is in violation of any requirement of this subchapter, the Administrator may issue an order assessing a civil penalty for any past or current violation, requiring compliance immediately or within a specified time period, or both, or the Administrator may commence a civil action in the United States district court in the district in which the violation occurred for appropriate relief, including a temporary or permanent injunction.

(2) In the case of a violation of any requirement of this subchapter where such violation occurs in a State which is authorized to carry out a hazardous waste program under section 6926 of this title, the Administrator shall give notice to the State in which such violation has occurred prior to issuing an order or commencing a civil action under this section.

(3) Any order issued pursuant to this subsection may include a suspension or revocation of any permit issued by the Administrator or a State under this subchapter and shall state with reasonable specificity the nature of the violation. Any penalty assessed in the order shall not exceed \$25,000 per day of noncompliance for each violation of a requirement of this subchapter. In assessing such a penalty, the Administrator shall take into account the seriousness of the violation and any good faith efforts to comply with applicable requirements.

#### (b) Public hearing

Any order issued under this section shall become final unless, no later than thirty days after the order is served, the person or persons named therein request a public hearing. Upon such request the Administrator shall promptly conduct a public hearing. In connection with any proceeding under this section the Administrator may issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of relevant papers, books, and documents, and may promulgate rules for discovery procedures.

#### (c) Violation of compliance orders

If a violator fails to take corrective action within the time specified in a compliance order, the Administrator may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each day of continued noncompliance with the order and the Administrator may suspend or revoke any permit issued to the violator (whether the permit issued by the Administrator or the State).

#### (d) Criminal penalties

Any person who—