

MEMORANDUM

TO: Germane Joint Subcommittees - Senate Resources & Environment and
House Environment, Energy & Technology

FROM: Legislative Services Office - Katharine Gerrity

DATE: April 2, 2009

SUBJECT: 58.01.16 - Wastewater Rules (Docket #58-0116-0802)
Adoption of Temporary Rule - No Analysis Done

This Notice of Rulemaking - Adoption of Temporary Rule was received from the Department of Environmental Quality. We are sending this to you for your information only; no analysis was done. Thank you.

Attachment

IDAPA 58 - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

58.01.16 - WASTEWATER RULES

DOCKET NO. 58-0116-0802

NOTICE OF RULEMAKING - ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY RULE

EFFECTIVE DATE: The temporary rule is effective April 1, 2009.

AUTHORITY: In compliance with Section 67-5226, Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that the Board of Environmental Quality has adopted a temporary rule. This action is authorized by Chapters 1 and 36, Title 39, Idaho Code.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has initiated this rulemaking to allow for the creation of a combined very small wastewater treatment and collection system classification for communities with 500 connections or less. Operators struggle with obtaining the various licenses currently required for the different aspects of very small facility operation. This difficulty in obtaining more than one license results in there being too few properly licensed operators. This lack of properly licensed operators places the facilities in danger of being out of compliance with the rules that require they use the services of properly licensed operators. Smaller systems, due to their relative simplicity of operation, are good candidates for operation by individuals with combined licenses.

Associated with this rulemaking is the need for the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses (IBOL) to establish a very small wastewater system operator license. DEQ is working with IBOL to coordinate rulemaking activities.

Cities, water and sewer districts, homeowner associations, private wastewater contractors, operators, the Association of Idaho Cities, the Idaho Rural Water Association, and the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association - Idaho Sections (North Idaho, Southeast and Southwest Idaho Operator Sections) may be interested in participating in this rulemaking.

The Legislative Services Office has imposed a moratorium which prohibits agencies from initiating proposed rulemaking during the legislative session. DEQ intends to initiate proposed rulemaking by publishing this rule in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin once the moratorium has been lifted.

TEMPORARY RULE JUSTIFICATION: Pursuant to Sections 67-5226(1)(c), Idaho Code, the Governor has found that temporary adoption of the rule is necessary in order to confer a benefit. DEQ has received approval from the Governor's office for temporary adoption of the rule in order to confer the following benefits to the citizens of the state of Idaho:

- (1) The rule allows for the creation of a combined very small wastewater treatment and collection system classification, benefiting owners and operators by reducing the number of licenses necessary to operate small wastewater systems.
- (2) It is expensive for owners of small public wastewater systems to achieve compliance with the current wastewater system classification structure. Adoption of a temporary rule will allow numerous small public wastewater system owners the ability to quickly come into compliance by gathering and expending fewer funds.
- (3) The rule will reduce the number of noncompliant systems by making compliance with the licensure requirement less burdensome. DEQ will achieve greater administrative efficiencies and expend fewer funds enforcing the requirement.

IDAHO CODE SECTION 39-107D STATEMENT: This rule does regulate an activity not regulated by the federal government. There is no federal law or regulation comparable to the provisions governing wastewater treatment and collection system classification set forth in the Wastewater Rules; therefore, the changes to the rules are not broader in scope or more stringent than federal law or regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The following is a specific description, if applicable, of any negative fiscal impact on the state general fund greater than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during the fiscal year: not applicable.

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: The text of the rule has been drafted based on discussions held and concerns raised during negotiations conducted pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-5220 and IDAPA 04.11.01.812-815. On December 3, 2008, the Notice of Negotiated Rulemaking was published in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin, Vol. 08-12, pages 123 through 124, and a preliminary draft rule was made available for public review. One meeting was held on December 16, 2008. Members of the public participated in this negotiated rulemaking process by attending the meeting.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS: For assistance on questions concerning this rulemaking, contact Ester Ceja at ester.ceja@deq.idaho.gov, (208)373-0585.

DATED this 13th day of February, 2009.

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF DOCKET NO. 58-0116-0802

010. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of the rules contained in IDAPA 58.01.16, "Wastewater Rules," the following definitions apply: (4-11-06)

01. Available. Based on public wastewater system size, complexity, and variation in raw waste, a licensed wastewater operator must be on site, on call, or able to be contacted as needed to initiate the appropriate action for normal or emergency conditions in a timely manner. (4-11-06)

02. Adequate Emergency Storage Capacity. The emergency storage capacity of a lift station wet well is the volume of the wet well measured between the high water alarm and the gravity sewer invert into the wet well. For the purpose of this definition, "adequate" shall be defined as twice the estimated emergency response time multiplied by the daily peak flow to the wet well. The high water alarm shall be placed at an elevation below the wet well invert sufficient to achieve the defined volumetric emergency storage capacity. (3-30-07)

03. Beneficial Use. Any of the various uses which may be made of the water of Idaho, including, but not limited to, domestic water supplies, industrial water supplies, agricultural water supplies, navigation, recreation in and on the water, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. The beneficial use is dependent upon actual use, the ability of the water to support a non-existing use either now or in the future, and its likelihood of being used in a given manner. The use of water for the purpose of wastewater dilution or as a receiving water for a waste treatment facility effluent is not a beneficial use. (4-11-06)

04. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). The measure of the amount of oxygen necessary to satisfy the biochemical oxidation requirements of organic materials at the time the sample is collected; unless otherwise specified, this term will mean the five (5) day BOD incubated at twenty (20) degrees C. (4-11-06)

05. Board. The Idaho Board of Environmental Quality. (4-11-06)

06. Class A Effluent. Class A effluent is treated municipal reclaimed wastewater that must be

oxidized, coagulated, clarified, and filtered, or treated by an equivalent process and adequately disinfected. For comprehensive Class A Effluent criteria and permitting requirements refer to IDAPA 58.01.17, "Rules for the Reclamation and Reuse of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater." (3-30-07)

07. Class A Effluent Distribution System. The delivery system for Class A effluent. The distribution system does not include any of the collection or treatment portions of the wastewater facility and is not subject to operator licensing requirements in Section 203 of these rules. (4-11-06)

08. Collection System. That portion of the wastewater system or treatment facility in which wastewater is received from the premises of the discharger and conveyed to the point of treatment through a series of lines, pipes, manholes, pumps/lift stations and other appurtenances. (3-30-07)

09. Compliance Schedule or Schedule of Compliance. A schedule of remedial measures including an enforceable sequence of actions or operations leading to compliance with an effluent limitation, other limitation, prohibition, or standard. (4-11-06)

10. Department. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (4-11-06)

11. Design Flow. The critical flow used for steady-state wasteload allocation modeling. (4-11-06)

12. Designated Beneficial Use or Designated Use. Those beneficial uses assigned to identify waters in Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Rules, IDAPA 58.01.02, "Water Quality Standards," Sections 110 through 160, whether or not the uses are being attained. (4-11-06)

13. Director. The Director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality or his authorized agent. (4-11-06)

14. Discharge. When used without qualification, any spilling, leaking, emitting, escaping, leaching, or disposing of a pollutant into the waters of the state. (4-11-06)

15. Disinfection. A method of reducing the pathogenic or objectionable organisms by means of chemicals or other acceptable means. (4-11-06)

16. Disposal Facility. Any facility used for disposal of any wastewater. Facilities for the disposal of sludge are regulated under Section 650 of these rules. (3-30-07)

17. Effluent. Any wastewater discharged from a treatment facility. (4-11-06)

18. Environmental Review. An environmental review document for a specific project includes a description of purpose and need for the project; a description of the affected environment and environmental impacts including, but not limited to, endangered species, historical and archaeological impacts, air impacts, surface and ground water impacts, and noise and visual impacts; a description of the planned mitigation for these impacts; and descriptions of the public process, agencies consulted, referenced documents, and a mailing list of interested parties. A checklist, which can be used as guidance, can be found at http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/permits_forms/forms/waste_water/form_j_eid_outline_checklist.doc. This is for Department grant and loan projects, but can be used in part or in whole as a guide. (3-30-07)

19. EPA. The United States Environmental Protection Agency. (4-11-06)

20. Facility Plan. The Facility Plan for a municipal wastewater treatment and disposal facility describes the overall system, including the collection system, the treatment systems, and the disposal systems. It is a comprehensive planning document for the existing infrastructure and includes the plan for the future of the systems, including upgrades and additions. It is usually updated on a regular basis due to anticipated or unanticipated growth patterns, regulatory requirements, or other infrastructure needs. A Facility Plan is sometimes referred to as a master plan or facilities planning study. In general, a Facility Plan is an overall system-wide plan as opposed to a project specific plan. (3-30-07)

- 21. Facility and Design Standards.** Facility and design standards are described in Sections 400 through 599 of these rules. Facility and design standards found in Sections 400 through 599 of these rules must be followed in the planning, design, construction, and review of municipal wastewater facilities. (3-30-07)
- 22. Geometric Mean.** The geometric mean of “n” quantities is the “nth” root of the product of the quantities. (4-11-06)
- 23. Ground Water.** Any water of the state which occurs beneath the surface of the earth in a saturated geological formation of rock or soil. (4-11-06)
- 24. Industrial Wastewater.** Any waste, together with such water as is present, that is the by-product of industrial processes including, but not limited to, food processing or food washing wastewater. (4-11-06)
- 25. Land Application.** A process or activity involving application of wastewater, surface water, or semi-liquid material to the land surface for the purpose of disposal, pollutant removal, or ground water recharge. (4-11-06)
- 26. License.** A physical document issued by the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses certifying that an individual has met the appropriate qualifications and has been granted the authority to practice in Idaho under the provisions of Chapter 24, Title 54, Idaho Code. (4-11-06)
- 27. Material Deviation.** A change from the design plans that significantly alters the type or location of facilities, requires engineering judgment to design, or impacts the public safety or welfare. (4-11-06)
- 28. Material Modification.** Material modifications are those that are intended to increase system capacity or to alter the methods or processes employed. (4-11-06)
- 29. Mixing Zone.** A defined area or volume of the receiving water surrounding or adjacent to a wastewater discharge where the receiving water, as a result of the discharge, may not meet all applicable water quality criteria or standards. It is considered a place where wastewater mixes with receiving water and not as a place where effluents are treated. (4-11-06)
- 30. Municipal Wastewater.** Unless otherwise specified, sewage and associated solids, whether treated or untreated, together with such water that is present. Also called domestic wastewater. Industrial wastewater may also be present, but is not considered part of the definition. (4-11-06)
- 31. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).** Point source permitting program established pursuant to Section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act. (4-11-06)
- 32. Natural Background Conditions.** No measurable change in the physical, chemical, biological, or radiological conditions existing in a water body without human sources of pollution within the watershed. (4-11-06)
- 33. Non-Contact Cooling Water.** Water used to reduce temperature which does not come into direct contact with any raw material, intermediate product, waste product (other than heat) or finished product. Non-contact cooling water is not considered wastewater. Non-contact cooling water can be land applied as recharge water as discussed in Section 600 based on a Department approval as described in Subsections 600.04 and 600.05. (3-30-07)
- 34. Nuisance.** Anything which is injurious to the public health or an obstruction to the free use, in the customary manner, of any waters of the state. (4-11-06)
- 35. Nutrients.** The major substances necessary for the growth and reproduction of aquatic plant life, consisting of nitrogen, phosphorus, and carbon compounds. (4-11-06)
- 36. Non-Potable Mains.** The pipelines that collect and convey non-potable discharges from or to multiple service connections. Examples would include sewage collection and interceptor mains, storm sewers, non-potable irrigation mains, and reclaimed wastewater mains. (3-30-07)

37. Non-Potable Services. The pipelines that convey non-potable discharges from individual facilities to a connection with the non-potable main. This term also refers to pipelines that convey non-potable water from a pressurized irrigation system, reclaimed wastewater system, and other non-potable systems to individual consumers. (4-11-06)

38. Operating Personnel. Any person who is employed, retained, or appointed to conduct the tasks associated with the day-to-day operation and maintenance of a public wastewater system. Operating personnel shall include every person making system control or system integrity decisions about water quantity or water quality that may affect public health. (4-11-06)

39. Owner. The person, company, corporation, district, association or other organizational entity that owns the public wastewater system, and who provides, or intends to provide, wastewater service to system users and is ultimately responsible for the public wastewater system operation. (3-30-07)

40. Person. An individual, public or private corporation, partnership, association, firm, joint stock company, joint venture, trust, estate, state, municipality, commission, political subdivision of the state, state or federal agency, department or instrumentality, special district, interstate body or any legal entity, which is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties. (4-11-06)

41. Point Source. Any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are, or may be, discharged to surface waters of the state. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture, discharges from dams and hydroelectric generating facilities or any source or activity considered a nonpoint source by definition. (4-11-06)

42. Pollutant. Dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical waste, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, silt, cellar dirt; and industrial, municipal and agricultural waste, gases entrained in water; or other materials which, when discharged to water in excessive quantities, cause or contribute to water pollution. Provided however, biological materials shall not include live or occasional dead fish that may accidentally escape into the waters of the state from aquaculture facilities. (4-11-06)

43. Potable Water. A water which is free from impurities in such amounts that it is safe for human consumption without treatment. (4-11-06)

44. Potable Mains. Pipelines that deliver potable water to multiple service connections. (3-30-07)

45. Potable Service. Pipelines that convey potable water from a connection to the potable water main across private property to individual consumers. (3-30-07)

46. Preliminary Engineering Report. The Preliminary Engineering Report for the municipal wastewater treatment or disposal facility is the report that addresses specific portions of the systems as they are being contemplated for design. These reports address specific purpose and scope, design requirements, alternative solutions, costs, operation and maintenance requirements, and other requirements as described in Section 411. Preliminary Engineering Reports are generally project specific as opposed to an overall system-wide plan, such as a Facility Plan. (3-30-07)

47. Primary Treatment. Processes or methods that serve as the first stage treatment of wastewater, intended for removal of suspended and settleable solids by gravity sedimentation; provides no changes in dissolved and colloidal matter in the sewage or wastes flow. (4-11-06)

48. Private Community Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant. A wastewater facility that treats municipal wastewater from a private community or subdivision. These systems are typically initially owned, operated, and maintained by a developer with the ownership, operation and maintenance transferring to a homeowners association, sewer district, or similar entity as lots are sold within the development. (3-30-07)

49. Public Wastewater System or Wastewater System. *For purposes of Sections 202 through 204, a*

A public wastewater system or wastewater system is any publicly or privately owned collection system or treatment system that generates, collects, ~~or treats, or disposes of~~ two thousand five hundred (2,500) or more gallons of wastewater per day. This does not include: ~~any wastewater treatment system operated and maintained exclusively by a single family residence or any wastewater system consisting solely of a gravity flow, non-mechanical septic tank and subsurface treatment and distribution system, any wastewater system with individual septic tanks and individual pump stations that discharge to a common gravity flow subsurface treatment and distribution system when ownership of each septic tank and pumping station is by individual property owner and ownership of the common system is by a public or private entity;~~ (4-1-09)T

a. ~~a~~Any animal waste system used for agricultural purposes that have been constructed in part or whole by public funds; ~~or industrial wastewater systems under private ownership.~~ (4-1-09)T

b. ~~This definition also does not include a~~Any industrial or other nonmunicipal wastewater system which is covered under Section 401 of these rules. (3-30-07)(4-1-09)T

50. Quasi-Municipal Corporation. A public entity, other than community government, created or authorized by the legislature to aid the state in, or to take charge of, some public or state work for the general welfare. For the purpose of these rules, this term refers to wastewater or sewer districts. (4-11-06)

51. Receiving Waters. Those waters which receive pollutants from point or nonpoint sources. (4-11-06)

52. Recharge. The process of adding water to the zone of saturation. (4-11-06)

53. Recharge Water. Water that is specifically utilized for the purpose of adding water to the zone of saturation. (4-11-06)

54. Redundancy. Redundancy for wastewater treatment and disposal facilities is generally focused on supplying or installing backup equipment and facilities to make the operation of the systems more reliable. These redundant systems are sometimes required to provide backup for emergencies, taking certain processes off-line, or for treating spikes in wastewater flow or strength. (3-30-07)

55. Reliability. Reliability for wastewater collection and treatment and disposal facilities is usually based on its ability to consistently handle the wastewater flows in the community and to meet the requirements of its permit. This reliability is in part based on the redundancy built into the wastewater infrastructure and proper maintenance of the system. (3-30-07)

56. Responsible Charge (RC). For purposes of Sections 202 through 204, responsible charge means, active, daily on-site and/or on-call responsibility for the performance of operations or active, on-going, on-site and/or on-call direction of employees and assistants. (4-11-06)

57. Responsible Charge Operator. For purposes of Sections 202 through 204, a responsible charge operator is an operator licensed at a class equal to or greater than the classification of the system and who has been designated by the system owner to have direct supervision of and responsibility for the performance of operations of a specified wastewater treatment system(s) or wastewater collection system(s) and the direction of personnel employed or retained at the same system. The responsible charge operator has an active daily on-site and/or on-call presence at the specified facility. (4-11-06)

58. Reuse. The use of reclaimed wastewater for beneficial uses including, but not limited to, land treatment, irrigation, ground water recharge using surface spreading, seepage ponds, or other unlined surface water features. (3-30-07)

59. Reviewing Authority. For those projects requiring preconstruction approval by the Department, the Department is the reviewing authority. For those projects allowing for preconstruction approval by others, pursuant to Subsection 400.01.b. of these rules, the qualified Idaho licensed professional engineer is also the reviewing authority. (3-30-07)

60. Sanitary Sewer Extension. As used in Section 400, an extension of an existing wastewater collection system that does not require a lift station or force main and is intended to increase the service area of the wastewater collection system. (4-11-06)

61. Secondary Treatment. Processes or methods for the supplemental treatment of wastewater, usually following primary treatment, to affect additional improvement in the quality of the treated wastes by biological means of various types which are designed to remove or modify organic matter. (4-11-06)

62. Septage. Septage is a general term for the contents removed from septic tanks, portable vault toilets, privy vaults, wastewater holding tanks, very small wastewater treatment plants, or semi-public facilities (i.e., schools, motels, mobile home parks, campgrounds, small commercial endeavors) receiving wastewater from domestic sources. Non-domestic (industrial) wastes are not included in this definition. This does not include drinking water treatment residuals that may be held in a holding tank. (3-30-07)

63. Sewage. The water-carried human or animal waste from residences, buildings, industrial establishments or other places, together with such ground water infiltration and surface water as may be present. (4-11-06)

64. Sludge. The semi-liquid mass produced and removed by the wastewater treatment process. (3-30-07)

65. Special Resource Water. Those specific segments or bodies of water which are recognized as needing intensive protection: (4-11-06)

a. To preserve outstanding or unique characteristics; or (4-11-06)

b. To maintain current beneficial use. (4-11-06)

66. State. The state of Idaho. (4-11-06)

67. Substitute Responsible Charge Operator. A public wastewater operator holding a valid license at a class equal to or greater than the public wastewater system classification, designated by the system owner to replace and to perform the duties of the responsible charge operator when the responsible charge operator is not available or accessible. (4-11-06)

68. Surface Water Body. All surface accumulations of water, natural or artificial, public or private, or parts thereof which are wholly or partially within, which flow through or border upon the state. This includes, but is not limited to, rivers, streams, canals, ditches, lakes, and ponds. It does not include private waters as defined in Section 42-212, Idaho Code. (4-11-06)

69. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The sum of the individual wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point sources, load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources, and natural background. Such load shall be established at a level necessary to implement the applicable water quality standards with seasonal variations and a margin of safety which takes into account any lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality. (3-30-07)

70. Treatment. A process or activity conducted for the purpose of removing pollutants from wastewater. (4-11-06)

71. Treatment Facility. Any physical facility or land area for the purpose of collecting, treating, neutralizing or stabilizing pollutants including treatment plants; the necessary collecting, intercepting, outfall and outlet sewers; pumping stations integral to such plants or sewers; disposal or reuse facilities; equipment and furnishing thereof; and their appurtenances. For the purpose of these rules, a treatment facility may also be known as a treatment system, a wastewater system, wastewater treatment system, wastewater treatment facility, or wastewater treatment plant. (3-30-07)

72. User. Any person served by a public wastewater system. (4-11-06)

73. Very Small Wastewater System. A public wastewater system that serves five hundred (500) connections or less and includes a collection system with a system size of six (6) points or less on the system classification rating form (Section 202) and is limited to only one (1) of the following wastewater treatment processes: (4-1-09)T

- a. Aerated lagoons:** (4-1-09)T
- b. Non-aerated lagoon(s):** (4-1-09)T
- c. Primary treatment; or** (4-1-09)T
- d. Primary treatment discharging to a large soil absorption system (LSAS).** (4-1-09)T

734. Wastewater. Unless otherwise specified, sewage, industrial waste, agricultural waste, and associated solids or combinations of these, whether treated or untreated, together with such water as is present. (4-11-06)

745. Wastewater Lagoon. Manmade impoundments for the purpose of storing or treating wastewater. (4-11-06)

756. Wastewater Pipelines. The pipelines that collect and convey non-potable discharges from or to multiple service connections. (4-11-06)

767. Wastewater Pumping Station. A wastewater facility that collects wastewater from the collection system or the treatment system and pumps it to a higher elevation. Also called lift station or wastewater lift station. (3-30-07)

778. Wastewater System Operator. The person who is employed, retained, or appointed to conduct the tasks associated with routine day to day operation and maintenance of a public wastewater treatment or collection system in order to safeguard the public health and environment. (4-11-06)

789. Water Main Extension. An extension of the distribution system of an existing public water system that does not require a booster pumping station and is intended to increase the service area of the water system. (4-11-06)

790. Water Pollution. Any alteration of the physical, thermal, chemical, biological, or radioactive properties of any waters of the state, or the discharge of any pollutant into the waters of the state, which will or is likely to create a nuisance or to render such waters harmful, detrimental or injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to fish and wildlife, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, recreational, aesthetic, or other beneficial uses. (4-11-06)

801. Waters and Waters of the State. All the accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural and artificial, public and private, or parts thereof which are wholly or partially within, which flow through or border upon the state. (4-11-06)

812. Watershed. The land area from which water flows into a stream or other body of water which drains the area. (4-11-06)

(BREAK IN CONTINUITY OF SECTIONS)

202. CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC WASTEWATER SYSTEMS.

01. Classification Requirement. All public wastewater systems shall be classified based on indicators

of potential health risks. (4-11-06)

a. Classification rating forms developed in accordance with the criteria in Subsection 202.02 must be completed by the public wastewater system owner or designee for every public wastewater treatment system and wastewater collection system no later than July 1, 2008. Public wastewater treatment and wastewater collection system owners or designee shall submit additional classification rating forms at five (5) year intervals detailing existing conditions or when directed by the Department to submit a revised classification rating form. ~~(4-11-06)~~(4-1-09)T

b. The Department shall review system classification rating forms ~~submitted by the public wastewater treatment and wastewater collection system owners at five (5) year intervals and classify the systems to reflect the condition at the time of the initial classification, or changed conditions, if any, on subsequent submittals~~ and issue the final system classification. ~~(4-11-06)~~(4-1-09)T

02. Classification Criteria. Public wastewater treatment systems and wastewater collection systems shall be classified under a system that uses the following criteria: (4-11-06)

a. Complexity, size, volume and variability in raw waste for treatment systems using guidelines established by the Department. (4-11-06)

b. Complexity or size of collection systems. (4-11-06)

c. Other criteria deemed necessary to completely classify systems. (4-11-06)

203. PUBLIC WASTEWATER SYSTEM OPERATOR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.

01. System Operator Licensure Requirement. Owners of all public wastewater systems must place the direct supervision of their wastewater system(s), including each treatment system and each collection system or each very small wastewater system, under the responsible charge of an operator who holds a valid license equal to or greater than the classification of ~~the wastewater treatment system and collection system~~ each treatment system and each collection system or each very small wastewater system. An operator in responsible charge of both a wastewater treatment system and a collection system shall hold two (2) licenses, one (1) for wastewater treatment and one (1) for collection, with the exception of a very small wastewater system for which the responsible charge operator may hold a single very small wastewater system license. Owners shall notify the Department in writing of any change of responsible charge or substitute responsible charge operator within ~~ten~~ thirty (30) days of such change. ~~(4-11-06)~~(4-1-09)T

02. Responsible Charge Operator License Requirement. An operator in responsible charge of a public wastewater system in Idaho must hold a valid license equal to or greater than the classification of the wastewater system(s), including each treatment system, ~~where present~~, and each collection system or each very small wastewater system, as determined by the Department. ~~(4-11-06)~~(4-1-09)T

03. Substitute Responsible Charge Operator. At such times as the responsible charge operator is not available, a substitute responsible charge operator shall be designated to replace the responsible charge operator. (4-11-06)

04. Wastewater System Operator Licensure. All other operating personnel at public wastewater systems, including each treatment system and each collection system or each very small wastewater system, must hold a valid license issued by the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses. ~~(4-11-06)~~(4-1-09)T

05. ~~Class A Reclaimed~~ Wastewater System Operator Licensure Exceptions. (4-1-09)T

a. Any public wastewater system operating personnel that exclusively operate a Class A Effluent Distribution System of a Class A Municipal Reclaimed Wastewater System permitted in accordance with IDAPA 58.01.17, "Rules for the Reclamation and Reuse of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater," ~~is~~ are not subject to operator ~~licensing~~ licensure requirements as outlined in these rules. ~~(3-30-07)~~(4-1-09)T

b. Any non-pressurized drainfield and associated septic tank and collection system operating personnel are not subject to operator licensure requirements. (4-1-09)T

06. General Compliance Deadline. All public wastewater systems addressed in Sections 202 and 203 shall be in compliance with these rules by April 15, 2006. (4-11-06)

07. Land Application/Reuse Operator Compliance Deadline. Each public wastewater land application/reuse system addressed in these rules shall employ, retain or contract with licensed land application/reuse operating personnel by April 15, 2007. (3-30-07)

~~**08. Qualifications for Operator Licensure.** All public wastewater system operating personnel, including responsible charge and substitute responsible charge operators, must qualify for and hold a valid license issued by the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses. (4-11-06)~~

204. CONTRACTING FOR SERVICES.

Public wastewater systems may contract with a properly licensed public wastewater system operator or with a public wastewater system having licensed operators to provide supervision operating personnel to provide responsible charge operators and substitute responsible charge operators. ~~The contracted public wastewater system operator or contracted entity shall employ and assign to that system an operator licensed at the grade equal to or greater than the classification of the system.~~ Proof of such contract shall be submitted to the Department prior to the contracted operating personnel performing any services at the public wastewater system. (4-11-06)(4-1-09)T