

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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### DPH Environmental Engineering (EE) Program May 22, 2014 Code Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

#### Meeting Sign-in and CAC Member Updates

- CADH
- CEHA: DWS Pilot Test for Public Water Supply Wells (See Water Supply Matters)
- COWRA:
- CAWPCAs
- DEEP: Future discussion request: Disposal options high efficiency gas furnace condensate. DCP Plumbing Board interested.
- HB & RA of CT:
- Professional Engineers (CEPP, CSPE, CSCE)
- Soil Scientists

#### Water Supply Matters

- **DPH Private Well (PW) Program:** The PW Program supervisor, Ryan Tetreault, issued the attached Circular Letter (EHS #2014-22) that concerns DEEP's new General Permit for LFWTW, and the program is conducting a private well survey of local health officials on a variety of issues (shared wells, low well yields, water quality problems, regulation revisions, etc...). The EE Program has been updating and working with the PW Program on several items (B51 Revisions, Well Drilling/Geothermal System Regulation Comments, Sewer Piping near Water Supply Wells) that affect both programs.
- **DPH Drinking Water Section (DWS):** The EE Program has engaged the DWS on crafting boiler plate language to be utilized in public water supply sanitary surveys when water treatment system discharges to septic systems are identified. The DWS has developed a draft document (Pilot Test of Streamlined Public Water Supply Well Approval Process, March 3, 2104) that was shared with CEHA's Water Committee. The EE Program and CEHA have requested feedback relative to local well permits and B51 sewage disposal compliance requirements. The EE Program is awaiting further discussions with DWS on their new regulations concerning public drinking water standards as they relate to decentralized sewage systems and sewer piping.
- **DCP Proposed Regulations for Well Drilling and Geothermal Systems:** The EE Program submitted comments (August 29, 2013) last year on the proposed regulations. On April 15, 2104 DCP notified OPM that they were withdrawing the proposed regulations to work with DEEP and DPH to resolve outstanding issues with the regulations.

#### Housing Matters

- **Incentive Housing Zones (IHZ):** See updated February 2014 CT Map showing Participation in the HOMEConnecticut Program. The EE Program has reached out to the Partnership for Strong Communities on IHZ matters related to decentralized water and sewage systems. That partnership is examining the effects of limited infrastructure on creating affordable housing options in municipalities lacking public sewer systems.
- **Development & Affordable Housing Discussions:** There have been recent discussions about affordable housing development in areas utilizing decentralized sewage disposal systems, and some of the organizations involved include the Partnership for Strong Communities, Home Builder's Developers Council, and the CT Affordable Housing Coalition.

#### Home & Septic System Inspection Matters

- DCP published a notice of intent to amend their regulations containing the Residential Property Condition Disclosure Report, and there is a May 28, 2014 public hearing at 10 am at DCP. The EE Program provided comments to DCP in 2004 and 2010 on the report's sewage disposal questions, but the revisions were not incorporated. EE Program comments to be provided to DCP. The PW Program has also generated comments.
- **Sewage Disposal System Inspection Report:** The EE Program has been working with COWRA to update this report and progress has been made finalizing it before formal distribution to the CAC for comment.



*If you require aid or accommodation to participate fully and fairly in this meeting, please phone (860) 509-7293*

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## Legislative Updates

- Several bills (SB 405: AAC Public Hearings on Subdivision Applications, HB 5421 AAA the Use of AT Systems in DWMDs) the EE Program was tracking did not pass. DPH provided comments on the AT bill, which were distributed to CAC (March 17, 2014 email).
- Several other bills the EE Program was tracking passed both the House and Senate, and most likely will become public acts. The EE Program's interest in these bills is relative to the disposition of human remains (Burial statutes re-codified & alkaline hydrolysis included in DPH's Technical Bill 5537, Funds for care of neglected cemeteries in HB 5597). HB 5424 (AAC the Responsibilities of the Water Planning Council) became PA No. 14-163 and mainly concerns water resources and a state water plan that includes the development of a water reuse policy. The bill originally included a grey water reuse provision in Governor declared drought disasters, but that is not specifically mentioned in the public act. The advisory group has been expanded to include representation of a public health district.

## Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Matters

- **Long Island Sound Study (LISS) Comprehensive Conservation & Management Plan (CCMP) Update Process:** The CCMP update web page has proposed actions are listed. The actions relevant to decentralized sewage systems are generally in the Waters and Watersheds theme, and they include improved policies and management of decentralized systems. Public meetings are planned for 2014, and the first draft of revised CCMP is expected to be ready in early summer of 2014. CCMP webpage: <http://longislandsoundstudy.net/about/our-mission/updating-the-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan/>
- **NPS Management Plan:** DEEP hired consultant, Fuss & O'Neill (F & O), to facilitate the update the NPS Management Plan. Discussions to date have mainly been between internal DEEP workgroup and F & O. DPH is an external partner, and the EEP has recommended decentralized sewage stakeholder organizations be invited to participate in the plan update process. The EE Program has sent emails (2/14, 4/14, 5/14) to DEEP asking for an update on status of plan, but no response to date. A recent voice mail left with the EE Program noted DEEP plans on sending draft report to EPA by the end of May 2014.
- **LISS National Estuary Program Summary Work Plan (June 21, 2013):** Nitrogen loading from on-site wastewater systems cited as a concern, and several septic system initiatives were mentioned. It also noted the 2013 LISS Futures Fund has made on-site wastewater treatment system projects a priority for funding. EEP has reached out to DEEP in October and December of 2013, and in April of 2014, and asked for more information on this matter but no response to date.

## EPA Decentralized Wastewater Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Partnership

- **MOU Jobs Paper:** In January of 2014 the MOU Partnership distributed a draft MOU Jobs Paper entitled *Economic and Sustainability Benefits of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems*, and a presentable working draft in anticipated for the July 2014 SORA/NEHA conference. It will be distributed to the CAC when available.
- **MOU Renewal:** The MOU is up for renewal in November 2014, and two new members (National Association of Homebuilders, IAPMO) are considering joining the partnership.

## Climate Change/Sea Levels Matters

- **CT Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA):** The EE Program has reached out to the CIRCA and asked that decentralized sewage system organizations be included in discussions/matters affecting coastal areas without public sewer infrastructure. Positive response received, and it was noted that they would be holding a number of Climate Adaptation Academy sessions over the next year and decentralized sewage issues could be incorporated into one of them. Recent CAC meeting agendas were sent to CIRCA and they note the recent discussions with the Shoreline Preservation Task Force and proposed septic system siting changes in coastal areas, and also that the 9/18/13 Draft EPA New England Regional Climate Adaptation Plan doesn't include any mention of septic systems in the 67-page document.

## New Proprietary Products & Review Status/Issues

- **Non-concrete Sewage Tank Approvals:** Infiltrator IM-540 & IM-1530 approved 4/2/14. Norwesco/Snyder CT 1000 LP, CT 1250 LP, and CT 1500 LP approved 4/2/14. Appendix D being updated.
- **Leaching Systems:** Infiltrator Quick 4 Plus Standard Low Profile gallery configuration approved May 1, 2014. Cultec pending approval.
- **Pressure-dosed Dispersal Systems (drip dispersal & low pressure distribution):** See updated language in Technical Standards summary document, and note equating of these systems to the area required to install a conventional 3 feet wide leaching trench system for new construction, and tubing/piping requirements also tied to conventional trenches.
- **Dosing Systems:** GeoMatrix HydroAir Pump System approved 5/16/14 and use of SoilAir Sealed D-Boxes also noted, Premier Tanks Flout System (Approval Pending)

**Revisions to the *Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems* (Technical Standards)**

- **Technical Standards' Revisions:** The next revision is anticipated to be published on January 1, 2015. See attached Summary of Proposed January 1, 2015 Revisions to the Technical Standards dated May 22, 2014.
- **Stormwater Items:** DEEP's 2004 CT Stormwater Quality Manual (pages 11-P3-3 & 11-P3-4) stipulates stormwater infiltration systems should be kept at least 75 feet from septic systems unless otherwise recommended by DEEP, DPH or local health officials. See Technical Standards summary document for proposed revisions. Related item: Town LID plans.
- **Manhole Covers on Sewage Tanks:** Riser cover retrofits that remove sewage tank covers, new tank installations with risers (1 VS 2 covers), safety concerns, kid catchers.

P/RWS CAC Agenda 5-22-14

