

## State Laws and Regulations

Since regulations are such a fundamental determinant of the market for this industry, Canadian firms ought to become familiar with the regulatory environment in New York State.

Environmental legislation is consolidated in the body of statutes known as Environmental Conservation Law, part of the state's series of consolidated laws. A simplified and accessible summary of state environmental law can be found in:

Nicholas A. Robinson, editor, The Treatise on New York Environmental Law, New York State Bar Association, Publications Department, 1 Elk Street, Albany, N.Y. 12207 (518)463-3200.

Since local governments are an important element in the environmental industry, both as clients and as regulators, Canadian companies should become familiar with the nature of local government jurisdictions in New York State. A readily accessible summary of information is the Local Government Handbook available from New York State Department of State, Office of Local Government Services, 162 Washington Avenue, Albany, N.Y. 12231 (518)473-3355.

The primary state agency carrying out the state's environmental rules and regulations is the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), headquartered at 50 Wolf Road, Albany, N.Y. 12233. For members of the environmental industry, the agency's most important offices are the Office of Environmental Remediation and the Office of Environmental Quality. The Office of Environmental Quality contains divisions of air resources, solid waste, water, and hazardous substances regulation. An organization chart may be found in Appendix 1-2.

Note that Appendix 1-3 provides a telephone directory for the agency. When suggesting that information be sought from DEC offices this report in most cases does not give a specific phone number, but refers the reader to Appendix 1-3. Phone assignments and personnel can change frequently. Canadian firms making an inquiry will generally have to try a few likely numbers before finding the appropriate person to answer a particular inquiry. The directory in Appendix 1-3 should help in that search.

The DEC has nine regional offices, as shown in Figure 1-1. The present report covers activities in Regions 3 through Region 9. These regional offices are located in New Paltz, Schenectady, Ray Brook, Watertown, Syracuse, Avon, and Buffalo. Regional office phone numbers are presented in Appendix 1-2.

Since New York State is covered by a "sunshine law," the DEC must make all information available to the public, except confidential information about companies and personnel. Canadian companies will find that the agency's personnel and publications are a rich source of information on the state's regulatory conditions. Some of the information can also provide valuable market leads, as this report will show in detail.