

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 486 (Senator Neall. *et al.*)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Anne Arundel County - Permits - Impact Fees

This bill prohibits the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) from issuing or renewing a permit for a landfill system in Anne Arundel County to any non-governmental person after September 30, 2003. The bill also provides that subject to the county charter, the Anne Arundel County Council may impose and collect an environmental impact fee for the operation of a refuse disposal system located in the county.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The requirements of the bill would not materially alter MDE's operations or finances.

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in Anne Arundel County revenues if the county council enacts legislation imposing environmental impact fees on refuse disposal systems.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful on a limited number of small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: Refuse disposal systems encompass sanitary and rubble landfills, incinerators, transfer stations, and processing facilities. Currently, there is one privately owned rubble landfill, one privately owned transfer station, and one county run sanitary landfill operating in Anne Arundel County. There is also a proposal to open a transfer and processing facility. However, no plans have yet been developed for that facility.

Local Effect: If the Anne Arundel County Council enacts legislation requiring refuse disposal systems to pay an environmental impact fee, the county could realize an increase in revenues. Any such increase cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Small Business Effect: The bill would require the one privately owned rubble landfill to close when its permit expires after September 30, 2003. To the extent that Anne Arundel County decides to impose environmental impact fees on other types of refuse disposal systems, those that are small businesses would be required to pay those fees. At this time, it cannot be estimated the amount of the fees and therefore the degree of impact on small businesses.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of the Environment, Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

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