



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### **DPH Environmental Engineering Program** **May 13, 2010 Code Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting**

#### **Attendance & CAC Member Updates**

- CADH
- CEHA: New representative (Mr. Jeffrey Polhemus) replaces Ms. Carol Lord.
- COWRA
- CT HBA
- DEP: New Softener/Water Treatment Wastewater Contact Person: James Creighton (860 424-3681, james.creighton@ct.gov)
- Professional Engineers (CT Engineers in Private Practice, CSPE, CSCE)
- Soil Scientist

#### **Legislative Updates**

- House Bill No. 5477, AAC the Clean Water Act & Stream Flow Regulations: Section 1 would have modified subsection (g) of CGS 22a-430 to stipulate that DPH shall not require periodic inspection or pumping of septic tanks or SSDs w/ valid discharge permits. Bill died in legislative committee, and Section 1 was apparently in response to Ledge Light Health District's proposed pump-out regulation that was proposed, but not enacted, in the fall of 2009.

#### **Items Previously on CAC Agenda**

- **Recycled Glass as Select Fill:** A beneficial use determination (BUD) is required from DEP. To date, no BUD application submitted. Sieve Results of sample submitted to DPH:
- **DEP Lean Project/Kaizen Event (Re: Septic Repairs @ Pre-existing Unpermitted DEP Sites):** DEP & DPH mtg. Scheduled for June 9, 2010.
- **Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board's Advisory Opinion 2011-1 dated January 28, 2010:** Reconsideration granted April 12, 2010, Hearing: May 20, 2010.
- **Leaching System Ratings:** DPH has rec'd comments from four proprietary leaching system companies, and a March 22, 2010 meeting was held with a group of CT Certified Concrete Pre-casters. Comments from pre-casters anticipated. Comments to be distributed to CAC.
- **Pump Access:** Proposed wording: Pump(s) must be readily accessible from the ground surface (or outside of pump chamber). The pipe must be attached to the pump close enough to the top of the tank under the manhole to allow for servicing, and a quick-disconnect device shall be utilized to allow easy removal of pump for maintenance.
- **Installer Application:** Draft application & sign-off sheet distributed. Comments to DPH within 30 days.
- **Perc Rite Leaching/Distribution Systems:** Oakson, Inc. & American Manufacturing Company, Inc. presented @ 9/10/09 CAC mtg. DPH is considering authorizing use w/ the stipulation that for new construction an area must be identified for a conventional leaching trench (3' wide) leaching system (primary & reserve).
- **Appendix A, MLSS Revisions:** Draft language distributed for review and comment. New systems and code-complying areas (B100a Intensification of Use: Conversions, Changes in Use) shall provide leaching system spreads meeting MLSS that utilizes natural receiving soil only. Proposed language addresses non-compliant repairs that can't meet the new system MLSS. Non-compliant repair MLSS utilizes receiving soil that includes both natural soil and fill material, and in turn the permitted flow on the discharge permit takes into account the hydraulic capacity of this receiving soil. B100a potential repair areas identified for non-flow increasing building additions will also be allowed to consider fill for receiving soil.



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## New Items

- **Revisions to Technical Standards' Section IV Design Flows, Subsection D Permits to Discharge:** Reflect new language in MLSS Appendix A concerning permitted flows for non-compliant repairs that are calculated based on hydraulic capacity of receiving soil that includes fill and natural soil.
- **Revisions to Technical Standards' Section VIII Leaching Systems:** Possibly increase select fill extensions down gradient of non-compliant repair leaching system from 5 feet to 10 feet.
- **Repairs that utilize existing single compartment septic tanks:** Two-compartment tanks required since January 1, 1990. DPH Design Manual (July 1998) has a chapter on limited septic repairs (Chapter 21) that notes single compartment septic tanks do not have to be replaced as part of a leaching system replacement, unless the tank is defective. Discussion on Pros and Cons of mandatory replacement of single compartment tanks. Proposed language recommending, but not requiring, replacement of single-compartment tanks.
- **Leaching Systems on Steep Slopes (>25%):** Soils in areas exceeding 25% slope are "areas of special concern" per PHC Section 19-13-B103d (e), which require a SSDS plan designed by a professional engineer for new construction. Very steep slopes are problematic from a construction standpoint, and E & S can also be more of a problem on steep slopes. Discussion: Should there be a maximum slope at which point SSDS construction is not allowed?
- **Closed Loop Geothermal Systems:** Technical Standards' Table No. 1, Item Q cites minimum separating distance (75') to vertical borehole, and distance reductions (50' to LS, 25' to tight tanks) are authorized for vertical boreholes drilled by well drillers that are certified to constructed per standards referenced in EHS Circular Letter #2007-12. Proposed revisions to cover direct exchange (DX) boreholes, and elimination of reference to construction standards. Non-vertical boreholes are problematic. DCP regulations need to address construction standards.
- **Reserve Areas w/ Unsuitable Conditions relative to Ledge Rock:** Placement of fill in areas w/ 2 to 4 feet of naturally occurring soil in reserve area. Select fill Vs common fill.
- **EPA Documents:** Activity Update on Funding Decentralized Wastewater Systems Using the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and Decentralized Wastewater Management E-Handbook.

P/RWS/CAC May 13, 2010 Mtg

BWD