

**Pump to Drop Box** (Page 3-7), new subsection in “Components of Standard Systems”

Standard drainfield sites may be located at a higher elevation than the house plumbing and septic tank. Under this condition an acceptable method to get septic tank effluent to the drainfield site is to pump the septic tank effluent to the drainfield. This pressurized septic tank effluent has value for drainfield operations. Dosed distribution of septic tank effluent to the drainfield provides a uniform application rate in the uppermost soils for better treatment and disposal, thereby minimizing the potential for ground water contamination, improving the drainfield performance and increasing the life span of the drainfield. See Section 4.20 for the description of the Pressure Distribution System alternative.

Methods of pumping septic tank effluent to the drainfield are pumping effluent out of the septic tank using an in-tank pump or by using either a separate dosing chamber or a properly sized two compartment septic tank. See Section 4.20 Pressure Distribution System for a description of these two methods.

Standard drainfields located at higher elevations than the septic tank are not required to be designed as a pressure distribution system. The use of pressure distribution is strongly recommended. An acceptable alternative is to pump the septic tank effluent (with an in-tank pump or a dosing chamber) up gradient to a drop box installed and designed to distribute the effluent into the drainfield.

By adopting this guidance DEQ is determining that a complex licensed installer is required for installation of pump to drop box systems. By rule, pressure distribution systems are required to be installed by a complex licensed installer. Permits issued for pump to drop box systems must follow the procedures in Section 4.20 Pressure Distribution System for selecting and designing the transport (pressure) line, pump selection, dosage, and dosing chamber or in-tank pumps.