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Permit not protested

Mark Lewis
Staff writer

A public hearing to get comment on a company's request for a permit to store hazardous waste north of Farmington drew no protests, according to a state official.

David Morgan, environmental scientist with the state Environmental Improvement Division, said Thursday the hearing was held to get public input on the permit being sought by Safety-Kleen Inc. of Elgin, Ill.

The company is formally asking to be allowed to store chemical solvents at its Hawkins Lane facility, he said. The firm has been operating on an interim permit for some time because it was grandfathered in when new hazardous waste regulations were passed, he said.

Although the company handles mineral spirits, solvents and dry cleaner waste, those substances are just stored at the facility and are not treated or disposed of at Safety-Kleen's facility, Morgan said.

The types of solvents stored are used mainly by automotive repair shops, he said.

Once a sufficient amount of chemicals is accumulated they are shipped to a facility in Denton, Texas, where they are recy-

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cled and redistributed, Morgan said.

That is done with both the automotive solvents and dry cleaning waste, he said.

While the company has been operating under the interim permit, it has had to comply with various rules and regulations, and an inspection of Safety-Kleen's facility during the summer found no violations, Morgan said.

"They run a pretty clean operation," he said.

The EID hopes to have a draft permit finished by the end of the year, after which it will be available locally for the public, Morgan said.

Once that is done, the division will examine any comments it receives about the company and probably will issue a permit within about 34 days, he added.



cc: Elizabeth Gordon/
David Morgan,
Hwy. Waste Sec.