

Welcome to the
EBC New Hampshire Chapter
Report from the NH DES
Division Directors



NORMANDEAU ASSOCIATES



ShawTM Shaw Environmental, Inc.

An Introduction to the Department of
Environmental Services!

***Advances in Permit Processing
and Streamlining – An Overview***



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Brief History

- DES formed in 1986, became operational January 2, 1987
- Four Divisions – Waste Management, Water Quantity, Water Quality, and Air Quality
- Commissioner's Office – New concept in State agencies for program integration
- Public Information and Permitting Unit

Organizational Chart

Commissioner's Office

Public Information and Permitting
Administrative Services
Laboratory Services
New Hampshire Geological Survey
Legal
Planning, Prevention, Assistance (new)
Human Resources

Air Resources

Water

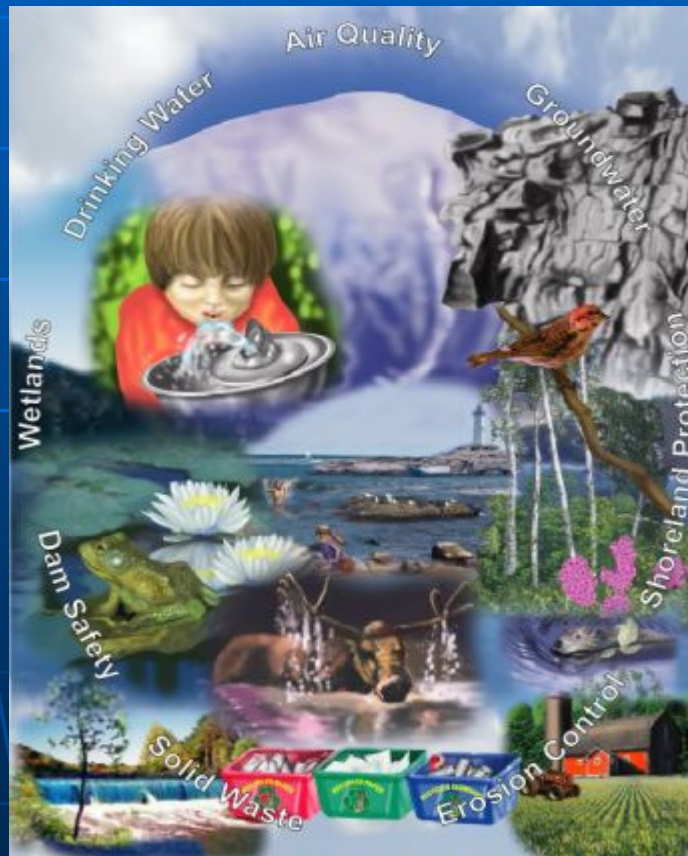
Waste Management

PIP Unit Functions

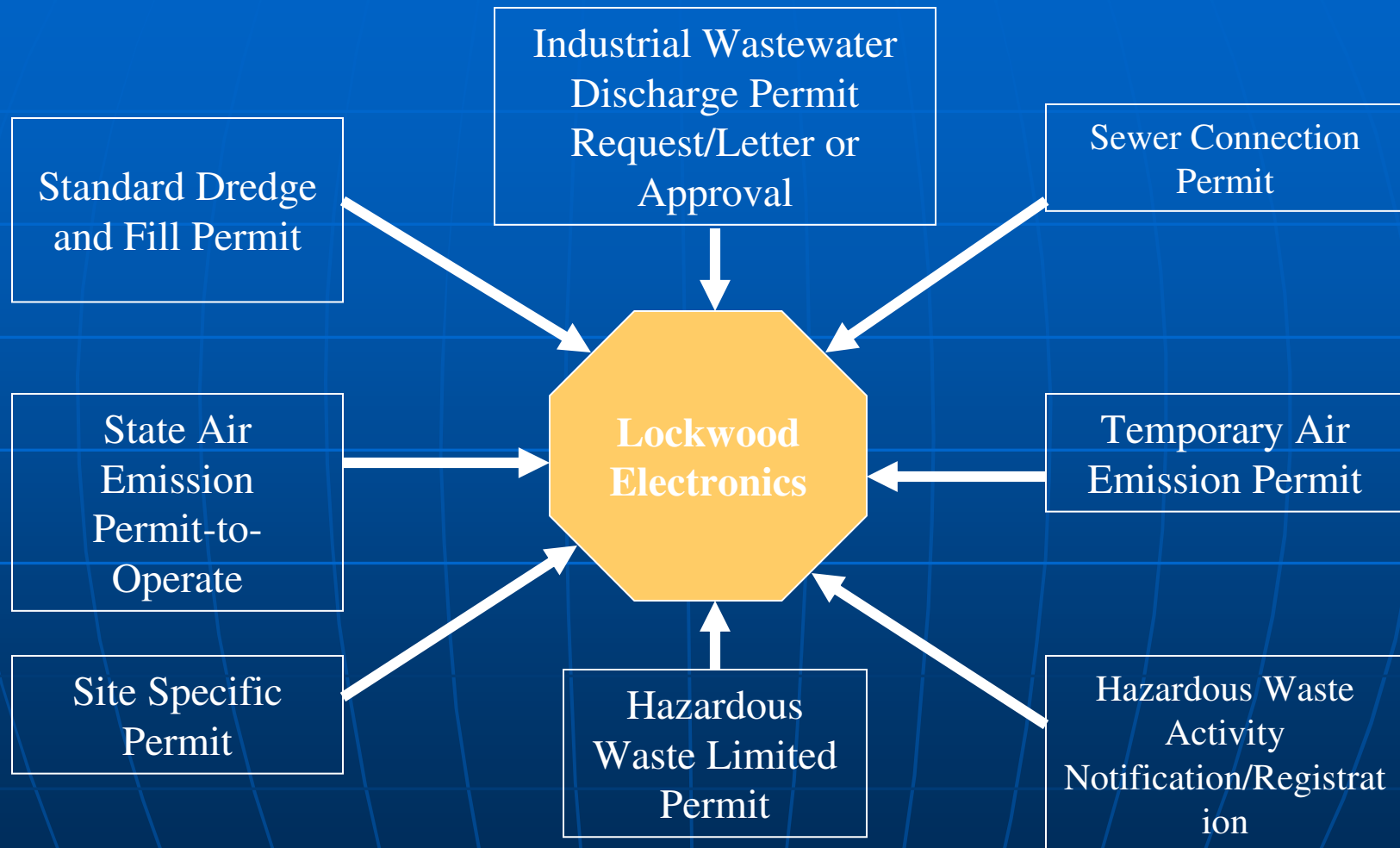
- Integrate permitting activities across the agency
- Voluntary pre-application meetings offered
- Disseminate rules, forms, guidance, etc.
- ***Guidebook for Environmental Permits in New Hampshire*** (see <http://des.nh.gov/PermitGuide/>)
- Project Coordination Services/Follow-through

Guidebook for Environmental Permits in New Hampshire

- After four years of service, still the most frequently downloaded document on DES's Web site (May 2006)!



Permit Selection Example: Relocation of Lockwood Electronics to existing industrial park*



*Note: Since project parameters may vary, the specific permit types selected above may not apply to all similar projects.
Guidebook for Environmental Permits in New Hampshire



Generic Application Process

- Pre-application meeting (if requested)
(see <http://des.nh.gov/PIC/PreApp/>)
- Application Submittal
- Administrative Review/Completeness Determination
- Technical Review/Completeness Determination
- Public Comment/Public Hearing
- Decision
- Administrative Appeals (See <http://des.nh.gov/councils/>)

Examples of Application Streamlining at DES

- State Programmatic General Permit – Wetlands (See <http://des.nh.gov/wetlands/pdf/nhgp.pdf>)
- E-Permitting (Under Development)
 - Request \$610K for Completing Project
 - Initially ('06-'07) Targeted for Subsurface (Septic) Systems and Land Subdivision Program
 - Later ('07- '08) – Wetlands and Site Specific Programs

Streamlining (cont'd)

- Handheld PDA for UST/AST Inspections, dubbed “UST Inspector”
 - Centrally manages and distributes compliance rules and violation descriptions
 - Wireless printing
 - Wireless synchronization with Headquarters
 - Prepares compliance letters in the field
 - Enables onsite inspections and document signing
 - Downloads inspection results to DES database
 - And more...
 - Transferability to any inspection program across DES

Streamlining (cont'd)

- Air permitting application process can be “condensed” to have public comment period/public hearing coincide w/technical review to enable faster decision-making under certain circumstances
- DES offers (for a fee) to conduct emission modeling for some air permits
- No application fee – fees based on \$/ton of emissions (currently \$88.61/ton – 2005) -Incentive to reduce emissions

Streamlining (cont'd)

- Here and Now –
- “One-Stop” Databases (See <http://www2.des.state.nh.us/OneStop/>)
- Remote GIS Mapping (See <http://www2.des.state.nh.us/gis/onestop/>)
- Coming Soon – A new Web Master at DES
- More interactivity between DES programs and those we serve

Summary

- Through innovation and constructive partnerships with our many partners, DES will continue to push the limits of technology, customer service, and regulatory reform to provide decisions that balance the state's environmental quality with its economy and energy supply to preserve the enviable reputation as the "most livable state in the nation" for three years running!