

# 11. Compendium of Permit Decisions

## **Applicability:**

The permitting function is a dynamic process. Situations arise that do not clearly conform to existing statutory and regulatory provisions, general interpretations of the rules, and on-going permitting procedures. In response, decisions are made to address and resolve the situations and issues they present.

These decisions can result in changes to rules and even recommended statutory change. More commonly, however, the decisions interpret and apply existing legal provisions and “fit” the situation of concern into these provisions. The decisions are recorded in memoranda, letters, legal opinions, technical bulletins and other documents.

## **Content:**

The individual topics that comprise Chapter 11 briefly describe the documents that present decisions about and interpretations of statutes, rules and technical or policy pronouncements that apply to permitting activities. These topics, as a group, comprise the Compendium of Permit Decisions.

Some of the contents of the compendium may stand for an extended period of time as stable policy decisions and legal opinion. Other content items may be shorter-term guidance for staff persons, being modified or replaced by broader-based decisions, overall procedural change, or regulatory modifications and additions. Being a component of the Permits Manual posted on the Internet, the compendium is available to all staff and other manual users, hopefully resulting in better, general understanding of the decisions and opinions and improved consistency of their application.

Please note that legal opinions of internal departmental and divisional counsel are confidential communications. Therefore, when permitting guidance is presented in an internal legal opinion, that guidance document is not included in the Permits Manual on the Internet.

## **Legal References:**

## **Other Links:**

## **Key Words:**

Regulatory interpretations, policy decisions, guidance procedures, legal opinions

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**Modification Date:** 2/22/07