

The mission of the Environmental Permits Division is to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of Mississippians through focused research and responsible regulation while fostering wise economic growth. The questions contained within this brochure are designed to help small and medium sized businesses identify practices that may require authorization from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. Additionally, these questions will aid in identifying issues that may delay the authorization process.

1. What type of business do you want to start?
2. In what city and county will your business be located?
3. Is the property zoned for your type of business operation?
4. What other businesses are located nearby?
5. Are there any houses, hospitals, nursing homes, schools or other similar establishments nearby? If so, how far away are they from your business location?
6. What is the make-up of the neighborhood?
7. When do you plan on starting your business?
8. Do you have or have you had any other authorizations or permits from the MDEQ?
9. Will you own or lease the land for your business?
10. Do you own any other businesses within a ten mile radius of this business?
11. Do you have any unresolved legal matters?
12. Could there be opposition to your business from your neighbors?
13. Has your financial institution requested an environmental study?
14. Has any other business ever been operated by you or anyone else at your proposed business location?
15. Is your property listed with the Natural Heritage Program or the Department of Archives and History?
16. During the construction of your business, how much land will be disturbed?
17. Will you hire another company to manage your business?
18. Do you know the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code for your business?
19. What is the distance from your business to the nearest wastewater treatment and collection system?
20. Does the location for your business have any lakes, ponds, streams or marsh areas nearby?
21. Will you need access to local water sources for your operations?

22. Will you need to dispose of waste liquids created during normal business operations?
23. Will your business need to dispose of sanitary sewage?
24. Will your business accept waste or trash from others for disposal?
25. How will you dispose of trash at your business?
26. Will your business practices involve the disposal or processing of hazardous wastes?
27. Will there be any fumes, exhausts or odors coming from your business?
28. Do you plan on using any solvents, acids, de-greasers or other similar chemicals in your business? If so, how much of these chemicals do you estimate using?
29. Do you know of any reason that any information given to the MDEQ cannot be shared with the general public?

For general comments or questions about the effect of environmental permitting issues regarding your business, you can contact the Small & Medium Business Permitting Assistance line by calling Michelle Vinson at 601-961-5040 or through e-mail at Michelle_Vinson@deq.state.ms.us.