



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 270(HW)
Ballast Disposal, Inc.
Waterbury, Connecticut
May 13, 1991

On May 8, 1991, Chairperson Gloria Dibble Pond and Colin C. Tait of the Siting Council and Robert K. Erling of the Council Staff met Charles R. Veronneau of Ballast Disposal, Inc. (BDI) and Raymond J. Veronneau, Michael Walker, and John A. Lenzo, Jr. of DJP Associates LTD. for a field review of this petition. BDI is petitioning the Council for a determination that the accumulation and short-term storage of fluorescent light ballasts and small electrical capacitors, which both contain polychlorinated biphenyls, (PCB's), would constitute short-term storage as defined in Section 22a-115(5) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), and therefore would not require a Certificate of Public Safety and Necessity pursuant to CGS Section 22a-117(b)(3).

CGS section 22a-115(5) defines short-term storage as "the holding of individual containers of hazardous waste in such a manner as not to constitute disposal of such hazardous waste". CGS section 22a-117(b)(3) provides exceptions for "any facility used only for the short-term storage of hazardous waste". Under CGS section 22a-115(3) disposal is defined as "the incineration, long-term storage or treatment of hazardous waste, or the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping or placing of hazardous waste into or on land or water so that hazardous waste or any hazardous constituent of such hazardous waste enters the environment, is emitted into the air, or is discharged into any waters, including groundwaters". CGS section 22a-115 (6) defines long-term storage as "the holding of more than fifty-five gallons or five hundred pounds, whichever amount is greater, of hazardous waste at one site for longer than one year".

Under lighting rebate programs, many businesses and schools are removing their existing fluorescent lights and replacing them with more efficient lighting which would result in an energy saving of about 40 percent. As a result, a large amount of discarded ballasts are being generated.

BDI proposes to establish a collection facility for PCB ballasts and small electrical capacitors within an industrial park at 205 Interstate Lane in Waterbury, Connecticut. The proposed facility would collect ballasts and capacitors, and provide documentation of the proper disposal of these items. Arrangements would then be made for the transportation and disposal of the materials to fully permitted hazardous waste facilities, for either incineration at the Aptus plant in Coffeyville, Kansas, or land burial at the Chemical Waste Management plant in Model City, New York. Capacitors and ballasts would be removed to either of these sites after approximately one truckload of materials had accumulated at the proposed facility, a period which is anticipated to take one month. A full truckload would contain about 12,000 to 14,000 ballasts.

The proposed facility would be located within a warehouse which is well above the 100 year floodplain.

The storage room measures approximately 44 feet by 32 feet, and is about 15 feet in height. Ballasts and capacitors would be placed within DOT 17H drums, which are equivalent to 55 gallon drum size or in specialized leak proof containers capable of holding one cubic yard (2400 lbs) of material. The containers would be placed within a bermed area of six-inch concrete anchored to the floor with an epoxy sealer. Ballasts and capacitors would be removed from the proposed facility within a one year period.

BDI proposes to use a "cradle to grave" tracking system in which the ballasts and capacitors would be identified by lot, box number, load number, and place of origin. A five-foot walkway would be maintained around the bermed area, and between the containers, to allow visual inspection of the containers. All containers would be marked with a large "PCB M", label and the earliest date of removal provided by the contractor submitting the material. Transportation from the BDI facility to the ultimate disposal facility would be provided by a fully licensed and permitted hazardous waste transporter.

BDI is establishing procedures for those ballasts or capacitors which have leaked resins, which might contain PCB's. These would be double-bagged in polybaggy when disconnected from their fixtures. The materials in storage would not leak unless ambient room temperature rose above 150°F.

The proposed facility would be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and run as a hazardous waste facility. BDI plans to open the proposed facility within 30 days, pending Council approval of this petition.

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