

STATE OF NEW YORK

2686

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 24, 2023

Introduced by Sen. BRESLIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to prohibiting the use of ash from burning hazardous waste in products

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The incineration of hazardous waste
2 produces fly ash, flue gas emission control waste, and slag (hereinafter
3 collectively as "hazardous waste ash"). Hazardous waste ash may contain
4 chemicals and heavy metals such as arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium,
5 lead, mercury, and nickel, which are all potentially toxic to humans and
6 are known to cause or contribute to cancer, lung and heart ailments,
7 liver and kidney damage, neurological damage, and premature mortality.
8 Hazardous waste ash may also contain mineralogical toxins such as fine
9 crystalline when the feedstock to the industrial process contain silica.
10 Fine particulate crystalline silica induces silicosis when inhaled and
11 is a known respiratory health risk. Hazardous waste ash may be inhaled
12 and become lodged in the deepest parts of the human respiratory system,
13 leading to potentially fatal inflammation and immunological reactions.

14 Under certain existing commercial practices, hazardous waste ash is
15 included in aggregate material used to formulate commonly encountered
16 compounds such as concrete, pavement, and other compounds found in
17 commerce. The inclusion of hazardous waste ash in aggregate material and
18 commonly encountered compounds exposes the public to potentially toxic
19 substances and endangers public health.

20 § 2. The environmental conservation law is amended by adding a new
21 section 19-0304-a to read as follows:

22 § 19-0304-a. Prohibition on the use of hazardous waste ash in products.
23 1. No person shall mix, combine or blend ash with any product if the
24 ash is from a commercial hazardous waste incinerator. This prohibition
25 shall also apply to any material collected from fine-particle control
26 devices serving as pollution control or containment systems at any
27 hazardous waste incinerator or kiln that is permitted by the department
28 to receive and combust hazardous waste with or without energy recovery.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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2. A person who violates the provisions of subdivision one of this section, or any regulation or order issued pursuant thereto, shall be liable under section 71-2103 of this chapter and/or may be enjoined from continuing such violation as provided in section 71-2107 of this chapter.

3. As used in this section:

a. "Aggregate" means any natural or artificial mixture typically consisting of but not limited to sand, gravel, crushed stone, vermiculite, clinker, expanded or sintered clay, foamed slag, or recycled concrete that is used as an ingredient in compound materials.

b. "Product" means any aggregate, compound, item, substance, material, component, system, or subsystem sold or traded or produced for sale or trade to the general public in the course of normal business operations.

c. "Compound" means asphalt concrete, Portland cement concrete, concrete block, structural concrete, unreinforced or lightweight concrete, or any other substance composed of aggregate that is used in construction and engineering applications.

d. "Fine-particle control device" means any apparatus, structure, or method of filtration that falls into any of the following general categories:

(i) fabric filters, also known as baghouses or bag filters;

(ii) electrostatic collectors, including dry and wet electrostatic precipitators and ionizing wet scrubbers;

(iii) wet inertial-impaction collectors, including venturi scrubbers and advanced designs that use flux-force condensation-enhancement techniques; or

(iv) cyclone separators or any other apparatus, structure, or method that is capable of separating fine particles from gas.

e. "Flue gas emission control waste" means the particulate recovered from fine-particle control devices and other receptacles during the treatment of flue gas emitted by the combustion of hazardous solid waste.

f. "Fly ash" means the fine, lightweight particulate created as a by-product of incinerating hazardous waste that is transported from the combustion chamber by flue gases into exhaust stacks or other receptacles.

h. "Hazardous waste ash" means fly ash, flue gas emission control waste, and slag.

i. "Slag" means the molten or once-molten ash created as a by-product of incinerating hazardous waste that collects on fine-particle control devices or other receptacles.

§ 3. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such invalid provisions had not been included herein.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.