

Approved Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
March 18, 2014

**Attendees:** Roger Thompson  
Ken White  
Chris Tomberg  
Mary Clark  
Claude Chevalier  
Gunner McCain  
Craig Heindel  
Bill Zabiloski  
Chris Russo  
Ernie Christianson  
Steve Revell  
John Beauchamp

**Scheduled meetings:**

April 22, 2014	1-4 PM	Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier
May 20, 2014	1-4 PM	Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier
June 17, 2014	1-4 PM	Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier

**Agenda:**

Accepted

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the February 25, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Ken said that the comment about a requirement that wells in New Hampshire be grouted should state that grouting is required when the well will be less than the normal minimum of 75' from a leachfield.

**Innovative/Alternative Systems:**

Mary reported that a subcommittee of TAC members met with the Oakson Company to discuss their request for approval of a drip dispersal system without treating the effluent to filtrate standards. The Oakson approach is to use a system of filters with a backwash system that prevents clogging of the emitters in the distribution system. The subcommittee recommends approval of this system. Mary asked if the whole TAC Committee wanted to discuss the system. Steve suggested that the subcommittee review is sufficient and the TAC agreed.

Mary also reported that a different subcommittee had just met with an Eljen Company representative to discuss their request for approval of the Mantis system. This system uses a series of plastic modules with small fabric wrapped units that are bedded in select sand. The plastic modules are connected with rigid plastic pipe. Effluent flows along the pipe and into the fabric wrapped units and then into the surrounding sand before infiltrating into the native soil. The request for approval asks for 50% reduction in sizing

based on the testing that was recently completed by the Massachusetts Test Center. The subcommittee has a few follow-up questions that Mary will send to the Eljen Company.

Mary said that a meeting has been scheduled for next month to discuss the request for approval of the Presby Simple Septic System.

Mary also updated the TAC on changes that will allow some of the required inspection and maintenance work for Innovative/Alternative systems to be performed by people who are not Licensed Designers. She is updating the existing approval letters so that all of the systems can use the new approach. Ernie said that the Agency will issue an estoppel letter that will cover people with existing permits on Monday. The new permit template is already in use by the Regional Offices.

### **Underground Injection Control Rules:**

Cindy Parks has circulated a copy of the UIC Rules that have now started the formal rule adoption process. The TAC has reviewed draft versions of the rules several times. Roger asked if the TAC wanted to review the draft that has been submitted for the adoption process and the group decided they did not.

### **Wastewater Rules:**

The TAC recommended removal of the section for enhanced prescriptive designs. None of the designers or regulators present remembers using this section since the performance based design approach was added to the rules.

There was discussion about the isolation distance between a wastewater disposal system and a water source. It was recommended that the revised rules state that the measurement is from the minimum required effective basal area.

The distance required between leachfields related to concerns about induced groundwater mounding was discussed. Craig said that based on his work the induced groundwater mounding dissipates quickly and Steve agreed. The recommendation is that systems with linear loading rates of 10 gal/day/linear ft. or less are not a concern when located at least 25' apart. Situations with higher loading rates or less separation should have a hydrogeologic evaluation.

The groundwater monitoring requirements were also reviewed. Craig and Steve said that requiring the performance based design approach to use the single highest result from a groundwater monitoring well is too restrictive. A subcommittee worked on this issue in 2011 and 2012 without reaching any consensus. It was decided to have an updated subcommittee look into this issue. Thom Villars, Brian Trembeck, Chris Tomberg, Steve Rebillard, and Fred Magdoff were mentioned as potential new members of the subcommittee.

John said that he has recently seen wells with water leaking out around the well cap. This indicates artesian pressure. John asked if this suggests there is any risk of contamination of the well. As long as the water is flowing out there is no risk. The overflow does not indicate that any water is leaking into the well through the casing or down around the outside of the casing. As long as the well cap is above any surface water and any casing penetrations such as the pitless adapter are not leaking, the well overflow does not suggest any risk of contamination.

Ernie noted that he proposes to increase the isolation between road ditches and upslope leachfields to 75'. Craig asked why this distance should be more than the 50' to surface water. Ernie responded with the concern that if wastewater flowing through the ground intersects with the ditch the effluent may just pond on the ground surface while it would be diluted if it reached surface water. The distance would only need to be 75' if the seasonal high water table (SHWT) would be above the bottom of the ditch. There was concern among TAC members about whether this would increase the amount of soil testing needed to decide if the seasonal high water table would be above or below the bottom of the ditch. Gunner suggested using the test pit required for the leachfield that would be closest to the ditch as the default value.

The TAC supported using the bottom elevation of a drip dispersal line when determining separation to SHWT or bedrock.

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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