

# Vermont's Toxics Use Reduction and Hazardous Waste Reduction Program

- Also known as Pollution Prevention Planning Program
- Created by Act 100 in 1991
- 10 VSA §§ 6623-32
- Facilities that generate over a certain amount of **hazardous waste** or that are **large users of toxics** must prepare **plans to reduce** the amount of hazardous waste they generate or amount of toxics they use and report annually on progress.
- Administered by VT DEC's Environmental Assistance Office

# Intent of the law

- ... To encourage reduction of toxic substances and reduce the generation of hazardous waste whenever technically and economically practicable without shifting risks from one part of a process, environmental medium, or product to another...
  - 10 VSA § 6623(b)





# Who is required to have a pollution prevention plan?

- **Large Users of Toxic Substances**
- **Hazardous waste** facilities that generate greater than 2640 pounds/year of hazardous waste

# Large Users of Toxic Substances

- **Toxic Substance** means any substance in a gaseous, liquid or solid state listed under the federal **Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)** program
  - Includes ± 690 chemicals
  - TRI chemical list is updated annually
- Facilities with 10 or more full-time employees, that are
  - Classified in manufacturing SIC codes 20-39, and
  - That manufacture, process or otherwise use:
    - **>1000 pounds** of a toxic substance
  - Defined in 10VSA § 6624



# Hazardous Waste Generators:

- **Hazardous Waste** is defined in the [VT Hazardous Waste Management Regulations](#) (VHWMR)
- **Thresholds:** Two categories defined in statute (10VSA § 6624)
  - **Class A** - HW generator who generates 2200 pounds or more in one calendar month
  - **Class B** - HW generator who generates greater than 220 pounds but less than 2200 pounds in one calendar month and generates more than 2640 pounds per year
  - Thresholds are similar to LQG and SQG in VHWMR



# How does P2 Planning Work?

- **Pollution Prevention Plans**
  - Written by facility personnel and updated every **3 years**
  - Certified by facility personnel or Registered Engineer
    - Most are certified by facility personnel
  - Facilities may submit the full plan, a plan summary or EMS certification
  - Subject to review by EAO staff
    - In office and/or onsite
  - Plans are **not** considered a public record even if submitted to EAO
- **Annual Progress Reports and Fees**



# Pollution Prevention Plans

- Identify
  - toxics and/or hazardous waste
  - processes
  - Inputs
  - outputs
- Identify pollution prevention opportunities and analyze feasibility
- Pick project(s) that they plan to implement in next 3 years



# Annual Progress Reports and Fees

- Report hazardous waste and/or toxics for past year compared to previous year
- Report results of pollution prevention projects
- Due March 31 with annual fees
  - \$400/toxic or hazardous waste
  - Fees total ~ 40K per year
- Public record
- Maintain database for tracking who has submitted reports/fees and total amounts of HW and Toxics by facility, not specific toxics or hazardous wastes



# Who are the Vermont Pollution Prevention Planners?

- 60 FACILITIES
  - 57 planners because they generate hazardous waste over threshold
  - Only 3 planners because they are only Large Users of toxics
  - Exemption from planning for those facilities where P2 opportunities do not exist – determined on a case-by-case basis
- Largely manufacturing facilities
- Likely more facilities that meet planning thresholds

# TUR and HWR projects and results

