

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 451 of 1994

324.9105 Administration and enforcement of rules; resolution; ordinance; interlocal agreement; review; notice of results; informal meeting; probation; consultant; inspection fees; rescission of order, stipulation, or probation.

Sec. 9105.

(1) Subject to subsection (6), a county is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this part and the rules promulgated under this part throughout the county except as follows:

(a) Within a municipality that has assumed the responsibility for soil erosion and sedimentation control under section 9106.

(b) With regard to earth changes of authorized public agencies.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the county board of commissioners of each county, by resolution, shall designate a county agency, or a conservation district upon the concurrence of the conservation district, as the county enforcing agency responsible for administration and enforcement of this part and the rules promulgated under this part in the name of the county. The resolution may set forth a schedule of fees for inspections, plan reviews, and permits and may set forth other matters relating to the administration and enforcement of the county program and this part and the rules promulgated under this part.

(3) In lieu of or in addition to a resolution provided for in subsection (2), the county board of commissioners of a county may provide by ordinance for soil erosion and sedimentation control in the county. An ordinance adopted under this subsection may be more restrictive than, but shall not make lawful that which is unlawful under, this part and the rules promulgated under this part. If an ordinance adopted under this subsection is more restrictive than this part and the rules promulgated under this part, the county enforcing agency shall notify a person receiving a permit under the ordinance that the ordinance is more restrictive than this part and the rules promulgated under this part. The ordinance shall incorporate by reference the rules promulgated under this part that do not conflict with a more restrictive ordinance and may set forth such other matters as the county board of commissioners considers necessary or desirable. The ordinance may provide penalties for a violation of the ordinance that are consistent with section 9121.

(4) A copy of a resolution or ordinance adopted under this section and all subsequent amendments to the resolution or ordinance shall be forwarded to the department for the department's review and approval. The department shall forward a copy to the conservation district for that county for review and comment.

(5) Two or more counties may provide for joint enforcement and administration of this part and the rules promulgated under this part by entering into an interlocal agreement pursuant to the urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512.

(6) The department shall conduct a review of a county's program every 5 years. The review shall be conducted at least 6 months before the expiration of each succeeding 5-year period. The department shall approve a county's program if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The county has passed a resolution or enacted an ordinance as provided in this section.

(b) The individuals with decision-making authority who are responsible for administering the county program have current certificates of training under section 9123.

(c) The county has effectively administered and enforced the county program in the past 5 years or has implemented changes in its administration or enforcement procedures that the department determines will result in the county effectively administering and enforcing the county program. In determining whether the county has met the requirement of this subdivision, the department shall consider all of the following:

(i) Whether a mechanism is in place to provide funding to administer the county's program.

(ii) Whether the county has conducted adequate inspections to assure minimization of soil erosion and off-site sedimentation.

(iii) The effectiveness of the county's past compliance and enforcement efforts.

(iv) The adequacy and effectiveness of the applications and soil erosion and sedimentation control plans being accepted by the county.

(v) The adequacy and effectiveness of the permits issued by the county and the inspections being performed by the county.

(vi) The conditions at construction sites under the jurisdiction of the county as documented by departmental inspections.

(7) Following a review under subsection (6), the department shall notify the county of the results of its review and whether the department proposes to approve or disapprove the county's program. Within 30 days of receipt of the notice under this subsection, a county may request and the department shall hold an informal meeting to discuss the review and the proposed action by the department.

(8) Following the meeting under subsection (7), if requested, and consideration of the review under subsection (6), if the department does not approve a county's program, the department shall enter an order, stipulation, or consent agreement under section 9112(7) placing the county on probation. In addition, at any time that the department determines that a county that was previously approved by the department under subsection (6) is not satisfactorily administering and enforcing the county's program, the department shall enter into an order, stipulation, or consent agreement under section 9112(7) placing the county on probation. During the 6-month period after a county is placed on probation, the department shall consult with the county on how the county could change its administration of the county program in a manner that would result in its approval.

(9) Within 6 months after a county has been placed on probation under subsection (8), the county may notify the department that it intends to hire a consultant to administer the county's program. If, within 60 days after notifying the department, the county hires a consultant that is acceptable to the department, then within 1 year after the county hires the consultant, the department shall conduct a review of the county's program to determine whether or not the county program can be approved.

(10) If any of the following occur, the department shall hire a consultant to administer the county's program:

(a) The county does not notify the department of its intent to hire a consultant under subsection (9).

(b) The county does not hire a consultant that is acceptable to the department within 60 days after notifying the department of its intent to hire a consultant under subsection (9).

(c) The county remains unapproved following the department's review under subsection (9).

(11) Upon hiring a consultant under subsection (10), the department may establish a schedule of fees for inspections, review of soil erosion and sedimentation control plans, and permits for the county's program that will provide sufficient revenues to pay for the cost of the contract with the consultant, or the department may bill the county for the cost of the contract with the consultant. As used in this subsection, "cost of the contract" means the actual cost of a contract with a consultant plus the documented costs to the department in administering the contract, but not to exceed 10% of the actual cost of the contract.

(12) At any time that a county is on probation as provided for in this section, the county may request the department to conduct a review of the county's program. If, upon such review, the county has implemented appropriate changes to the county's program, the department shall approve the county's program. If the department approves a county's program under this subsection, the department shall rescind its order, stipulation, or consent agreement that placed the county on probation.

History: Add. 1995, Act 60, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995 ;-- Am. 2000, Act 504, Imd. Eff. Jan. 11, 2001 ;-- Am. 2005, Act 55, Imd. Eff. June 30, 2005

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