

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Watershed Management Division
One National Life Drive, Main Bldg., 2nd Floor
Montpelier, VT 05620

Agency of Natural Resources

6/19/18

Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC
9025 Centre Pointe Drive, Suite 400
West Chester, OH 45069
Attn: Derek Berg

Dear Mr. Berg:

The Stormwater Program has reviewed the Filterra® Bioretention System as an alternative stormwater treatment practice through the evaluation process in Section 4.4.1 of the 2017 Vermont Stormwater Management Manual (VSMM).

Based on our review, we believe that Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC has provided the Stormwater Program with testing data showing that the system provides total phosphorus and total suspended solids removal efficiency sufficient to meet or exceed the standards in the Vermont Stormwater Management Manual as a stand-alone Tier 2 Practice if not designed to infiltrate, and as a Tier 1 Practice if the boxless Bioscape model is used for infiltration.

Please be advised that this letter serves as preliminary approval and does not constitute a final act or decision of the Secretary. Final approval of the use of the Filterra® Bioretention System, or other alternative practice, is project specific and is necessarily done through the issuance of an operational stormwater permit, until such time that the Vermont Stormwater Management Manual is formally revised to include the practice.

In developing permit conditions for any project relying on the Filterra® Bioretention System, the Stormwater Program is likely to include the following permit conditions and application requirements:

- 1.) The Filterra® Bioretention System must be designed, assembled, installed, operated, and maintained according to the specifications of Contech Engineered Solutions, Inc.
- 2.) The system must be designed to accommodate 100% treatment of the requisite water quality volume through sizing for the peak rate of the water quality storm without bypass, or otherwise shall be volumetrically sized to accommodate the entire applicable water quality volume.

As part of this preliminary approval, the product will be listed on the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Alternative Practices website at

<http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/stormwater/permit-information-applications-fees/Alt-STPs>.

Until such a time that the practice is incorporated into the VSMM through rulemaking, projects utilizing the practice that are subject to operational stormwater permitting require an individual permit application. If local jurisdictions or other parties request a copy of a letter from VT DEC verifying preliminary practice approval, please use this letter for that purpose.

Thank you for your interest in providing alternatives to the stormwater design community in Vermont. If you have any questions concerning this preliminary approval, please contact the Stormwater Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Wilson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

William Wilson, Environmental Analyst
Vermont DEC – Stormwater Program