

**CONVERSE COUNTY  
MINIMUM STANDARDS  
GOVERNING INDIVIDUAL  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
SYSTEMS**

# Certification

## CONVERSE COUNTY MINIMUM STANDARDS GOVERNING INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

APPROVED AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED THIS 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2016

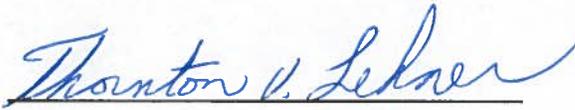
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CONVERSE COUNTY, WYOMING



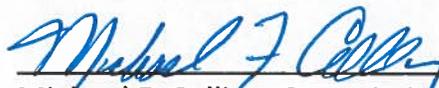
Richard C. Grant, Jr., Chairman



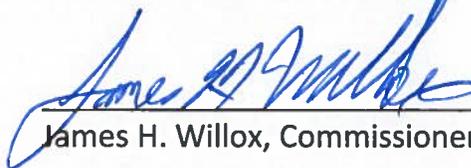
Robert G. Short, Vice-Chairman



Thornton V. Lehner, Commissioner



Michael F. Colling, Commissioner



James H. Willox, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Lucile K. Taylor, County Clerk



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**CONVERSE COUNTY REGULATIONS FOR A  
PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OR MODIFY  
SMALL WASTEWATER FACILITIES AND  
RELATED DESIGN STANDARDS**

**CHAPTER I – INTRODUCTION**

***Section 1. Authority***

These regulations are promulgated pursuant to the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act, W.S. 35-11-101 through W.S. 35-11-1207. Specifically, W.S. 35-11-301 stipulates that no person, except when authorized by permit, shall: construct, install, modify, or operate any small wastewater facility. W.S. 35-11-304 stipulates that to the extent requested, authority to enforce and administer W.S. 35-11-301 (a) (iii) shall be delegated to qualifying municipalities, water and sewer districts or counties.

***Section 2. Purpose***

The purpose of these regulations are to prevent, reduce and eliminate pollution and enhance the waters of the State of Wyoming and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the environment and its inhabitants by ensuring that the design and construction of small wastewater systems meet the purpose of the Environmental Quality Act.

***Section 3. Applicability***

These regulations shall apply to all small wastewater systems as defined in Section 5 of these regulations within Converse County.

***Section 4. Intent***

The design and construction standards included in these regulations are directed toward conventional small wastewater systems. These standards impose limiting values of design for which a construction, installation or modification permit application and plans and specifications can be evaluated by the Converse County Special Projects Director.

The terms “shall” and “must” are used when practice is sufficiently standardized to permit specific delineation of requirements or when safeguarding public health or when protection of water quality justifies such definite action. Other terms, such as “should”, “recommend”, and “preferred,” indicate desirable procedures or methods, which allow deviations, provided the purpose of these regulations can be accomplished.

***Section 5. Definitions***

The following definitions supplement those definitions contained in Section 35-22-203 of the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act.

- a. “Absorption system” means a system constructed under the surface of the ground, which receives and distributes effluent from a pretreatment device effectively filtering the effluent through soil or media.
- b. “Aerobic unit” means a covered, watertight receptacle, which receives wastewater. The unit removes settleable solids, floatable material, and a part of soluble organic matter by the use of aerobic biological treatment.
- c. “Building drain” means the building drain is that part of the lowest piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer beginning two feet (0.6 meters) outside the building wall.
- d. “Building sewer” means the building sewer is that part of the horizontal piping of a drainage system which extends from the end of the building drain and which receives the discharge of the building drain and conveying it to the septic tank or other onsite sewage disposal facility.
- e. “Cesspool” means a covered pit into which raw sewage is discharged for final disposal by leaching into the surrounding porous soil. Cesspools are not allowed under these regulations.
- f. “DEQ Rules” means the Rules propagated by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality and includes Chapters 25 and 27 of the “Water Quality Rules and Regulations”.
- g. “Distribution box” means a watertight structure, which receives liquid effluent from, a septic tank and distributes such effluent in equal portions into two or more pipes leading to the disposal area.
- h. “Domestic sewage” means the liquid-borne and water-borne wastes derived from the ordinary living processes, free from industrial wastes, and of such character as to permit satisfactory disposal without special treatment.
- i. “Dosing system” means the system of tanks, pumps, or siphons, and piping located between the septic tank and soil absorption system, which is intended to apply a large quantity of settled wastewater to the absorption system in a short period of time.

- j. “Special Projects Director” means the person(s) and/or county department assigned by Converse County to enforce and carry out the requirements of these regulations.
- k. “Hydro-geological Study” means a study of the occurrence, distribution, quality, and movement of the shallowest groundwater of the State and the potential impact of wastewaters on the ground water.
- l. “Impermeable soil” means any soil, which has a percolation rate greater than 60 minutes per inch.
- m. “Permit” means written authorization issued by the Special Projects Director, duly executed which authorizes the permittee to construct, install, or modify the facilities as set forth in these regulations.
- n. “Privy” means a covered pit into which only urine and fecal material are discharged for final disposal by leaching into the surrounding soil or by an approved disposal site. Grey water or toilet carriage water may not be discharged into a privy.
- o. “Pump tank” means a tank in which the dosing pumps or siphons are installed.
- p. “Seasonal high groundwater table” is the highest elevation reached by the groundwater during the wet season of the year (usually spring or early summer).
- q. “Septic tank” means a liquid-tight receptacle, which receives for storage and digestion, raw sewage from a building sewer, and which has been designed and constructed so as to retain the solids and to allow the liquids to discharge through a secondary system of piping into a disposal area.
- r. “Small wastewater system” means any sewerage system, disposal system or treatment works having simple hydrologic and engineering needs which is intended for wastes originating from a single residential unit, serving no more than four families or which distributes 2,000 gallons or less of domestic sewage per day.
- s. “UIC Permits” mean certain subsurface treatment and disposal systems which are required to obtain an Underground Injection Control Permit as outlined in Chapter 27, “Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations”. This permit will be issued by the UIC Program Supervisor. Effective April 15, 1998, the following facilities are required to obtain a UIC permit:
  - (1) Onsite subsurface disposal systems discharging more than 2,000 gallons per day of domestic sewage located within any five (5) acres of land as determined by Table 1, Section 3, Chapter 25, “Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations”.

- (2) Any onsite subsurface system receiving wastes other than domestic sewage as defined in Section 2, Chapter 25. Domestic sewage means the liquid and water borne wastes derived from the ordinary living processes, free from industrial wastes, and of such character as to permit satisfactory disposal without special treatment.
- (3) Small wastewater systems in undelegated counties previously permitted by DEQ under Chapter 3 and 25, or by delegated local agencies in accordance with local regulations will be impacted by the new Chapter 27 as follows:
  - (a) Those systems requiring a UIC Permit in accordance with Chapter 27 will not be required to obtain a separate Chapter 3 construction permit from DEQ. Applicants will be referred to the UIC Program Supervisor who will be responsible for permitting and tracking the facility. Refer to Policy 2.1.9 for additional information on DEQ coordination with the UIC Program Supervisor.
  - (b) Issuance of a small wastewater system construction permit by a local agency does not relieve the owner of a facility from the requirement to obtain a UIC Permit in accordance with Chapter 27. Local permitting agencies are encouraged to refrain from issuing small wastewater permits for facilities requiring a UIC Permit in order to avoid duplication of effort, conflicting requirements, and confusion regarding applicable regulatory programs.
- t. "Existing parcel of land" means any parcel of land for which a deed has been recorded in the County Clerk and Recorder's Office.

### ***Section 6. Prohibitions***

No person shall, except when authorized by permit issued pursuant to these regulations:

- a. Construct, install, or modify any small wastewater system;
- b. Construct, install, or modify any small wastewater system in noncompliance with the terms and conditions of an issued permit;
- c. Construct, install, or modify a small wastewater system with a permit that has expired or has been suspended or revoked;

- d. Discharge wastes into any small wastewater system which is inconsistent with the type and or quantity of wastes for which the facility is designed.
- e. Construct, install, or modify any small wastewater facility, which would be partially or completely within the 100-year floodplain as determined by the most current FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) or where more specific data by the Army Corps of Engineers exists, without having first obtained a variance from the Special Projects Director for such construction.
- f. Construct, or install any small wastewater system, which is not in compliance with an approved "Water Quality Management Plan".

***Section 7. Permit Required***

- a. No person may discharge sewage from an individual dwelling, install an individual sewage system or make an addition thereto:
  - (1) Without first obtaining a permit from the Special Projects Director.
  - (2) Unless in compliance with the requirements of these regulations.
- b. Final inspection is required before the system is backfilled.
- c. Permits may be issued only when it has been determined that the location of the Individual Sewage Disposal System will be on lands that are in compliance with Converse County Subdivision Regulations.
- d. No permits may be issued within the 100-year flood plain without a variance from the Special Projects Director.
- e. The issuance of a permit to construct does not relieve the permittee of his responsibility to properly plan, design, construct, operate and maintain the facility described in the application and permit conditions.

***Section 8. Responsibility***

The issuance of a permit does not constitute the assumption by Special Projects Director or their representative, of liability for the failure of any sewage disposal system.

***Section 9. Application Requirements***

The following procedure will be followed in applying for a permit:

- a. Any person who proposes to construct, install or modify a facility required to be permitted under Section 6, shall submit a written application on forms provided by the Special Projects Director.

- b. The applications for a permit to construct, install or modify must be accompanied by plans, specification, design data or other pertinent information covering the project, and any additional information required by the Special Projects Director. All plans and specifications must be submitted on forms provided by Converse County.
- c. All the plans and specifications must conform to the minimum design standards identified in Chapter II.

***Section 10. Application Processing Procedures***

All permit applications received will be processed in the following manner:

- a. The Special Projects Director shall review each application and take final action within 15 days from the date the application is received.
- b. Incomplete applications will not be processed. The Special Projects Director shall promptly notify the applicant of any deficiencies in the submitted permit application package.
- c. All plans and specifications must meet or exceed minimum design standards and these regulations.
- d. Applications for a modification of an existing permitted facility to increase the capability to treat, hold, or dispose of wastes may be approved, requiring only the modification needed to meet the minimum design standards. Facilities not in compliance with these regulations will require additional modifications to other portions of the facility to bring the facility into compliance with these regulations.
- e. Each application must be submitted with all supporting data necessary for review. Processing of the application with respect to recommendations or required changes will be done in accordance with the provisions of applicable statutes, rules, and regulations.
- f. The Special Projects Director shall promptly notify the applicant of the final action taken on the application. If the conditions of the permit are different from the proposed application submitted by the applicant for review, the notification shall include reasons for the changes made.
- g. If, upon review of an application, the Special Projects Director determines that a permit should not be granted, the Special Projects Director shall notify the applicant of the permit's denial and state the reasons for denial.

- h. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the permit conditions or denial of any permit issued by the Special Projects Director, he may request a hearing in accordance with Section 14c.

**Section 11. Construction and Operation in Compliance with Issued Permit**

The permittee shall:

- a. Conduct all construction, installation, or modification of any facility permitted consistent with the terms and conditions of the permit. Unauthorized changes, deviations, or modifications will be a violation of the permit. A new application or amended application must be filed with the Special Projects Director to obtain modification of a permit. No modification shall be implemented until a new or modified permit has been issued or a waiver given pursuant to subsection b.
- b. Requests for authorization to utilize materials and/or procedures different from those specified in the terms of the issued permit. Such requests shall be directed to the Special Projects Director. A waiver may be granted if materials and/or procedures specified in the permit cannot be obtained or accomplished and alternative materials and procedures meet minimum standards. In order to prevent undue delay during construction, the Special Projects Director may grant a waiver orally, upon oral request, provided that this oral request is followed by a written request within five days. Any changes shall be noted on the permit.
- c. Conduct the operation in accordance with statements, representations, and procedures presented in the complete application and supporting documents, as accepted and authorized by the Special Projects Director.
- d. Notify the Special Projects Director at least 48 hours prior to backfilling of system. The Special Projects Director's representative will perform a final inspection of the installation to ensure compliance with these regulations. The compliance section of the permit will then be signed. If the applicant does not notify Special Projects Director, the following actions may be taken or required by the Special Projects Director.
  - (1) digging up the system to show compliance with these regulations,
  - (2) revocation of the permit,
  - (3) legal action, or
  - (4) all of the above.

**Section 12. Duration and Termination of Permits; Transfer of Permits**

- a. The duration of construction, installation or modification permits will be variable, but shall not exceed **one (1) year** from the date of issuance. The expiration date will be recorded on each permit issued. Those permits issued without a specified

expiration date will be in force no more than **one (1) year** from the date of issuance.

- b. Permits will be issued only to the official applicant of record, who must be the owner of the permitted facility, for only the type of construction of record and shall be automatically terminated;
  - (1) within 60 days after sale or exchange of the facility unless application for transfer is received pursuant to subsection c. of this section.
  - (2) when construction is completed, except that conditions included in the permit will remain in effect throughout the life of the facility.
  - (3) upon issuance of a new, renewed or modified permit.
  - (4) upon written request of the permittee.
- c. Permits shall be transferred to new owners by submitting a written request to the Special Projects Director.
- d. Any conditions established in a construction, installation or modification permit will be automatically transferred to the new owner whenever a transfer of ownership of the facility occurs.

***Section 13. Renewal of a Permit***

A permit may be renewed where construction has not been completed by contacting the Special Projects Director stating that there will not be any changes in the plans for construction, installation, or modification of a permitted facility no less than 30 days prior to the expiration date of the permit.

***Section 14. Denial of a Permit***

- a. The Special Projects Director may deny a permit for any of the following reasons:
  - (1) The application is incomplete or does not meet applicable minimum design and construction standards as specified in these regulations.
  - (2) The project, if constructed, will cause violation of applicable state surface or groundwater standards;
  - (3) The project does not comply with applicable state and local water quality management plans as specified in Section 17 of these regulations.

- (4) No new small wastewater system shall be approved for a building to which connection to a sanitary sewer is cost effective, and the connection is allowed by the controlling authority for the sanitary sewer.
  - (5) Other justifiable reasons.
- b. If the Special Projects Director proposes to deny issuance of a permit, the applicant shall be notified of the intent to deny and the reason for denial.
  - c. In the case of the denial or conditioning of a permit by the Special Projects Director, the applicant, if he so desires, may request a hearing before the Converse County Board of Health. A request for hearing shall be made in writing within 20 days of notification of the denial to the Converse County Health Board and shall state the grounds for the request. (Any hearing shall be conducted pursuant to the regulations of Converse County.) The Converse County Board of Health may not issue a waiver from the design standards to these regulations.

***Section 15. Modification of a Permit***

Either before construction is completed upon a permitted small wastewater system, or during the review of a proposed facility application, the Special Projects Director may, for good cause, modify a construction permit.

- a. When reviewing an application or before construction on a facility is completed, the Special Projects Director may modify a permit due to the following reasons:
  - (1) existing, unknown or changing site conditions which would prevent construction and resultant operation from complying with these regulations; or
  - (2) receipt of additional information; or
  - (3) an incomplete application where the applicant agrees with the modification; or
  - (4) review items not in compliance with minimum standards where the applicant agrees with the modification; or
  - (5) any other reason necessary to effectuate applicable statutes, standards or regulation.
- b. The Special Projects Director shall notify the permittee by registered or certified mail of intent to modify the permit.
- c. Such notification shall include the proposed modification and the reasons for modification and the time frame to have modifications constructed, installed or

operational. Modification requirements shall be implemented before construction, installation, or modification of a facility is completed.

- d. The modification shall become final within 20 days from the date of such notice unless within that time the permittee requests a hearing before the Converse County Board of Health. Such request for hearing shall be made in writing to the Converse County Board of Health and shall state the grounds for the request. Any hearing held shall be conducted pursuant to the regulations of Converse County.
- e. A copy of the modified permit shall be forwarded to the permittee as soon as the modifications become effective.

***Section 16. Suspension or Revocation of a Permit***

The Special Projects Director may suspend or revoke a permit before construction; installation or modification of a facility is completed for the reasons set forth below, in item b.

- a. Before a permit may be suspended or revoked, the permittee shall be given an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of the permit.
- b. The Special Projects Director shall notify the permittee of its intent to suspend or revoke the permit in the event that it becomes necessary, due to:
  - (1) non-compliance with the terms of the permit; or
  - (2) unapproved modifications in design or construction; or
  - (3) false information submitted in the application; or
  - (4) changing site conditions, which would result in violations of applicable regulations;
  - (5) non-compliance with any requirements of these regulations; or
  - (6) any other reason necessary to effectuate applicable statutes, standards or regulations.
- c. The notification shall include the reasons for suspension or revocation.
- d. The suspension or revocation shall become final 20 days from the date of such notice unless within that time the permittee requests a hearing before the Converse County Board of Health. Such a request for hearing shall be made in writing to the Converse County Board of Health and shall state the grounds for

the request. Any hearing held shall be conducted pursuant to the applicable regulations.

**Section 17. Compliance with State and Local Water Quality Management Plans**

No permit may be issued for any facility which is in conflict with an approved water quality management plan prepared under Section 303, 208 and/or 201 of the Federal Clean Water Act, as amended.

**Section 18. Facilities and systems not specifically covered by these standards**

This section is provided to encourage new technology and equipment and provide a process for evaluation and permitting of designs, which deviate from these regulations. The construction of innovative facilities and processes not in compliance with these regulations will be permitted provided that the facility, when constructed, can operate meeting the purpose of these regulations.

- a. Each application for a permit to construct a facility not in compliance with these regulations shall be evaluated jointly by the Special Projects Director and the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division on a case-by-case basis using the best available technology. The following information should be included with the application:
  - (1) Data obtained from a full scale, comparable installation which demonstrates the acceptability of the design and/or,
  - (2) Data obtained from a pilot plant operated under the design condition for a sufficient length of time to demonstrate the acceptability of the design and/or,
  - (3) Data obtained from a theoretical evaluation of the design which demonstrates a reasonable probability of the facility meeting the design objectives; and
  - (4) An evaluation of the flexibility of making corrective changes to the constructed facility in the event it does not function as planned.
- b. If an applicant wishes to construct a pilot plant to provide the data necessary to show the design will meet the purpose of the act, a permit to construct must be obtained.

**Section 19. Types of Waste**

- a. The system shall be designed to receive all sanitary sewage from the buildings served. Any normal household waste, including that from the laundry, bath and kitchen, must pass into the septic tank.

- b. Industrial wastes shall not be discharged into individual sewage disposal systems without approval from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division and a UIC Permit to Construct has been issued.

***Section 20. Variance***

In special cases where a system or part thereof, as prescribed in these regulations cannot be expected to function satisfactorily, the Special Projects Director may approve an alternate design after consultation and approval of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. The system must protect the health and safety of the public and comply in principle with the provisions of these regulations.

- a. **Variance Procedures** In order to obtain a variance from the Special Projects Director to construct a small wastewater facility, which would be normally prohibited by these regulations, the applicant must follow the procedures outlined below by submitting to the Special Projects Director the following, if applicable and requested by the Special Projects Director:
  - (1) Information stating the depth of seasonally high groundwater; soil information in the form of percolation test data in accordance to these regulations;
  - (2) A completed application
  - (3) Engineering information supporting the type of system being requested;
  - (4) Floodplain data;
- b. Provided the above information meets minimum standards according to the Converse County Regulations for a permit to construct, install, or modify a small wastewater facilities and related design standards, the applicant may then make arrangements to come before the Special Projects Director requesting a variance.
- c. If approval is granted from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, the applicant may be given approval by the Special Projects Director. A variance shall consist of a written statement of such approval and signature by the Special Projects Director.

***Section 21. Backfilling***

Backfilling over the individual sewage disposal system shall not be done until an inspection by the Special Projects Director's representative is completed. If not inspected within 48 hours after the County representative has been notified, the system may be backfilled with the approval of the Special Projects Director and the submittal of digital photographs. (Notification shall take place during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.) Backfilling shall be done with clean earth from the site, or similar to that found at the site, unless otherwise specified by the Special Projects Director.

***Section 22. Individual Service***

The use of an individual sewage disposal system by more than one property, dwellings of different ownership, commercial unit, or other premises, is prohibited.

***Section 23. Discharge of Effluents***

The effluent from individual sewage disposal systems may not discharge onto the surface of the ground, into any water course, abandoned well, pit, mine, or other similar excavation, or anywhere except through a properly designed and approved leaching field.

***Section 24. Abandoned Septic Tanks***

Abandoned septic tanks shall be filled with soil, sand, or other approved materials. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to see that an abandoned tank is filled.

## CHAPTER II – STANDARDS

### **Section 1. Design**

The design of an individual sewage disposal system shall take into consideration proximity to wells or other sources of water supply, topography, existing sewage disposal systems on adjacent property, water table, soil characteristics, available area, and shall provide for adequate treatment of the volume of sewage discharges from the premises served.

### **Section 2. Replacement Area**

An area shall be designated and shown on the plans for future installation of a replacement absorption system. If a trench or chamber system is used, the replacement area may include the area between the trenches if sufficient spacing has been provided. At least three feet of undisturbed soil shall remain between the existing and replacement trench sidewalls.

### **Section 3. Distances**

All new subdivision lots and splits of land shall be governed by the County's Subdivision Regulations.

The location of the component parts of an individual sewage system shall conform to the following table:

#### **MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM**

| <b>From</b>                                  | <b>To Septic Tank</b> | <b>To Leachfield</b> |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Wells  | 50 feet               | 100 feet             |
| Open Waterways                               | 50 feet               | 50 feet              |
| Portable water lines                         | 25 feet               | 25 feet              |
| Building foundation without foundation drain | 5 feet                | 10 feet              |
| Building foundation with a foundation drain  | 5 feet                | 25 feet              |
| Break in slope                               | 5 feet                | 15 feet              |
| Property line                                | 10 feet               | 10 feet              |
| Septic tank                                  | N/A                   | 10 feet              |

- a. Where coarse soil formations are encountered the distance from any water supply or stream may be increased by the Special Projects Director after consultation with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.
- b. Water and sewer shall be separated by a horizontal distance of 10 feet. For crossover, an 18-inch vertical separation with water lines over sewer lines.
- c. Area reserved for sewage disposal. The area to be used for sewage disposal shall be selected and maintained so that it is free from encroachment by driveways,

accessory buildings, shrubbery whose roots may cause clogging of any part of the system.

- d. All disposal fields shall be no lower than 5 feet below the surface ground level. Any proposal for a lower system may request a variance from the Special Projects Director.

**Section 5. Septic Tank Specifications**

- a. Septic tanks capacities. Septic tanks shall have the following minimum capacities to flow line:

**HOMES**

| <b><u>NUMBER OF BEDROOMS</u></b> | <b><u>LIQUID CAPACITY OF TANK (GALLONS)</u></b> |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 4 or less                        | 1,000   |
| Larger                           | 250 gallons for each additional bedroom         |

- b. Garbage grinders – the liquid capacity of septic tanks receiving garbage shall be increased at least 20% over the requirements of regulation (a) of this section.
- c. Multiple compartments – where multiple compartment tanks are used, the following are required:
  - (1) The total capacity of multiple compartment tanks shall not be less the 1,000 gallons. The first compartment shall have a liquid capacity of 2/3rds the required total tank capacity as determined from regulation (a) of this section.
  - (2) Not more than two compartments shall be provided in tanks having liquid capacities between 1,000 gallons and 1,500 gallons.
- d. Construction:
  - (1) Septic tanks shall be of approved shape, sound, watertight, constructed of durable materials not subject to excessive corrosion, decay, cracking, or buckling. Covers shall be designed and constructed to support any reasonable load – vertical round tanks are not approved.
  - (2) The walls and base of concrete tanks shall be securely bonded together or shall be of monolithic or keyed construction. Walls and base of pour-in place tanks shall have a minimum thickness of four (4) inch thickness throughout. A minimum thickness of two and one-half (2-1/2) inches will be allowed in pre-cast tanks, which have been properly reinforced.

- e. Materials – Septic tanks may be constructed of the following:
- (1) Poured-in-place concrete – four (4) inch thickness or more.
  - (2) Pre-cast reinforced concrete – two and one-half (2-1/2) inch thickness or more.
  - (3) Fiberglass.
  - (4) The installation of steel tanks is prohibited.
  - (5) Other approved material as specified in writing by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.
- f. Dimensions – Rectangular tanks shall have a length of at least twice, but not more than three times, the width. Liquid depth of such tanks shall be **no** less than four (4) feet, but not more than six (6) feet.
- g. Inlets and Outlets – Outlet connections of each compartment of the tank shall be designed to retain sewage solids, scum, and sludge, effectively. The elevation of the inlet invert shall be at least three (3) inches above the elevation of the outlet invert.
- h. Access Openings – Each compartment shall be provided with an access opening. In multiple compartment tanks, the access opening shall be located over each inlet or outlet. Access openings shall be at least twenty (20) inches in diameter, and shall be constructed and installed in a manner that will prevent the entrance of water.
- i. Reinforcements – A septic tank installed under a driveway or parking area shall have a reinforced concrete cover with a minimum thickness of six (6) inches, sidewalls of adequate strength to support any anticipated load and access plugs brought up to grade.
- j. Piping – The piping into and out of the septic tank to solid ground will be cast iron or Schedule 40 PVC.
- k. Clean-out – A clean-out at least six (6) inches in diameter shall be installed for each compartment and must extend to the surface of the ground. The clean-out shall be capped to prevent foreign material from being deposited into the tank.

### ***Section 6. Distribution Box***

- a. General – When a disposal field of more than one distribution line is used with a septic tank, a distribution box or drop box provided with a means of access, shall be installed between the tank and disposal area. Distribution or drop boxes shall

be watertight and constructed of concrete or other durable material. They shall be designed to accommodate the necessary distribution piping leading to the leach field and to provide equal distribution of sewage liquids to such piping by means of baffles or other acceptable methods.

- b. Distribution Piping – The inverts of all outlets – piping from the distribution box shall be rigidly set at the same level. The invert of the inlet shall be at least one-half (1/2) inch above the invert of the outlets.

### **Section 7. Disposal Areas**

#### a. Determination of Soil Characteristics

- (1) Percolation tests are required for each individual sewage disposal system. A minimum of three (3) holes shall be tested over the area of the proposed disposal field. Tests shall be performed by, or be carried out under the supervision of a professional sanitarian, engineer, or representative of the Special Projects Director. The type and extent of the disposal area shall be based upon the results of these tests, which shall determine the type of soil penetrated and the drainage capacities thereof. The owner shall provide other data as may be required by the representative. The groundwater table must be seven (7) feet below the ground surface.
- (2) Tests where the natural surface has been modified through placement of fill will not be acceptable unless the soil has been compacted or allowed to settle to the satisfaction of the representative.
- (3) No disposal area shall be built in an area lying partially or completely within the 100-year Flood Plain as determined by the FIRM Maps or where more specific data by the Army Corps of Engineers exists.

Leaching fields – the following shall apply:

- (1) Filter material – filter material shall cover the distribution piping at least two (2) inches above the top of the pipe, extend the full width of the disposal area, and shall not be less than twelve (12) inches deep beneath the bottom of the distribution pipe. (A total of eighteen inches). Trench systems may utilize six (6) inches of gravel below lines. The filter material shall be washed gravel, crushed stone, slag or clean bank-run gravel ranging in size from one-half (1/2) inches to two and one-half (2-1/2) inches, free of fines, dust, ashes, or clay. The filter material shall be covered by a previous layer, such as two (2) inch layer of hay or straw, or other materials approved by the Health Board Representative. (Use of waterproof material for this purpose is prohibited).

- (2) Distribution piping – Distribution piping shall be installed true to line and grade with perforations, except that at least one tight joint at each bend or other fitting shall be provided to prevent slippage. Perforated tile, plastic, or asbestos cement or equally adequate pipe may be used, provided a sufficient number of clear openings extending through the entire thickness of the pipe are available to permit complete distribution of sewage into the disposal area. Any section of pipe laid with tight joints, except fittings as required above, shall not be considered in determining the percolating area. All open-ended perforated lines must be tied together or capped.
  
- (3) Leaching fields or beds – minimum percolating area – the minimum required percolating area per bedroom shall be determined from the following table provided that the total bottom area shall not be less than 400 square feet for each dwelling unit:



| Percolation Rate<br>(mpi) | Loading Rate<br>(gpd/ft <sup>2</sup> ) |
|---------------------------|--|
| <i>Less than 1 mpi</i>    | <i>Not Allowed</i>                     |
| 1-5                       | 0.80                                   |
| 6                         | 0.75                                   |
| 7                         | 0.71                                   |
| 8                         | 0.68                                   |
| 9                         | 0.65                                   |
| 10                        | 0.63                                   |
| 11                        | 0.60                                   |
| 12                        | 0.57                                   |
| 13                        | 0.55                                   |
| 14                        | 0.54                                   |
| 15                        | 0.52                                   |
| 16                        | 0.50                                   |
| 17                        | 0.49                                   |
| 18                        | 0.48                                   |
| 19                        | 0.47                                   |
| 20                        | 0.46                                   |
| 21                        | 0.45                                   |
| 22-23                     | 0.44                                   |
| 24                        | 0.43                                   |
| 25                        | 0.42                                   |
| 26-27                     | 0.41                                   |
| 28-29                     | 0.40                                   |
| 30-31                     | 0.39                                   |
| 32-33                     | 0.38                                   |
| 34-35                     | 0.37                                   |
| 36-38                     | 0.36                                   |
| 39-41                     | 0.35                                   |
| 42-44                     | 0.34                                   |
| 45-47                     | 0.33                                   |
| 48-52                     | 0.32                                   |
| 53-56                     | 0.31                                   |
| 57-60                     | 0.30                                   |
| Greater than 60           | Special Design<br>Required             |

Approved and Adopted as Amended by the Converse County Board of Commissioners April 6, 2016  
Approved and Adopted by the Converse County Board of Commissioners April 6, 2005

- c. Disposal Trench Construction – Disposal trenches shall be constructed in accordance with the following table:

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Minimum lines per field                         | 2                     |
| Maximum length per line                         | 100 feet              |
| Minimum diameter of distribution lines          | 4 inches              |
| Maximum slope of distribution lines             | 3 inches per 100 feet |
| Minimum width of trench bottom                  | 18 inches             |
| Minimum distance between distribution lines     | 3 feet                |
| Minimum percolation area per dwelling/structure | 400 square feet       |
| Maximum depth of lines                          | 36 inches             |
| Top depth of lines                              | 18 inches below grade |
| Minimum filter cover over pipe                  | 2 inches              |

Distribution lines must form a complete system.

***Section 8. Other Systems***

- a. Leach field chamber (infiltrators). The method to arrive at the number of chambers to be used is based on information available in the Chapter 25, Section 11 of the DEQ “Water Quality Rules and Regulations”.
- (1) All chamber fields shall be level. This includes contouring around hills.
  - (2) Chambers work best at 18” to 24” below the ground surface. Locate the chamber field away from driveways and parking places.
- b. Evapotranspiration Beds – evapotranspiration beds shall all be approved by the DEQ, and the standards of Chapter 25, Section 11, of the DEQ “Water Quality Rules and Regulations” shall be followed.
- c. Privies Privies/outside toilets are allowed for cabins and other housing units without any indoor plumbing. They must follow the requirements of Chapter 25, Section 13, of the DEQ “Water Quality Rules and Regulations”.
- d. Holding Tanks Holding tanks may be used in case of an emergency as determined by the Special Projects Director, but not with new construction. Holding tanks shall follow Chapter 25, Section 12, of the DEQ Rules.
- e. Chemical Toilets Chemical Toilets shall meet the requirements of Chapter 25, Section 14, of the DEQ Rules and shall be approved only by the DEQ.
- f. Small Waste Stabilization Ponds Small water stabilization ponds shall meet the requirements of Chapter 25, Section 15, of the DEQ Rules and shall be approved only by the DEQ.

### CHAPTER III - PENALTY

Any person who violates the provisions of these regulations shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$200, or shall be imprisoned in the County Jail not to exceed six (6) months, or shall be punished by both such fine and imprisonment. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.