

Hygiene may make and enforce such rules and regulations regarding the submission of plans for approval and record as he may deem reasonable and proper. Before plans are drawn, or application filed, for a prospective system of water supply, sewerage or refuse disposal, a preliminary statement concerning the improvement may be made to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene whereupon if requested, he shall outline the general requirements of the case conformity with which would meet with his approval. When application is made to the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene for a permit under the provisions of this section, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to examine the application without delay, and, as soon as possible after submission of the application, to issue the permit, disapprove the application, or state the conditions under which the permit will be granted.

(b) An individual or corporation for commercial purposes and a municipality, county, district, or institution may not engage in collection, handling, burning, storage, or transportation of sewage sludge without first obtaining a permit from the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. He shall adopt appropriate rules and regulations relating to permissible uses and methods of collection, handling, burning, storage and transportation of sewage sludge.

[(c) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene may not issue a permit under the provisions of this section for any proposed landfill system of refuse disposal when the proposed landfill system is located in Baltimore City and is within one-half mile of any hospital.]

~~(d)--The (C) BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 1981, THE Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene may not issue a permit under the provisions of this section for any proposed landfill system of refuse disposal when the proposed landfill system is within one-half mile of any hospital. THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY PERMIT APPLIED FOR PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 1981.-}~~

[(e)] ~~(e)~~ (D) A permit to operate a landfill refuse disposal system or sludge composting facility shall be valid for a period of 3 years from the date of issue or June 1, 1979, unless suspended or revoked by the Department. The permit shall be automatically renewed upon written approval of the Department. If the Department does not grant written renewal approval prior to the permit's expiration because of failure to comply with the conditions of the permit, the permittee shall comply with all provisions required by the Department within the prescribed time period, or file a new application.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall--take-effect-July-17-1981- is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate