

Washington On-Site Rule Revision Committee (ORRC)  
ORRC Meeting # 2  
Meeting Summary - September 13, 2018



**Committee Members in Attendance:**

**Betsy Howe**, Citizens Groups, **Bill Dewey**, Shellfish Industry, **Bruce Wishart**, Environmental Groups, **Chuck Ahrens**, Alternate Member, WA On-Site Sewage Association, **Doug McMurtrie**, Tulalip Tribe, **Jake Lowe**, Alternate WA OSS Technology Manufacturers, **Jeanette McKague**, Alternate Member, WA Realtors, **Jerry Stonebridge**, Alternate Member, OSS Designers, **Jim Bell**, National OSS Technology Manufacturers, **John Kiess**, LHJ-Western WA County, **Jon Ness**, Alternate Member, LHJ – Eastern WA County, **Jon Sherve**, LHJ – Eastern WA County, **Josh Gunia**, OSS Installers, **JR Inman**, OSS Service Providers, **Laurie Morgan**, WA Department of Ecology, **Mike Moren**, Alternate Member, OSS Design Engineers, **Rob Drexler**, WA Realtors, **Stuart Whifford**, LHJ, Western WA County, **Warren Iverson**, Alternate Member, Property Rights Groups

**Others in attendance:**

**Amy Cruver**, Pierce County, **Anna McLaughlin**, Citizens Group, **Jade Hudek**, WA Department of Health, **Jeremy Simmons**, WA Department of Health, **Leslie Turner**, WA Department of Health, **Lisette Anson**, Note taker, WA Department of Health, **Michelle Davis**, WA State Board of Health, **Mike Dixel**, Facilitator, WA Department of Health, **Stuart Glasoe**, WA State Board of Health, **Todd Phillips**, WA Department of Health

**Committee Members not in attendance:**

**Terry Hull**, On-Site Financing or alternate and **Jeff Parsons**, Puget Sound Partnership or alternate

**Welcome/Introductions**

The meeting began at 9:10 am. The facilitator reviewed the agenda and ground rules. Introductions were made around the room and over the phone. Order of the topics were discussed. Materials that were available to each attendee in a folder were introduced: issue papers and timeline of issue papers for future subcommittee meetings. Meeting materials were introduced: the parking lot and process improvement board.

**On-Site Sewage System (OSS) Setback to Stormwater Treatment Systems**

Department of Health (DOH) introduced the recommendation from the technical subcommittee regarding OSS setbacks to stormwater treatment systems. A stormwater expert from the Department of Ecology provided some insight/background to the committee and proposed that the OSS rule refer to the Department of Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for consistency.

There was a brief discussion of this proposal. DOH then introduced a counter-proposal that was based on the recommendation from the technical subcommittee but changed the setback to down-gradient subsurface stormwater infiltration or dispersion components from 10ft to 30ft, and changed the setback to up-gradient subsurface stormwater infiltration or dispersion components from 30ft to 100ft. The committee was asked if they prefer to hold a vote on either the technical subcommittee's original recommendation or DOH's counter-proposal. The committee decided they prefer the original recommendation from the technical subcommittee. The committee then voted on the recommendation. The technical subcommittee's original recommendation was passed by a majority vote. Following this vote there was a brief discussion about ensuring that it was clear that in the case of conflicts between Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual and the OSS rule that the OSS rule is given precedence. The committee opted to have DOH develop language in this regard rather than working on the language in the meeting. The committee voted to include rule language that the revised OSS rule "trumps" Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual in application.

### **Property Transfer Inspections (Time of Sale Inspections)**

The committee then discussed the Property Transfer Inspections issue. The recommendation from the policy subcommittee was presented to the committee. The recommendation was to require property transfer inspections statewide. The committee discussed the pros and cons of the recommendation. With a 70% majority vote, the committee voted to approve and forward the recommendation from the policy subcommittee.

### **Minimum Septic Tank Size**

Minimum Septic Tank Size was the next topic discussed. The recommendation coming from the technical subcommittee was to increase minimum tank sizing from 900 gallons to 1000 gallons. With a unanimous vote, the ORRC recommended to approve the recommendation as presented.

### **Add Pump Chamber Sizing to On-Site Rule**

The recommendation from the technical subcommittee to Add Pump Chamber Sizing to rule was presented to the committee next. The recommendation was to add a requirement that pump chambers are a minimum of 1000 gallons and to add a definition of pump chamber and a definition of pump basin. During the committee's discussion a slight change was made to the definition of pump basin. The ORRC unanimously voted to approve the amended recommendation.

### **Increase Septic Tank Sizing When Low-Flow Fixtures Are Used**

The committee then reviewed the recommendation from the technical subcommittee regarding an increase in septic tank sizing when low-flow fixtures are used. The recommendation was to not make any changes to the current rule as low-flow fixtures are not an issue to the size of the tank. Unanimously, the ORRC agreed.

### **Connection to Sewer WAC 246-272A-0025**

The last recommendation, regarding Connection to Sewer, was then presented to the ORRC as developed by the policy subcommittee. During discussions, there were language changes made to the recommendation for consistency. The ORRC unanimously voted to approve the amended recommendation.

Before leaving, DOH discussed the workplan for addressing issues for upcoming subcommittee meetings and upcoming ORRC meetings. The ORRC requested that should any additional changes to agenda or topics come up, that it be communicated to ORRC in advance. The meeting concluded at 2:40 p.m.

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Next ORRC Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 8, 2018** at Department of Health in Kent.