

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB771

House of Origin X Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: McEachin

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Toxic waste site; to inventory Department of Environmental Quality.

5. Summary: Directs the Department of Environmental Quality to inventory by July 1, 2016, nonfederally managed toxic waste sites in Virginia and publish the inventory at that time and annually thereafter. The bill also makes technical amendments.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, item 360 (HB1400/SB800)

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8 below.

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2015	0	N/A	N/A
2016	2,514,000	N/A	GF
2017	100,000	N/A	GF
2018	100,000	N/A	GF
2018	100,000	N/A	GF
2020	100,000	N/A	GF
2021	100,000	N/A	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: In the 1990s, a study was done that identified over 2000 sites in Virginia as contaminated and possibly meeting the suggested definition of toxic waste site. Each site will need to be reviewed to determine if it is being “federally managed” and removed from the list. All remaining sites have various amounts of information that must be reviewed and may entail further investigation. Some of these sites that may no longer meet the definition as they may have been remediated to below the definition of toxic waste. According to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), additional resources are needed to conduct the inventory development assessment and the Department would need to hire a contractor to undertake various tasks. In addition, DEQ notes that there is also a need for one position to review and manage the initial list and future updates.

DEQ estimates that this will cost approximate \$2.4 million for the preliminary assessment of all the sites, the file search process, and to develop a database. The amount of information on the various types of sites will vary significantly depending on the site. Sites that have information which is readily available may only take ten hours to complete a file search. However, sites for which information is not readily available would require a preliminary assessment (PA) to gather information, including site visit(s). A PA would typically take an average of 140 hours each. The following is an estimate of the resources needed to develop the inventory. The estimate assumes that 1,000 sites would need a file search and 100 sites would need a PA. It also assumes that the data base

work could be done by a data manager, and the file searches and PAs would be done by an environmental professional.

Task	Time (hours)	Hourly rate (dollars)	Estimated Cost (dollars)
Develop initial database	300	25	\$7,500
Eliminate duplicates	160	25	\$4,000
File searches	10,000	100	\$1,000,000
Preliminary assessment	14,000	100	\$1,400,000
Finalize database	100	25	\$2,500
Estimated totals			\$2,414,000

According to information received from DEQ, in order to implement the provisions of this bill, the Department would also need an additional on-going position. The estimated fiscal impact for this position and incidentals to the job is \$100,000, which includes a salary of \$60,138 salary (average cost), fringe benefits of \$30,920, and personnel related costs (such as supplies, equipment, and travel) of \$8,942. An increase in the agency's MEL is not necessary since DEQ already has vacant positions that it could use for this purpose, if funding is provided.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Environmental Quality.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 10/29/2015 /jlm
cc: Secretary of Natural Resources