Wastewater Management Division

Practice Related to Implementation of the
Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, Effective August 16, 2002

September 12, 2002

Pressure Distribution and Design Flow Requirements

On June 13, 2002 new statutory requirements took effect that regulate water supplies and wastewater systems. Until July 1, 2007, some projects will require compliance with the technical standards in the state rules and with the technical standards in the town ordinance. After July 1, 2007, the town ordinance will be superseded by the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, effective August 16, 2002 (new rules).

Revisions to the pressure distribution design requirements in the new rules will in some cases create irresolvable conflicts with a town ordinance. Revisions to the design flow requirements for residential structures, while not resulting in irresolvable conflict with a municipal ordinance, could require an expensive redesign in order to certify full compliance with the new rules. This practice addresses these two concerns.

Pressure Distribution Requirements

A pressure distribution system approved by a municipality subject to design standards included or referenced in their ordinance and prepared prior to July 1, 2007, shall be considered an acceptable alternative design per section §1-510 of the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, effective August 16, 2002.

A pressure distribution system, designed prior to August 16, 2002 in accordance with the Small Scale Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Rules, effective August 8, 1996 shall be considered an acceptable alternative design per section §1-510 of the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, effective August 16, 2002.

Design Flow Requirements

A design for a residential water or wastewater system that was prepared prior to August 16, 2002, that otherwise complies with the technical standards of the rules, based on a design flow of 135 gallons per day per bedroom, with a minimum of 3 bedrooms, can be certified as complying with the new rules when the building is fitted with toilets using 3.5 gallons per flush or less and showerheads and faucets with a flow of 2 gallons per minute or less. This approval is based on a determination under section §1-504(b) of
the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, effective August 16, 2002 that there is sufficient justification to use the lower design flows. The expense of a redesign of a system based on the previous generation of rules is not justified when the small effect on the final design is considered.

Projects requiring a permit from the Agency shall be submitted for Agency review prior to August 16, 2003 in order to qualify for this design flow adjustment.

Marilyn Davis, Director  
September 12, 2002

Date