



The State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services



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Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

January 26, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Executive Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to request an exemption to New Hampshire Plant and Property Management Rules, ADM 611:08(g) to enable the NHDES to increase its fleet by one vehicle. This new vehicle shall be assigned to the Waste Management Division, Oil Remediation Compliance Bureau, Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section.

EXPLANATION

The Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section (SRCIS) responds to oil and/or hazardous materials incidents across the State to protect human health and the environment. Currently, the Section has a fleet of 6 response trucks and 1 box truck/mobile command post that are dedicated to this objective. Each of these vehicles is outfitted with specialized equipment and supplies to respond immediately to environmental emergencies. SRCIS manages 16 equipment storage trailers, 2 mobile boom reels and 4 boat trailers. The 16 equipment trailers are staged in strategic locations for rapid response to spills; these locations are Concord (6 trailers), Portsmouth (3 trailers), Gorham, New Castle, Lancaster, Littleton, Belmont, Hampton, and Keene. Emergency response to spills to water are supported by a fleet of 6 dedicated response boats, 2 oil skimming vessels and 4 boom storage barges. Most of these on-water assets are staged in the marine environment along the shores of Great Bay for rapid response to marine spills and emergencies. This equipment, needed to support emergency response activities, requires regular maintenance to ensure performance and availability when placed into service during an emergency response. SRCIS is requesting to add a small cargo van dedicated to mobile fleet maintenance and repair activities.

NHDES operates and maintains a fleet of 23 passenger vehicles and 101 trucks and SUVs across the state. Of the total vehicles, 23 are considered to be pool vehicles, located in the Concord office. Of these, 11 are passenger vehicles and 12 are pool SUVs, which are used by various programs on a reservation basis and are only sporadically available during field season.

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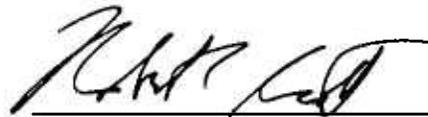
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SRCIS has not had its own designated fleet maintenance vehicle and has relied mostly on borrowing vehicles from other sections within the NHDES motor pool. The SRCIS fleet maintenance mechanic has numerous specialized tools and equipment to provide technical assistance; this heavy, sizable equipment is currently moved from vehicle to vehicle, depending on availability, on a regular basis. In addition, bulky items such as 55-gallon drums and large containers must be mobilized to oil and/or hazardous materials spill sites and the current fleet of response vehicles is not configured to provide this support.

The last waiver to expand the NHDES fleet was granted on April 20, 2022 (G&C Item #80) for one vehicle which was added to the Water Division, Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau. NHDES requests to expand its fleet by one vehicle to provide one additional full-time vehicle to the Oil Remediation Compliance Bureau, SRCIS fleet maintenance staff located at the Concord Office. Given the amount of official travel required, the requested vehicle would easily exceed the minimum 9,364-mile annual mileage requirement.

Approval of this request will provide the Oil Remediation Compliance Bureau with the vehicle necessary to complete its mission of responding to oil and/or hazardous materials incidents across the State to protect human health and the environment.

We respectfully request your approval.



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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January 25, 2024

Attn:
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner
NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

SUBJECT: Response to Fleet Increase Request 1/25/24

Commissioner Scott:

Please accept this as receipt of your request to increase the NH Department of Environmental Services, Waste Management Division, Oil Remediation Compliance Bureau, Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section (SRCIS) fleet size by one (1) cargo van prior to submission to the Governor and Executive Council for formal consideration.

It is the position of the DAS Division of Procurement and Support Services Fleet Management that the NH Department of Environmental Services, SRCIS fleet be increased by one (1) cargo van to bring your total SRCIS fleet size to eight (8) vehicles.

The request to increase the fleet by one (1) cargo van is reasonably justified and compelling enough to merit consideration by the Governor and Executive Council in a near future meeting.

Thank you for your proactive request to involve us in your fleet review in support of statewide efforts to maintain fleet efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Olsson

Andrea Olsson

Administrator III, State Fleet Manager, DAS Division of Procurement and Support Services



Gary S. Elnetta
Director, DAS Division of Procurement & Support Services