



State of Idaho
Department Of Environmental Quality
Technical Guidance Committee

Technical Guidance Committee

Minutes

October 27, 2011

Department of Environmental Quality
Conference Room "A"
1410 N. Hilton
Boise, Idaho

TGC ATTENDEES:

David Hatt, Onsite Wastewater Coordinator, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Bob Erickson, Senior Environmental Health Specialist, South Central Health District
Mike Reno, Environmental Health Supervisor, Central District Health Department
Joe Canning, P.E., B&A Engineers
George Miles, P.C., Advanced Wastewater Engineering (via telephone)
David Loper, Environmental Health Director, Southwest District Health Department

GUESTS:

Ryan Spiers, Alternative Wastewater Systems, LLC
Barry Burnell, Water Quality Division Administrator, DEQ
AJ Maupin, P.E., Wastewater Program Lead Engineer, DEQ
Lindsey Stanton, Administrative Assistant, DEQ

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.
Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

MEETING MINUTES:

July 20, 2011 meeting minutes

Motion: David Loper moved to accept the minutes as presented.

Second: George Miles.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes will post as final.



AGENDA ADDITIONS:

David Loper requested that Presby Environmental Inc. be added to the agenda.

David Hatt requested that the Installers Test be added to the agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

4.30 Drainfield Remediation Components

The committee reviewed changes that David Hatt incorporated from the last meeting.

Motion: David Loper moved to approve Drainfield Remediation Components (Appendix C) as presented.

Second: Mike Reno.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Bob Erickson asked if terralifting should be an agenda item to re-review at the next TGC meeting.

Action Item: David Hatt will provide the health districts with a copy of the Terralift DEQ memo.

Motion: Bob Erickson motioned for the TGC to poll the seven health districts to determine where, how often and what steps are followed when Terralifting is used to fracture open a drainfield. The committee will interpret the data/information provided, at the next TGC meeting.

Second: David Loper.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items: David Loper will take the lead on polling the health districts. David Hatt will pull together all past information and bring it to the next meeting. Add this topic to the next TGC agenda.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:

Drainfield to Surface Water Setback:

AJ Maupin updated the TGC on the Drainfield to Surface Water Setback Subcommittee's activities. AJ presented a spreadsheet developed by Mike Cook that addresses data requirements, site attributes, and procedures. Although the model only takes into account phosphorus and its contributions to the drainfield; the issue of pathogens still remains. AJ walked the group through the Setback Model, addressing drainfield site capacity/life, soil type, included ground and surface water parameters; other items that were part of the discussion, were in-stream, aquifer, and ground water mixing.

The model requires facility attributes (number of bedrooms, ...), lab analysis of the sites soil for the phosphorus isotherms, ground water attributes (gradient, hydraulic conductivity,...),



and surface water attributes (background phosphorus concentration, flow, TMDL, ...). From this data, the model assesses the proposed infrastructure's impact on adjacent surface water. The spreadsheet results are presented in a set of plots which show the variation in aquifer concentration with distance from the drain field as influenced by aquifer attributes.

Since the Oct 11th teleconference, Mike Cook has been reviewing 20 calcareous soil samples that were analyzed for phosphorus by the US Department of Agriculture's National Resource Conservation Service. He has been analyzing this data to determine how calcareous soils respond as opposed to the northern Idaho non-calcareous soils.

The goal of the subcommittee's efforts are to assess whether Idaho's setbacks are protective of the ground and surface water resources, and allow adjustments in those cases where the Rule specified separation distance is not appropriate. The subcommittee is aware that the model's results may indicate that drainfields may be placed closer to surface water under certain circumstances, but the same model may identify situations where the drain fields should be placed further from the surface water.

The timeframe for recommendation will be according to staff time and resources. This process is ongoing and will eventually be presented to TGC who will then make a recommendation to DEQ.

OLD BUSINESS (Continued)

4.7 Drip Distribution System

The committee reviewed "4.7 Drip Distribution" and made the following edits to the document.

- Strike the first paragraph and add "drip disposal fields may or may not be continuous" to the Description.
- Strike the word "optional" in reference to the pretreatment system in the Description and strike "when pretreatment systems are used" in the Conditions of Approval.
- Strike the contents of the parentheses in the second sentence of the Description, and just list the components.
- The two sentences "The system is composed..." and "typical components include" should be combined.
- Strike #4 under Design.



Motion: David Loper moved for David Hatt to make changes as discussed and email the updated document to the TGC for one last review. Once comments are received, the document will go out for public comment and be incorporated into the TGM.

Second: Joe Canning.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Action Items: David Hatt will investigate Washington's rules and regulations involving drip systems not utilizing pre-treatment and provide recommended language to the TGC. Add "Pump to Drop Box" to the next meeting's agenda. David Hatt will get materials to TGC members 2 weeks before the meeting.

Break 11:10 – 11:20

NEW BUSINESS:

2.4 Evaluating fill material

Draft revision to the fill guidance presented to the TGC during July's meeting but, due to time constraints TGC voted to place the fill guidance onto next meeting's agenda.

Motion: David Loper moved for the TGC to review the current draft and provide David with comments within 30 days. The edited document will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Second: Mike Reno.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

4.10 Extended Treatment Package System (ETPS)

Vertical Setback to Restrictive Layers: TGC discussed paragraph 3c and decided to rewrite the section as follows:

David Loper noted this is a big change; and will require updating a few documents in the immediate future and additional verbiage added to the monitoring section, clarifying these changes will not be retroactive.

Motion: David Loper moved that David Hatt add, "Effluent discharged with UV treatment shall be granted the same vertical setback as an intermittent sand filter. See table (4-17). Effluent discharged without UV treatment shall be granted the same vertical setback as a sand mound. See table (4-19)." Also, add a section viii under Monitoring to read, "The UV bulb shall be replaced at the time of annual maintenance or as needed if alarmed."

The TGC will due diligence and collect documentation on UV treatment and its capabilities to properly treat the effluent to support a one foot vertical separation to groundwater.

Second: Mike Reno.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Reno requested to change Section C to "effluent treated with a UV light may reduce the vertical separation distances..."



Action Item: David Hatt will rewrite paragraph and bring it to the committee for review.

Motion: Bob Erickson moved to break for lunch.

Second: Mike Reno.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Lunch 12:45 – 1:30

PRODUCT REVIEW:

SealTight Product Review

Bryon Allen, outside sales for W.R. Meadows, presented information on the Cem-Kote Line of products. Bob Beck of Intermountain Concrete Specialties accompanied him and answered questions as needed. Cem-Kote Flex CR is a flexible, waterproofing cement-based membrane for use in environments with a high hydrogen sulfide concentration such as digesters, sewer systems and pumping stations.

David Hatt asked the TGC if they wanted to create an approval list of products for tank repair (cracks). Barry Burnell said that it is an important discussion to have. If a tank fails a water-tightness test, we need to understand what products would be suitable for hydrostatic testing. However, DEQ is not required by rule to do this. Currently we require the tank to be removed.

Mike Reno suggested that it might be better for W.R. Meadow to approach tank manufactures about their products.



Advanced Enviro Septic

David Loper requested the committee revisit the subject of Presby Environmental Advanced Enviro-Septic™ Wastewater Treatment System.

Statewide there are issues with the ETPS program. Could the Presby Environmental product help with ETPS issues? Mike Reno would like the product field tested.

The committee agreed that the product does not meet the TGM definition of an ETPS or a NSP approved system. It is better described as a sand filter with a gravelless component on top. David Hatt sent a letter to Presby suggesting they apply for approval as a gravelless trench system; he has not heard back from them.

Action Item: David Hatt will send the TGC more information on the Presby product.

Installers test

DEQ will create a subcommittee to gather questions for the test. David Loper will organize a group and gather relevant questions from the health districts to update the test. Because of lack of availability of test-taking locations and lack of resources to develop a web-based test, the TGC plans to update the current test and use the paper version for now. Health districts will submit their test questions to David Loper or Bob Erickson.

Schedule next meeting:

Motion: David Loper moved to hold the next meeting Tuesday, March 13, 2011

Second: Bob Erickson.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mike Reno moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: David Loper.

Voice Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.