
MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 15, 2024

TO: Vermont General Assembly; House Committees on Ways and Means, Environment and Energy, and Senate Committees on Finance and Natural Resources

FROM: Julie Moore, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources

RE: Act 58, Sec. 3: ANR Recommendation of Registration Fee for Covered Household Hazardous Products

BACKGROUND: The Household Hazardous Waste Extended Producer Responsibility Law—Act 58 of 2023—requires the Secretary of Agency of Natural Resources to submit to the House Committees on Ways and Means and on Environment and Energy and the Senate Committees on Finance and on Natural Resources and Energy a recommended fee for the registration of stewardship organizations under the covered household hazardous product program under 10 V.S.A. chapter 164B. This fee will be used for program oversight and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the law for all covered household hazardous product manufacturers.

RECOMMENDATION: The Agency recommends the stewardship organization(s) reimburse the Secretary for the costs of overseeing the administration of the program as follows:

- a) The Secretary shall annually provide an estimate of the costs of overseeing the administration of the program to the stewardship organization(s), including staff costs, compliance, and oversight of the system.
- b) The stewardship organization(s) shall provide any comments to the Secretary's budget within 30 days of receipt. The Agency of Natural Resources shall respond to all comments provided by the stewardship organization(s) and may make changes to its budget in response to those comments. These comments and the responses shall be provided to the General Assembly as a part of the Secretary's budget.
- c) Reimbursement of the Agency of Natural Resources costs shall be subject to the State budgeting process, and the stewardship organization(s) shall not be required to reimburse any Agency cost unless that cost is approved as a part of the Agency's budget.

