EMERGENCY MEDICAL FACILITIES: Permitting Guidance Document

LAWS/REGULATIONS: 10 V.S.A. Chapter 64, Potable Water Supply and Wastewater System Permit Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, Effective April 12, 2019 (Rules).

REQUIREMENT: It is the priority of the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) that there is sufficient medical facility capacity during the declared state of emergency established for COVID-19. This guidance document is created to ensure temporary medical facilities can be established in the most expeditious manner and at the same time protect public health through proper project oversight. The following guidance is provided to meet permit requirements.

Temporary Medical Facility to be Removed following the State of Emergency:

1. Prior to construction of the facility, the owner of the medical facility shall engage the services of a designer, a Professional Engineer or Designer BW acting within the scope of his or her license.
2. The designer shall supervise the installation of new sanitary sewer service lines and water service lines to serve the temporary medical facility.
3. Construction of the sanitary sewer service lines and water service lines shall comply with the technical standards in the Rules.
4. With 30 days of receiving notification there is no longer need for the facility to accommodate the State of Emergency, the temporary facility shall be removed.

Permit for a Permanent Medical Facility during the State of Emergency:

1. The owner shall notify the Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division (DWGWPD) of ANR the intent to obtain a permit for the facility.
2. The owner shall notify the DWGWPD the day the designer submits the application for a permit.
3. The DWGWPD will provide a dedicated Staff person(s) to review all information submitted to the Division, prior to approval for establishing the medical facility.
4. The DWGWPD will issue a letter if the application is deficient allowing commencement of construction.

Permit for a Temporary Medical Facility that becomes Permanent after the State of Emergency:

1. Within 30 days of notification of the end of the Governor’s declaration of a state of emergency related to the outbreak of COVID-19, the owner shall submit to the DWGWPD an application required by the Rules.
2. The application shall include a design certification and an installation certification required by the Rules.

Signed at Montpelier, VT this 20th day of March, 2020

Peter Walke, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Conservation

By Bryan J. Redmond, Division Director