
1.1 Technical Guidance Committee

Revision: ~~September 12~~ April 18, 2013~~08~~

To provide the latest information for this manual, the Technical Guidance Committee was established by the Board of Environmental Quality (IDAPA 58.01.03.004.07). The committee includes three environmental health specialists from Idaho health districts, a member of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), a professional engineer licensed in the State of Idaho, and a permitted septic system installer. **The preferred composition of environmental health specialists provided by the Idaho health districts is an Environmental Health Director, Environmental Health Supervisor, and Senior Environmental Health Specialist. All appointments are for three year terms, except for the DEQ appointment which shall be permanently held by DEQ's On-Site Wastewater Coordinator or equivalent.** All sections of the TGM have been reviewed and approved by the TGC prior to inclusion herein (IDAPA 58.01.03.004.08).

1.2 Individual and Subsurface Sewage Disposal Coordinator

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DEQ provides an individual subsurface sewage disposal coordinator (**On-Site Wastewater Coordinator**) to assist in updating and maintaining the TGM in a timely manner, advise the TGC on the latest state-of-the-art on-site subsurface disposal methodologies and products, track changes in laws, and provide approvals **for new subsurface sewage disposal products/components, Operation and Maintenance Entities, and any other subsurface sewage disposal related issue.** The coordinator also ~~assists in~~ **provides** continued education **and technical support** ~~to~~ those involved in subsurface sewage disposal system design, approval, installation, ~~and~~ operation and maintenance, **as well as the general public.** **In addition, the coordinator will provide periodic subsurface program audits of Idaho's health districts for assistance in developing and ensuring statewide consistency in the individual subsurface sewage disposal program delivery.**

1.3 Disclaimer

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The inclusion of a new alternative system technology in this manual does not imply that such technology will be approved for use. The TGM is provided solely for guidance if a particular alternative's implementation is desired.

Product listings do not constitute endorsement. Products not listed may be approved by the Director (IDAPA 58.01.03.009) if, after review, the product(s) are found to meet the regulatory intent of IDAPA 58.01.03. **Product approval shall follow the process outlined in section 1.4 of this manual.**

1.4 Product Approval

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All commercially manufactured wastewater components must be approved by the Director prior to installation in a subsurface sewage disposal system (IDAPA 58.01.03.009.01). Plans, specifications, and any associated third party data (e.g., NSF standards, EPA ETV testing, etc.) for commercially manufactured wastewater components must be submitted to DEQ's On-Site Wastewater Coordinator for approval. Plans and specifications required to be submitted for product approval includes (IDAPA 58.01.03.009.02):

- Detailed construction drawings
- Capacities (volume)
- Structural calculations
- List of product materials
- Evidence of stability and durability
- Manufacturer's installation requirements
- Operation and Maintenance instructions
- Any other information deemed necessary by the Director

Product submissions should be made by the product's manufacturer or an associated distributor. Products may be disapproved if the product is not in compliance or may not consistently function in compliance with the IDAPA 58.01.03 rules (IDAPA 58.01.03.009.04). Manufacturers or distributors will be notified in writing of product approval or disapproval. If a product is approved the Director reserves the right to specify circumstances under which the component must be installed, used, operated, or maintained (IDAPA 58.01.03.009.03). Products approved for installation in subsurface sewage disposal systems can be found in Chapter 5 of this document.

1.4.1 Director Policy on Product Approvals

The Director's policy on product approvals dictates that all approvals for subsurface sewage disposal products must be recommended to DEQ by the Technical Guidance Committee (TGC) in accordance with their given duties (IDAPA 58.01.03.004.08) and in compliance with the rules (IDAPA 58.01.03). The TGC may develop product approval policies that shall be included within Chapter 1 of the Technical Guidance Manual (TGM). The TGC may delegate product review and approval to DEQ for specific products.

1.4.2 Technical Guidance Committee Product Approval Policies

Unless otherwise listed within this subsection of Chapter 1 of the TGM all submissions for product approvals shall follow the process outlined in subsection 1.4.

1.4.2.1 Septic Tank Approvals

All submissions for septic tank approvals shall be submitted to the DEQ On-Site Wastewater Coordinator and reviewed by DEQ's Wastewater Program Lead Engineer. Approvals shall be issued by DEQ and do not need to undergo TGC review.

1.4.2.2 Extended Treatment Package System Approvals

Approvals for Extended Treatment Package Systems (ETPS) shall be submitted to the DEQ On-Site Wastewater Coordinator and reviewed by DEQ. ETPS units seeking approval for reduction of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅) will need to submit National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) Standard 40 approvals, reports, and associated data. ETPS units seeking approval for reduction of Total Nitrogen (TN) will need to submit NSF Standard 245 approvals, reports, and associated data. Any additional third party standards evaluated for the ETPS unit will also need to be submitted including approvals, disapprovals, reports, and associated data.

DEQ will issue ETPS product approval in conjunction with associated reduction levels for TSS, CBOD₅, and TN. Reduction levels will be determined through statistical analysis of the data included in the third party standards. Third party reports average reduction values will not be accepted to establish system performance approvals. The third party data will be statistically evaluated to determine a resulting value that corresponds to the 90% confidence limit. The resulting value that corresponds to the 90% confidence limit will be used as the system's performance limit.

ETPS units that have not undergone third party testing and wish to be approved for reduction in TSS and CBOD₅ must submit testing data on installations from States with similar climates to Idaho. The testing results submitted must be for ETPS units of the exact same make and model as is requested for approval in Idaho. Data must be submitted on a minimum of 30 units and the units must have been installed and operational for a period of 3 years prior to data submission. All maintenance and effluent testing records obtained over this period must be submitted for review. Effluent testing results submitted must be for TSS and CBOD₅ and come from a testing program that requires annual maintenance and annual effluent testing for each constituent at a minimum. Non-third party data for TN will not be accepted.

To obtain approval for TN reduction without third party data, or to lower reduction levels from initial approval for any constituent, the manufacturer of the ETPS unit or their representative must submit data from their ETPS units installed in Idaho. Any data submitted must be specific to a particular ETPS make and model. Data submission must include information on 20 installations with a minimum of 2 full years of operational data on each system. All maintenance and effluent testing records obtained over this period must be submitted for review. For adjustment in reduction levels of effluent constituents to be approved the data must show that 90% of the installed units have successfully maintained effluent reduction levels at or below the desired reduction approval level.

ETPS approval for manufacturer technology that has undergone NSF or EPA third party testing shall be submitted to, reviewed, and approved by DEQ following the process within this section. ETPS approval for manufacturer technology that has undergone third party testing evaluation

that is not NSF or EPA, have not undergone third party evaluation, or are submitting testing data from other states, shall submit the necessary information to DEQ for distribution to the TGC for recommendation on approval.

ETPS units must have an Operation and Maintenance Entity setup for the particular manufacturer's products as described in section 4.2 of the TGM prior to any permits being issued for system installation. The Operation and Maintenance Entity must be capable of fulfilling the requirements of section 4.2 and 4.10 of the TGM prior to approval.

1.4.2.3 All Other Product Approvals

All other wastewater products intended for installation in a subsurface sewage disposal system shall follow the process outlined in section 1.4 of this manual. If a product has been evaluated and meets a standard developed by NSF the product may be reviewed and approved for use by DEQ without TGC recommendation. For products that have not undergone NSF testing and certification the necessary materials as described in section 1.4 of this manual must be submitted to DEQ for review by the TGC for approval recommendation.