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Number: ONST.12.POL.852
Title: O&M REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY ON-SITE SEWAGE SYSTEMS (COSS) APPROVED BEFORE DECEMBER 9, 1997

Related: ONST.08.POL.605
ONST.10.POL.808
Cancelled ONST.97.POL.605

Approved: 
Environmental Health Director

Date: 8/24/12

Cancels: New

RCW/Code: Article IV, Section 16

This policy applies to community on-site sewage systems (COSS) permitted BEFORE December 9, 1997 in Thurston County that are OUTSIDE of Marine Recovery Areas. COSS are defined as OSS:

- Designed to serve more than one residential unit; and/or
- With a design flow, at any common point, more than one thousand (1,000) gallons per day and less than or equal to three thousand five hundred (3,500) gallons per day; or
- Within the city limits of Lacey, Olympia or Tumwater or their Urban Growth Areas with a design flow, at any common point, more than six hundred (600) gallons per day and less than or equal to three thousand five hundred (3,500) gallons per day.

1. The O&M requirements for COSS described in the current version Article IV and current policies shall apply when existing COSS are repaired, replaced, expanded or otherwise modified.

EXCEPT: Current O&M requirements do not apply when the repair is limited to the replacement of existing sewage tanks.

2. Operation and maintenance requirements for community OSS approved prior to December 9, 1997 will be based on the requirements of Article IV in effect at the time of permit approval AND the permit conditions established at the time of permit approval. A summary of historic requirements are as follows:

- A. All COSS approved between July 1, 1984 and October 1, 1995 which serve 5-9 residential dwelling units or have a design flow >1,200 gallons per day must have an operational certificate (OPC) AND "perpetual maintenance and management of the sewage disposal system under the responsibility of an approved management system". This is interpreted to be a contract with a certified monitoring specialist (CMS) or to be owned and operated by a public entity.

Refer to Article IV version 7/1/1984 and version 9/1/90, Sections 3.4, 8, 10.6, 11.

- B. All COSS approved between September 1, 1990 and October 15, 1995 require an OPC. For those with less than 5 connections or under 1,200 gpd, check original permit approval conditions to determine if perpetual maintenance and management is required.
- C. **ALL** COSS approved between October 15, 1995 and December 9, 1997 must have an OPC. The need for a management entity will be dictated by the requirements established when the COSS permit was approved. Historic records must be reviewed to confirm O&M requirements.