

Approved Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting  
July 15, 2014

**Attendees:** Roger Thompson  
Peter Boemig  
Steve Rebillard  
Mary Clark  
Scott Stewart  
Claude Chevalier  
Craig Heindel  
Chris Thompson  
Ernie Christianson  
Anne Whiteley  
Chris Russo  
Denise Johnson-Terk  
Rodney Pingree  
Ken White  
Gunner McCain

**Scheduled meetings:**

July 29, 2014	1-4 PM	Catamount Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier
August 26, 2014	1-4 PM	Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier
September 23, 2014	1-4 PM	Winooski Con. Rm., National Life – Montpelier

**Agenda:**

No comments.

**Minutes:**

No comments.

**Rule Revisions:**

Ernie led a page by page review of the draft rules starting in Subchapter 7.

**Licensed Designers:**

The group discussed installation certifications prepared by installers rather than designers. Ernie noted that the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules (WW Rules) allow this for some projects. Peter said that a designer should do the installation certification for municipal sewer connections. Ernie noted that each permit states whether a designer or an installer can do the inspections and in some cases only a Class 1 Designer is approved. Anne explained that allowing installers to certify some installations is left over from a time when the Agency asked for authority to license installers. The Agency intended to allow licensed installers to do some installation certifications but when the Legislature decided not to support a licensing program for

installers, the statutory language allowing installers to certify installations remained in the bill. Therefore, it is up to the language in each permit to specify who can do the certification. Peter said that there is some variation between Regional Offices and Ernie said he would work on guidance to get all of the Regional Offices on the same page.

Ernie noted some changes in definitions related to sewer lines that serve more than one building but which are not municipal collection sewers. This will allow Class A and Class B designers to design sewer lines serving more than one building as long as the total design flow for the shared line is not more than 1,350 GPD, does not include any manholes, and the line is not a municipal sewer collection line.

Roger noted that the revised language allows for Class BW Designers to design a non-public water supply that serves more than 24 people. These systems are fairly rare as they are limited to systems in operation less than 60 days per year. Ernie said this was an intentional change and conforms to the changes removing the 24 person limit for wastewater system designs.

Peter asked if the WW Rules should require a Class 1 Designer for systems with high strength wastewater. The draft rules require either an advanced treatment system or an oversized leachfield. If an advanced treatment system is to be used, the vendor must verify that the system is appropriate for the type and strength of waste. One concern is that operational methods vary from one building to the next and/or when the management of the property changes. For instance, a restaurant potentially has high strength wastewater but careful plate scraping and management of grease and food waste disposal can greatly reduce the wastewater strength. Then, when management changes, everything can go down the drain and overwhelm the system. The group supported a requirement for a Class 1 Designer when an oversized leachfield approach is used.

Mary asked if there should be any prequalification requirements for a person applying to become a Class A Designer such as a high-school degree or some years of experience. She notes that some states do set minimum requirements. Gunner, Craig, and Roger said that there did not seem to be a need for any prequalification requirements because there is a comprehensive written test followed by a field test to demonstrate the competence needed to become a Class A Designer.

The use of online and live video training was discussed. Mary will propose some oversight and verification requirements to ensure actual participation.

### **Design Flows:**

Roger asked about the proposed revision requiring that buildings subject to rental use and high levels or extended occupancy must design for 2 people per bedroom for all bedrooms. The group thought it would be difficult to apply this because all properties are subject to rental at some point in time and deciding when the use would be high and/or extended would be unclear. Ernie suggested returning to the existing language that leaves the decision up to the designer and the applicant and the group agreed.

Anne said that there is internal discussion of design flows and how conservative the design numbers should be. There will also be discussions about any differences in design flow numbers between public and non-public water systems.

The use of flow metering was also discussed. One question is whether the flow quantity used to size the system should be the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or some other number. The group decided this might be somewhat case specific in that the actual flows exceeding the 90th percentile, or any other threshold, might be scattered over the course of a full year or might occur in a one continuous period. The systems with one period of intense use might need to be sized for a higher flow than one that receives only an occasional high flow. The group noted that designing water systems requires a different approach. While the source might be capable of handling short term demands at a rate exceeding the long term yield of the source, the distribution portion of the system needs to meet the instantaneous peak demand and the peak day requirements. In some cases, this demand can be met with storage capacity which may include storage in the well casing or in tanks.

Roger said that the existing language that allows for additional units (bedrooms, people, camp sites) to be connected to an existing wastewater system only when the system meets the requirements of the current rules should be retained. Ernie agreed.

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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