

**Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection**  
**General Permit to Construct and Operate a Commercial Facility for the Management of**  
**Recyclable Materials and Certain Solid Wastes (“Commercial GP”)**  
*An Environmental Permitting Fact Sheet*

**General Permit Overview**

The Commercial GP incorporates and promotes applicable goals of the state-wide Solid Waste Management Plan / Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) and Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM).

The Commercial GP authorizes the construction and operation of eight (8) types of recycling and materials management facilities.

The Commercial GP provides authorization to construct and operate facilities for managing solid waste within the state of Connecticut. The Commercial GP allows registrants to receive and process over thirty five (35) recyclable materials and solid waste types and to engage in appropriate processing methods for those recyclable materials and solid waste types. The Commercial GP incorporates eight (8) general permits in one master general permit.

The Commercial GP is comprised of two primary parts: the general permit and the eight (8) appendices. The general permit is comprised of Sections 1 through 8 which contain the administrative requirements for registration under the Commercial GP. The appendices are the operation and management plans for each of the facility categories.

**Authorizing Statutes**

Section 22a-208(a)(i) and 22a-454(e)(1) of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS).

**Types of Facilities Authorized by the Commercial GP**

There are eight (8) facility categories as follows:

- A - Asbestos Containing Material (ACM)
- B - Ash Residue
- C - Clean Wood (Including Leaves and Grass Clippings)\*
- D - Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste\*
- E - Non-RCRA Hazardous Waste and Compatible Solid Wastes
- F – Recyclable Materials
- G - Universal Waste and Compatible Solid Wastes
- H – Food Waste\* (added 2022)

\*These appendices provide two levels of registration based on processing capacities.

Part I of each appendix provides general operating conditions.

Of the eight (8) appendices applicants may select up to five (5) facility categories under which they wish to operate.

For both the ACM and Ash Residue facility categories the only authorized processing is consolidation and transfer of containers of waste. All other facility categories, namely Clean Wood, C&D Waste, Non-RCRA and Compatible Solid Wastes, Recyclables, Universal Waste and Compatible Solid Wastes, and Food Waste, authorize limited processing, consolidation and transfer of materials.

## **Requirements for all Authorized Facilities**

**Read the general permit and the appendices carefully to be sure you can operate in compliance with the conditions and requirements contained in those documents.** The Commercial GP and the applicable appendices provide operational conditions which include capacity limitations, methods of processing and types of solid wastes authorized for receipt. All registrants must comply with the conditions set forth in the general permit and the appendices under which they have registered. If you fail to comply with the conditions in the general permit and the appendices under which you registered, you are in violation of the Commercial GP and potentially subject to legal action, including assessment of penalties of up to \$25,000 per day.

Note: Persons who meet the definition of a notifier but do not notify the Commissioner of their regulated activities or report as required by the Commercial GP and the applicable appendices may be subject to injunction and penalties.

## **Registration**

*Who must register?* A registration shall be filed by any person proposing to conduct the following, within the state of Connecticut:

1. Manage recyclables and/or other solid waste, generated by others, and is seeking, under the authority of the Commercial GP, to construct and/or operate a solid waste facility; or
2. Provide consumer service(s) and thereby generate recyclables and/or other solid wastes, in the course of providing such services, and transport such recyclables and/or other solid waste to a site which is not the site at which the waste was generated.

Such registration shall include a registration form which meets the requirements of Section 4 of the general permit and the applicable fee.

*How is an Approval of Registration obtained for a Facility?* If a person intends to construct and/or operate a commercial facility for

recyclable materials and certain solid wastes, within the state of Connecticut, at or below the capacities provided in the Commercial GP and its appendices, that person must submit to DEEP:

1. For Tier II Clean wood and or C&D waste facility categories, a registration with appropriate fee; or
2. For all other facility categories, including Tier III Clean wood or C&D waste, a registration for approval with appropriate fee. DEEP will acknowledge receipt of a registration for Tier II facilities or issue an approval of registration for all other facility categories. Registrants seeking approvals of registration shall not commence operations until the approval of registration has been issued.

*How many facilities may register on one form?* Each registration submitted shall identify one (1) facility (location or property) at which up to five (5) facility categories may be selected.

*When should a Registration be submitted?*

A registration shall be submitted to DEEP for the following:

1. To construct and/or to operate a commercial facility for recyclable materials and certain solid wastes;
2. To renew a registration under the Commercial GP. Such renewal shall be submitted within ninety (90) days before the expiration date of the Commercial GP and any approval of registration in order to continue to operate the facility under the authority of the Commercial GP; and
3. To modify the operations or in the types or quantities of recyclable materials or waste types accepted at the facility. *Note:* If the registrant wishes to change the facility operations such that the operations are no longer authorized under the Commercial GP, the registrant cannot establish those changes prior to applying for and receiving an individual facility permit. The registrant shall contact DEEP to set up a pre-application meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

The same form shall be used for a new registration, a modification to or a renewal of an existing registration.

*A "Notifier"* is defined in the Commercial GP as "...a person who generates recyclables and/or other solid waste in the course of conducting business and who subsequently transports such recyclables and other solid waste to a site which is not the site at which the waste was generated and who is: 1) A retailer delivering



Food Waste: Tier I	\$ 500.00
Tier II	\$1250.00

The fees are cumulative and a registrant may select up to five (5) facility categories for any one facility per registration.

*Are registration fees refundable?* Registrations fees are non-refundable.

*Are there penalties for operating without Authorization?*

Yes. Any person who constructs or operates a commercial facility for recyclable materials and certain solid wastes, without having first submitted a registration for Tier II activities, obtained an approval of registration for Tier III activities for clean wood and C&D waste, obtained an approval of registration for all other facility categories, or obtained an individual permit under section 22a-208a of the CGS is subject to injunction and civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per day per violation.

**Average Processing Time**

For this permit program, processing time for a typical registration for each facility category is less than 180 days. Past performance is not a guarantee of future processing time frames. Processing times are based on aspects including the complexity of the activities proposed at the facility and the quality of the information submitted to DEEP. Registrants are urged to use DEEP’s Pre-Application Guidance process, ensure that the registration form and required attachments are properly completed at the time of submission and that any request for additional information is replied to promptly.

**Permit Duration**

The General Permit to Construct and Operate a Commercial Facility for the Management of Recyclable Materials and Certain Solid Wastes is valid upon issuance and will expire five (5) years from the date of issuance.

**Department Contact**

Solid Waste Program  
Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division  
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance  
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

*This overview is designed to answer general questions and provide basic information. You should refer to the appropriate statutes and regulations for the specific regulatory language of the different permit programs. This document should not be relied upon to determine whether or not an environmental permit is required. It is your responsibility to obtain and comply with all required permits.*