

## N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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### **N.C. DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT SUSPENDS WASTE STORAGE AT EQ New Waste Shipments Halted Until Further Notice**

**RALEIGH** – N.C. Division of Waste Management officials today suspended until further notice hazardous waste storage at EQ Industrial Services in Apex, the site of a fire earlier this month. Under this order, EQ will not be permitted to bring or accept any additional hazardous or non-hazardous wastes of any type onto the site for storage, treatment or any other purpose for the duration of the order. EQ will still be allowed to continue clean-up from the Oct. 5 fire.

Because the facility and its hazardous waste management units were damaged in the fire, DWM determined that EQ is not able to manage hazardous waste in compliance with its permits and rules. There are also concerns about the facility's containment structures and the state cannot be assured that any new waste that enters the facility will be stored and secured appropriately.

Provisions of the Order of Immediate Suspension of Provisions of Hazardous Waste Management Permit include:

- EQ is not allowed to bring any waste of any type to the EQ facility for storage, treatment or any other purpose.
- EQ is ordered not to accept any additional hazardous waste for storage or treatment at the facility for the duration of the order.
- EQ shall not accept any additional non-hazardous solid waste or household hazardous waste for collection, storage, treatment, disposal or management at the EQ facility prior to obtaining a permit that would allow those activities.
- EQ shall remove all non-hazardous solid waste or household hazardous waste from the facility in accordance with the DWM-approved cleanup.
- No construction, repairs or alterations of any kind shall take place at the EQ facility unless DWM has determined that the permit should be modified to provide for additional or different permit conditions to ensure that rebuilding and resuming operations at the EQ facility will not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Decisions about the status of the permit and any future operations will be made following a complete assessment of contamination existing on-site, a complete assessment of facility containment structures, and a complete investigation into the cause of the incident.

The order also restricts access to the site to only those activities necessary to implement the cleanup, assessment and remediation of the site and regulatory oversight of those activities. DWM is also requiring EQ to provide on-site security 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until further notice.

More information about the state's response and actions concerning the EQ site, cleanup and monitoring can be found online at <http://www.enr.state.nc.us/html/apex.html> .

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