


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION

EHS Circular Letter #2007-60

Date: December 19, 2007

To: Directors of Health, Chief Sanitarians & Design Engineers

From:  Robert W. Scully, PE
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Environmental Engineering Program

Subject: Design Flows for Group Homes/Community Living Arrangements

The January 1, 2007 Technical Standards for Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems includes a stipulation in Table No. 4, which requires, in absence of metered water usage documentation, that design flows for group homes/community living arrangements be determined based on maximum occupancy unless the facility's state license restricts occupants and requires local health department approval, in accordance with Public Health Code (PHC) Section 19-13-B100a, for increased occupancy.

This Department has reached agreement with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), previously known as Department of Mental Retardation (DMR), on provisions in the DDS application process that will insure occupancy increases are pre-approved by the Local Director of Health. DDS has agreed to modify their application for community living arrangements (CLAs) and has agreed not to license new or expanded CLAs without local health approval. The following language is included in DDS's new community living arrangement licensure application:

In accordance with Connecticut Public Health Code regulation Section 19-13-B100a, approval from the Local Director of Health must be obtained for all new and expanded Community Living Arrangements served by an onsite sewage disposal system. Along with this application the provider must provide documentation from the Local Health Department confirming compliance with the regulation. Applications will not be processed without such documentation.

A copy of the complete application is attached for your information. As a result of the new DDS licensure protocol for CLAs, design flows can now be calculated based on licensed occupancy rather than maximum possible occupancy. Please note that this allowance only applies to DDS regulated CLAs. Design Flows for all other group homes and community living arrangements regulated by other agencies are required, in the absence of metered flow documentation, to be determined based on maximum possible occupancy.

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Enclosure



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