

Memo

Devens
Enterprise
Commission

Date: May 27, 2022

To: Devens Enterprise Commission

Cc:

From: Neil Angus, Environmental Planner

RE: 112 Barnum Road/Vulcan Forms - request for license to store flammables and combustibles

Owner/Applicant: PPF Industrial 112 Barnum LLC

Location: 112 Barnum Road, Devens, MA

Zoning: Rail, Industrial and Trade Related Uses Zoning District, Zone 2 Water Resources Protection Overlay District.

Request: The owners of 112 Barnum Road are applying for a new license to store flammables and combustibles inside their facility at 112 Barnum Road. As per MGL 148 c.148s.13, storage of flammable liquids in excess of 10,000 gallons, flammable gases in excess of 3000 cu.ft. and flammable solids in excess of 100lbs., requires a license from the DEC. These licenses run with the land. Back in 2010, the DEC issued the former building owner (Evergreen Solar) a license to store flammables and combustibles. That license was not renewed and is no longer valid.

Vulcan Forms is the newest tenant in this building and a recent inspection by the Devens Fire Chief and State Fire Marshall's Office determined that this facility should be licensed based on the quantities of flammable solids being stored on-site. The Devens Fire Department has already reviewed the entire facility and issued permits for the storage of these flammable solids, in addition to other flammable and combustible liquids and gasses being used and stored on-site (not in quantities that require a License). The owners are now following up with the DEC to obtain a license for their tenant to store up to 12,000 lbs. of solid flammable materials. The material is a titanium alloy powder in 7.5 kg (16.5 lbs.) containers stored within grounded flammable storage cabinets, within a portion of the building that is properly designed to accommodate such materials with smoke and heat detection as well as water fire suppression systems. The facility operators have amended their Operations and Maintenance Plan to include a Combustible Dust Program that provides safety protocols for training, handling, storage, maintenance, and disposal of these flammable materials.

As part of this license application, Vulcan Forms submitted an updated list of their entire chemical inventory. The Devens Fire Department has reviewed this list, the proposed increase in quantities of flammable materials, and the Combustible Dust Program and has signed off on the license application.

Process: The application was submitted on April 21, 2022. A Determination of Completeness was issued on April 27, 2022. Copies of the application were received by the surrounding Towns on May 2, 2022. Legal notices were placed in Nashoba Publications on May 6 and 13, 2022. Certified Mail notice was sent to all abutters on April 28, 2022. The 30-day Town comment period expires on June 3, 2022. No comments have been received to date.

Recommended Action: As per the Massachusetts Fire Prevention Regulations, this license amendment would run with the land and be valid for 1 year and can be renewed annually through an administrative registration process as per the DEC Flammables Licensing Policy. Staff would recommend the DEC continue the hearing to the June 9, 2022. This will allow time for the 30 day comment period to expire and staff to prepare a draft record of decision for the Commission's consideration.

Attachments: Facility layout plan and supporting application information is available at:
<https://www.devensec.com/level2hearingsMay31.html>