

Approved Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
August 27, 2013

**Attendees:** Roger Thompson                      Craig Heindel  
                  Carl Fuller                                 Mary Clark  
                  Peter Boemig                                     Justin Willis  
                  Bill Zabiloski                                   Ken White  
                  G. J. Garrow                                     Chris Russo  
                  Ernie Christianson                             Gunner McCain  
                  Denise Johnson-Terk                           Scott Stewart  
                  Rodney Pingree                                 Claude Chevalier  
                  Anne Whiteley

**Scheduled meetings:**

September 10, 2013    1-4 PM                      Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier  
October 15, 2013       1-4 PM                      Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier

**Agenda:**

Accepted

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the July 16, 2013 meeting were accepted as drafted.

**Opening Comments:**

Sherry Young sent a message via Steve Revell suggesting that the TAC take a position on the Shoreline Bill H.526. There will be 4 public meetings around the state this summer and fall seeking comment on the bill. Ernie said that he does not expect much impact on septic regulations other than a setback distance. Replacement systems might be exempt or subject to variances. Craig suggested that it might be premature to comment while Roger suggested the sooner the better. Roger will circulate a copy of the bill to TAC members.

**Compliance Update:**

Chris gave an update of her work on getting the compliance program underway. She said that at the June TAC meeting she was looking into out-of-the-box software to use for compliance tracking. The process had moved to the point of meeting with a provider but the morning of the meeting they raised the price by 40% and reduced the number of features that would be included in the base price. This seemed to be too much and the meeting was cancelled. She is now working with the in-house IT staff to determine if the

existing Regional Office tracking system can be updated to cover compliance tracking. The system will be based on the use of SPAN numbers.

Chris also met with some of the service providers that deal with innovative/alternative systems who are supportive of the compliance effort. The service providers would like to have at least an annual meeting with her to provide feedback on the compliance efforts and any problems with I/A systems.

The new and renewal approvals for I/A systems will use the updated format first applied to the recent approval for the Jet systems.

DEC would also like to revise the inspection requirements. They propose to allow service providers, in addition to Class 1 and Class B Designers, to do the maintenance inspections that are done after the one at the end of the first six months use. Currently, the inspections are often done by a service provider who then pays a Licensed Designer to review and sign-off on the inspection report. This adds to the landowner's cost and may not add much value to the inspection report. The TAC discussed the issues at some length. Justin and Gunner both said that when they do inspection certifications they ask the vendor to provide a written statement that the treatment system itself is working properly. The existing I/A approvals deal with a start-up step however in practice, once the system has had its installation inspection it may not go into use for weeks or months. The usual approach is to just start using the system without a need for a separate site visit on the day the use begins. This might be eliminated as a separate statement in the I/A approval.

Peter asked Anne how the state would enforce against a non-designer who misrepresented inspection results. Anne said it might require new statutory language:

Craig charted the options which are attached below.

### **I/A Updates:**

Review letters have been sent to Annu (Puraflo on a stone bed, Platinum ATU, Puraflo polishing filter); Bluewater ATU; and Delta Ecopod-N.

A review letter to Premier Tech (Ecoflo) regarding use of a poly tank is waiting for their reply.

A request for approval of the Eljen Mantis system has been submitted. Presby Environmental has submitted a request for approval of the Simple Septic Pipe. Mary asked for volunteers for a subcommittee to help review these. Gunner, Craig, and Justin will help.

Mary said that an evapotranspiration system as a replacement at a state park is also under consideration. An internal review has been completed. Consultants are collecting data on existing system.

A private homeowner has requested approval for a gray water disposal system that would discharge to fruit tree mulch basins. An internal review has been completed and a comment letter will be sent this week.

Bio-Microbics has asked that their system be approved for use with high-strength wastewater.

Oakson has requested approval for a drip dispersal system without use of a pretreatment system.

Craig noted that the Indirect Discharge Section has a long record of monitoring data from advanced treatment systems that might be useful in reviewing some of the ongoing approval requests.

Denise said that she has received a request for use of the Delta EcoPod system. She will wait for DEC approval before approving the system for use in Colchester.

**Water Supply Rules:**

Ernie circulated an updated draft of the rules and led a page by page review. The TAC had many comments, mostly related to format and clarity. The review will continue at the October TAC meeting. In the meantime Ernie will be updating the draft with the comments already received.

TAC 8-27-2013;

Whiteboard notes regarding required inspections and maintenance of I/A devices:

I/A PERMIT-HOLDER

WHO DOES THE WORK:

MUST BE APPROVED BY VENDOR

	"VENDOR" PARTIAL- ATA ONLY	"D." Y (ALL)	"S.P." NO	PERMIT-HOLDER OWNER
Installation insp.	YES, OR S.P.	NO	YES, OR VENDOR	
Startup of system	YES, OR S.P. (PARTIAL-ATA ONLY)	YES	YES, OR VENDOR (PARTIAL-ATA ONLY)	YES
6-month inspection AFTER STARTUP	YES	NO	YES	YES
Annual insp.				

Photo by Roger T.

[2013-8-27 TAC Mtg Notes on Whiteboard, I-A inspects&maint.docx]

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**Executive Committee**

Steve Revell, Ernest Christianson, Roger Thompson

Alternates – Chris Thompson, Spencer Harris, Claude Chevalier, Craig Heindel

**Subcommittees:**

**Hydrogeology**

Craig Heindel, Bill Zabiloski, Mark Bannon, Scott Stewart, Steve Revell, Mary Clark, Roger Thompson, Peter Boemig, Ernie Christianson, Spencer Harris

**UIC Rules**

Craig Heindel, Steve Revell, Roger Thompson, Ernie Christianson, Scott Stewart, Rodney Pingree, Kim Greenwood, Cindy Parks, John Beauchamp, Gail Center

**Wastewater Strength**

Mary Clark, Cindy Parks, Peter Boemig, Bill Zabiloski, Roger Thompson, John Akielaszek,

**Bottomless Sand Filters**

Peter Boemig, Mark Bannon, Cindy Parks, Mary Clark, Denise Johnson-Terk, Craig Heindel, Ernie Christianson

**Seasonal High Water Table Monitoring**

Craig Heindel, Steve Revell, Roger Thompson, Ernie Christianson, Bill Zabiloski, Dan Wilcox, Mary Clark