

STATE OF GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

GENERAL LAND APPLICATION SYSTEM PERMIT
FOR LARGE COMMUNITY SYSTEMS

GENERAL PERMIT NO. GAG278000

In accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Water Quality Control Act (Georgia Laws 1964, p. 416, as amended), and the Rules and Regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, this permit is issued for the discharge of sanitary wastes from any large community system with a monthly average design flow of 10,000 to 150,000 gallons per day, located within the State of Georgia to a preapplication treatment system and then to a subsurface fluid distribution system.

Owners of existing and proposed large community systems may, on submittal of a notice of intent to discharge sanitary wastes to a preapplication treatment system and subsurface fluid distribution system, and after acknowledgement by the Environmental Protection Division of coverage under this permit, discharge sanitary wastes to such systems in accordance with the preapplication treatment system effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in this permit.

This permit is conditioned upon the permittee complying with the preapplication treatment system effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in the permit, with the statements and supporting data submitted with the Notice of Intent and filed with the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources and with any requirements specified in the Notice of Intent acceptance letter.

This permit shall expire at midnight, February 16, 2020.

This permit shall become effective on February 17, 2015.

Issued this 17th day of February 2015.





Director,
Environmental Protection Division

PART I.

A. CONDITIONS

1. **DEFINITIONS:** All terms used in this permit shall be interpreted in accordance with the definitions contained in the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control.

Class V septic system: A septic system that handles sanitary and/or other wastes and has the capacity to serve 20 or more persons a day. For the purposes of this permit, a person means a full-time resident.

Class V well: For the purposes of this permit, a Class V well means a well used to distribute fluids below the surface of the ground from a community system and/or Class V septic system.

Community System: Any system that treats sanitary wastes (other than those serving single family residences (SRF) or non-domestic sewage systems) and has a design flow greater than 2,000 gallons per day. Examples include subdivisions, mobile home parks, shopping centers, schools, towns, etc., and Class V septic systems, but exclude industrial facilities unless the only wastes discharged are sanitary wastes.

Design Flow: For new facilities, means the design flow accepted by EPD in the NOI. For existing facilities, means the flow for which the system was designed at the time of construction or if unavailable, is based on EPD's guidelines for the type of facilities presently served by the existing system.

Director: The Director of the EPD.

Division: The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of the Department of Natural Resources.

Domestic Wastes: For the purpose of this permit, means the same as sanitary wastes.

EPD: The Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

Existing Facility: Any community system that was in operation or under construction or design at the time of issuance of this permit.

Injection Well: A well into which fluids are being, or intended to be, injected.

Land Application System: Any method of disposing of pollutants in which the pollutants are applied to the surface or beneath the surface of a parcel of land and which results in the pollutants percolating, infiltrating, or being absorbed into the soil and then into the waters of the state.

Large Community System: Any system that treats sanitary wastes (other than those serving single family residences (SFR) or non-domestic sewage systems) and has a design flow greater than 10,000 gallons per day and no greater than 150,000 gallons per day. Examples include subdivisions, mobile home parks, shopping centers, schools, towns, etc., and Class V septic systems, but exclude industrial facilities unless the only wastes discharged are sanitary wastes.

Monthly Average: the arithmetic mean of values for samples collected during a calendar month.

New System: Any system for which design and/or construction had not begun prior to the date of issuance of this permit.

Non-Domestic Septic Systems: An on-site sewage management system consisting of a preapplication treatment system and a subsurface fluid distribution system which accepts wastes other than sanitary wastes. Examples include, but are not limited to, systems for industrial process wastewater, photo laboratories, carwashes, etc.

Notice of Intent (NOI): A form used by an applicant to notify the EPD that they intend to seek coverage under a general permit.

Notice of Termination (NOT): A form used by a permittee to notify the EPD that they wish to cease coverage under a general permit.

Permittee: The owner of a large community system that has submitted a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under this general permit and for which the EPD has authorized coverage under this permit.

Person: For the purpose of this permit, a person means a full-time resident.

Point of Injection: The last accessible sampling point prior to waste fluids being released into the subsurface environment through an injection well. For example, the point of injection for a Class V septic system might be the distribution box.

Preapplication Treatment System: The wastewater treatment system which treats the high strength wastewater prior to the subsurface fluid distribution system. Examples include septic tanks, aerobic treatment systems, or any other system which has been approved by the Division.

Replacement Area: An area that is set aside for installation of another subsurface fluid disposal system should the initial system fail to perform as designed.

Sanitary wastes: The liquid or solid wastes originating solely from humans and human activities, such as wastes collected from toilets, showers, wash basins, sinks used for cleaning domestic areas, sinks used for food preparation, clothes washing operations, and sinks or washing machines where food and beverage serving dishes, glasses, and utensils are cleaned. Sources of sanitary wastes may include single or multiple family residences, hotels and motels, restaurants, schools, campgrounds, and commercial and industrial facilities provided the waste is not mixed with industrial waste. Sanitary wastes and domestic waste mean the same for the purpose of this permit.

Septage: The liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or a similar system that receives only domestic sewage. Domestic septage does not include liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank or similar treatment works that receives either commercial wastewater or industrial wastewater. Domestic septage does not include grease removed from a grease trap.

Septic System: A well or subsurface fluid distribution system that is used to emplace sanitary wastes below the surface and is typically comprised of a preapplication treatment system and subsurface fluid distribution system or disposal system.

Septic Tank: A watertight tank designed or used to receive sewage and to affect separation and organic decomposition of sewage solids and which discharges effluent to a subsurface disposal system.

Sewage Sludge: The liquid or solid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a preapplication treatment system.

Small Community System: Any system that treats sanitary wastes (other than those serving single family residences (SFR) or non-domestic sewage systems) and has a design flow greater than or equal to 2000 gallons per day and less than or equal to 10,000 gallons per day. Examples include subdivisions, mobile home parks, shopping centers, schools, etc., and Class V septic systems, but exclude industrial facilities unless the only wastes discharged are sanitary wastes.

State Act: The Georgia Water Quality Control Act (Official Code of Georgia Annotated; Title 12, Chapter 5, Article 2).

State Rules: The State Rules refers to the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control.

Subsurface Disposal System: Any system where the pretreated wastewater is injected into a system beneath the soil surface at a rate where it will be absorbed by the soil and will prevent saturation of the soil.

Subsurface Fluid Distribution System: An assemblage of perforated pipes, drain tiles, emitter systems, chamber systems, or similar mechanisms intended to distribute fluids below the surface of the ground.

Subsurface Land Application System: Any system where the pretreated wastewater is injected beneath the surface of a parcel of land and which results in the pollutants percolating, infiltrating, or being absorbed into the soil and then into the waters of the state.

Well: A well for the purposes of this permit means a subsurface fluid distribution system.

2. MONITORING

- a. A primary flow measuring device(s) shall be installed in accordance with generally accepted engineering design. Secondary flow measurement devices are required which will measure and record the volume of flow distributed to the subsurface fluid distribution system(s) on a daily basis. Calibration of the secondary flow measuring devices must be maintained to $\pm 10\%$ of actual flows. Qualified personnel must calibrate the flow measurement device annually and records of the calibrations must be maintained. If secondary flow instruments malfunction or fail to maintain calibration as required, the flow shall be computed from either manual measurements or by other method(s) approved by EPD until such time as the secondary flow instrument is repaired.

- b. For facilities which utilize alternate technologies for measuring flow, the flow measurement device must be calibrated semi-annually by qualified personnel and records of the calibration checks shall be maintained.
- c. Unless otherwise specified in the permit, quarterly analyses as required in I.B. shall be performed during each quarter and submitted in March, June, September, and December. Results of analyses required twice per year will be submitted in June and December. Results of analyses required annually will be submitted in June.
- d. Parameters shall be reported as "not detected" when they are below the detection limit and will then be considered in compliance with the effluent limit. The detection limit shall also be reported.
- e. Analytical methods, sample containers, sample preservation techniques, and sample holding times must be consistent with the techniques and procedures listed in 40 CFR Part 136 for monitoring the waste stream. The analytical method used shall be sufficiently sensitive.
- f. Samples and measurements of the monitored waste shall represent the volume and nature of the waste stream. The permittee shall maintain a written sampling and monitoring schedule.
- g. For each required parameter analyzed, the permittee shall record:
 - i. The exact place, date, and time of sampling, and the person(s) collecting the samples;
 - ii. The dates and times the analyses were performed;
 - iii. The person(s) who performed the analyses;
 - iv. The analytical procedures or methods used; and
 - v. The results of all required analyses.
- h. If the permittee monitors required parameters at the locations designated in this permit more frequently than required, the permittee shall analyze all samples using approved analytical methods. The results of this additional monitoring shall be included in calculating and reporting the values on the Discharge Monitoring Report forms. The permittee shall indicate the monitoring frequency on the report.

3. SEPTAGE DISPOSAL AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements apply to preapplication treatment systems that include a septic tank system:

- a. The permittee shall develop and implement procedures to ensure adequate septage disposal.
- b. The permittee shall maintain a written septage pumping plan and schedule for disposal of septage.
- c. Records shall be maintained which document the volume of septage removed from the septic tanks.

4. SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSAL AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements apply to preapplication treatment systems that include an aerobic treatment system:

Sewage sludge shall be disposed of according to the regulations and guidelines established by EPD and the Federal Act section 405(d) and (e), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). In land applying nonhazardous municipal sewage sludge, the permittee shall comply with the general criteria outlined in the most current version of the EPD "Guidelines for Land Application of Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) at Agronomic Rates" and with the State Rules, Chapter 391-3-6-.17. Before disposing of municipal sewage sludge by land application or any method other than co-disposal in a permitted sanitary landfill, the permittee shall submit a sewage sludge management plan to EPD for written approval. This plan will become a part of the permit after approval and modification of the permit. The permittee shall notify EPD of any changes planned in an approved sewage sludge management plan. If an applicable management practice or numerical limitation for pollutants in sewage sludge is promulgated under Section 405(d) of the Federal Act after approval of the plan, then the plan shall be modified to conform with the new regulations.

The permittee shall develop and implement procedures to ensure adequate year-round sewage sludge disposal. The permittee shall monitor and maintain records documenting the quantity of sewage sludge removed from the facility. The total quantity of sewage sludge removed from the facility during the reporting period shall be reported each month with the Discharge Monitoring Reports as required under Part I.A.7. of this permit. The quantity shall be reported on a dry weight basis (dry tons).

Preapplication treatment systems that remove sewage sludge on a less than monthly frequency are required to report the total quantity of sewage sludge removed from the facility only during the months that sludge is removed.

5. OIL AND GREASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The permittee must develop and maintain a written program for regular pumping of grease traps serving all food preparation establishments connected to the system. Records of the pumping, including the person performing the pumping and the location of final disposal of the removed material, must be maintained on file with the Discharge Monitoring Report Forms for a minimum of five years.

6. ELIGIBILITY AND PERMIT COVERAGE AREA

- a. This permit may regulate all new and existing discharges of sanitary wastes from large community systems to subsurface fluid distribution systems within the State of Georgia.
- b. Limitations on coverage: This permit does not authorize the following discharges:
 - i. Discharges associated with non-domestic septic systems (NDSS);
 - ii. Discharges that are covered by an individual LAS permit;

- iii. Single-family residences that are served by their individual subsurface disposal system;
- iv. Discharges from small community systems to a subsurface disposal system;
- v. Discharges of sanitary wastes from community systems to subsurface disposal systems that are designed for flows greater than 150,000 gpd (0.15 MGD).

7. AUTHORIZATION

- a. Large community systems discharging or proposing to discharge sanitary wastes to subsurface land application systems must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) in accordance with this permit to be authorized under this general permit. Such Notice of Intent shall be on forms as may be prescribed and furnished by EPD.
- b. EPD shall review the NOI and supporting information upon submittal. Coverage under this permit shall be effective only after this review and written confirmation from EPD.
- c. EPD may deny coverage under this permit and require submittal of an application for an individual land application system permit after review of the NOI. EPD may deny coverage based on an incomplete or incorrect NOI submittal, past noncompliance by the applicant at similar facilities, or other factors.
- d. Notice of Intent Forms shall be submitted to the Wastewater Regulatory Program. The address for submittal of the form (and for obtaining the form) is:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Wastewater Regulatory Program
2 MLK Jr. Dr., Suite 1152E
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

8. APPLICATION AREA AND LOADING RATES

- a. The hydraulic wastewater loading to the infiltrative area shall not exceed 2.8 inches per week (inches/week) unless:
 - i. adequate documentation is provided in the written hydrogeologic determination that the soils are capable of absorbing the planned higher loading rate (as required by the Engineering Submittal Form); and
 - ii. an undisturbed replacement area has been set aside which is sufficient to install a replacement area for the planned loading rate.
- b. The area of the subsurface land application system (and replacement area if applicable) shall consist of the number of acres identified in the Notice of Intent.

- c. Use of an underdrain system within the subsurface application system to lower the groundwater table will require coverage under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by EPD.

9. REPORTING AND RECORDS

- a. Required analytical results obtained by the permittee shall be summarized on a Discharge Monitoring Report form. The Discharge Monitoring Report Forms shall be completed each month with the summarized monitoring results, signed in accordance with the State Rule 391-3-6-.11 (5) e., and shall be maintained on file at the preapplication treatment system, unless otherwise notified in writing by EPD. EPD may require the permittee to provide additional monitoring results by written notification.
- b. The monthly report shall also include a record of the time spent on site by the operator and a summary of solids removed from the preapplication treatment system.
- c. All reports or information generated in compliance with this permit must be signed in accordance with the State Rule 391-3-6-.11 (5) e.
- d. The permittee shall retain records of:
 - i. All laboratory analyses performed including sample data, quality control data, and standard curves;
 - ii. Calibration and maintenance records of laboratory instruments;
 - iii. Calibration and maintenance records and recordings from continuous recording instruments;
 - iv. Process control monitoring records;
 - v. Facility operation and maintenance records;
 - vi. Copies of all reports required by this permit;
 - vii. All data and information used to complete the NOI;
 - viii. Pumping of any grease traps serving food preparation establishments (or other connections with high concentrations of oil and grease) that are connected to this system; and
 - ix. All monitoring data related to sludge use and disposal.
- e. The permittee shall submit a copy of the previous three (3) monthly reports quarterly in March, June, September, and December, to EPD.
- f. All records shall be kept for at least five years unless extended by EPD written notification.

10. ELIMINATION OF DISCHARGE

Operation of this facility will cease and the discharge will be eliminated by connection to an appropriate municipal water pollution control plant sewer system within three months of reasonable availability of the connection.

11. EXPANSION OF SYSTEM

The permittee shall not allow any new connections to the facility beyond that capacity identified in the Notice of Intent without written approval from EPD.

B.1. PREAPPLICATION TREATMENT SYSTEM MONITORING

The preapplication treatment system shall be monitored by the permittee for the parameters and at the frequency listed below, unless waived by EPD ^a

Parameter *	Monthly Average in mg/L, Unless Otherwise Specified	Monitoring Requirements		
		Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location ^b
Flow, gallons per day	Report ^c	Daily	Continuous	Effluent
Biochemical Oxygen ^d Demand (5 Day)	30 (45)	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Total Suspended Solids ^d	30 (45)	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent

Parameter	Discharge Limitations mg/L unless otherwise specified	Monitoring Requirements		
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type	Sample Location
pH, (Standard Unit)	Report	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Oil and Grease	25	One Day/Month	Grab	Effluent
Ammonia (as N)	Report	Annual	Grab	Effluent

(Footnotes continued on the next page)

- * All parameters shall be monitored and reported on the Discharge Monitoring Reports.
- a For existing large community systems that do not have a point of injection, EPD may waive the requirement for effluent flow measurement and sampling. Any such waiver will occur at the time of acceptance of the NOI, and will be limited only to the existing large community system. Any expansion or upgrade will require the permittee to install a point of injection for flow measurement and sample collection.
- b For the purposes of sample collection, the effluent sample point is defined as the point of injection.
- c The maximum design value for the permittee shall be stipulated in the NOI, and the monthly average shall not exceed the maximum design value stipulated in the NOI. The maximum value that can be covered under this permit is 150,000 gpd or 0.15 MGD.
- d Effluent concentrations for BOD and Suspended Solids for preapplication treatment systems that consist of passive septic tank(s) systems shall be sampled, analyzed, and reported.

B.2. SOIL MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Representative samples shall be collected from each major soil series present within the land application system. The samples shall be analyzed in accordance with the latest edition of Methods of Soil Analysis (published by the American Society of Agronomy, Madison, Wisconsin) or other methods approved by EPD. The soil samples shall be analyzed for the parameters and at the frequency listed below:

Parameter	Measurement Frequency
pH, standard units	One Day/Year
Cation Exchange Capacity	If pH changes by one unit
Percent Base Saturation	If pH changes by one unit

The permittee may be required, upon written notification by EPD, to sample for additional parameters. These parameters may include heavy metals and organic compounds.

B.3. GROUNDWATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Groundwater leaving the land application system boundaries must not exceed maximum contaminant levels for drinking water. The groundwater from each groundwater monitoring well (identified in the operations manual or NOI) must be monitored by the permittee for the parameters and at the frequency below:

Parameter	Measurement Frequency
Depth to Groundwater	One Day/Six Months
pH, standard units	One Day/Six Months
Electrical Conductivity	One Day/Six Months
Nitrate-Nitrogen	One Day/Six Months
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	One Day/Six Months

The permittee may be required, upon written notification by EPD, to sample for additional parameters. These parameters may include heavy metals and organic compounds.

PART II.

A. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. FACILITY OPERATION

- a. The permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible all treatment or control facilities (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.
- b. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures.
- c. Proper operation of the land application system also includes the best management practice of establishing and maintaining a vegetative cover on the land application site.

2. NONCOMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION

- a. If, for any reason the permittee does not comply with, or will be unable to comply with any effluent limitations specified in the permit, the permittee shall provide EPD with an oral report within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances followed by a written report within five (5) days of becoming aware of such condition. The written submission shall contain the following information:
 - i. A description of the noncompliance and its cause;
 - ii. The period of noncompliance, including the exact date and times; or, if not corrected, the anticipated time the noncompliance is expected to continue; and
 - iii. The steps taken to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the non-complying discharge.
- b. If, for any reason the permittee anticipates a noncompliance event, the permittee shall give written notice to the EPD at least 10 days before:
 - i. Any planned changes in the permitted facility; or
 - ii. Any activity that may result in noncompliance with the permit.
- c. The permittee must report all instances of noncompliance not reported under other specific reporting requirements, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information required under conditions of twenty-four hour reporting.

3. OPERATOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall ensure that:

- a. The operator in responsible charge of the daily operation of this Land Application System is, at a minimum, a Class III Certified Operator in accordance with the Georgia Certification of Water and Wastewater Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts Act, as amended, and specified by State Rule 391-3-6-.12.
- b. The operator in responsible charge is physically on site for a minimum of 2 hours per month. Records must be maintained at the preapplication treatment system to document the time spent on site by the operator and to document all operation and maintenance activities are conducted in accordance with Part I.A.7 of this permit.

4. LABORATORY ANALYST CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall ensure that all persons performing the laboratory analyses for this wastewater treatment plant are Certified Wastewater Laboratory Analysts unless such analyses is performed in a commercial environmental laboratory that is approved by EPD under the Rules for Commercial Environmental Laboratories, Chapter 391-3-26.

5. POWER FAILURES

If the primary source of power to this facility is reduced or lost, the permittee shall use an alternative source of power to reduce or control all discharges to maintain permit compliance.

6. ADVERSE IMPACT

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge disposal that might adversely affect human health or the environment.

7. GROUNDWATER AND MONITORING WELL REQUIREMENTS

- a. Groundwater leaving the land application system boundaries must not exceed maximum contaminant levels for drinking water.
- b. If groundwater samples indicate contamination, the permittee shall develop a plan that will ensure that the primary maximum contaminant levels for drinking water are not exceeded.
- c. The plan will be implemented by the permittee immediately upon EPD's approval.

- d. The permittee, upon written notification by EPD, may be required to install groundwater monitoring wells at an existing land application system. This requirement may apply if monitoring wells were not included in the original design of the facility and also, if EPD determines the existing groundwater monitoring wells are not adequate.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. COMPLIANCE

- a. The permittee must comply with this permit. Any permit noncompliance is a violation of the State Act, and the State Rules, and is grounds for:
 - i. Enforcement action;
 - ii. Permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or
 - iii. Denial of coverage under this permit.
- b. It shall not be a defense of the permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

2. RIGHT OF ENTRY

The permittee shall allow the Director of the EPD, the Regional Administrator of EPA, and any authorized representatives, agents, or employees after they present credentials to:

- a. Enter the permittee's premises where a regulated activity or facility is located, or where any records required by this permit are kept;
- b. Review and copy any records required by this permit;
- c. Inspect any facilities, equipment, practices, or operations regulated or required by this permit; and
- d. Sample any substance or parameter at any location.

3. SUBMITTAL OF INFORMATION

The permittee shall furnish to EPD, within a reasonable time frame, any information which EPD may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee shall also furnish to EPD upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit. When the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to EPD, the permittee shall promptly submit such facts or information.

4. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OR CONTROL

Permit coverage may be transferred to another person by a permittee if:

- a. The permittee notifies the Director in writing of the proposed transfer;
- b. A written agreement containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility and coverage between the current and new permittee (including acknowledgment that the existing permittee is liable for violations up to that date, and that the new permittee is liable for violations from that date on) and an NOI from the new permittee are submitted to the Director at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer; and
- c. The Director, within thirty (30) days, does not notify the current permittee and the new permittee of EPD's intent to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate the permit and to require that a new application be filed rather than agreeing to the transfer of the permit.

5. PERMIT MODIFICATION

This permit may be modified, terminated, or revoked and reissued in whole or in part during its term for causes including, but not limited to:

- a. Permit violations;
- b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or by failure to disclose all relevant facts;
- c. Changing any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge; and
- d. Changes in effluent characteristics.

The filing of a request by the permittee for permit modification, termination, revocation and reissuance, or notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not negate any permit condition.

6. PENALTIES

- a. The State Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit, makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine or by imprisonment, or by both. The State Act also provides procedures for imposing civil penalties which may be levied for violations of the Act, any permit condition or limitation established pursuant to the Act, or negligently or intentionally failing or refusing to comply with any final or emergency order of the Director of EPD.

- b. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance.

7. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITIES

The permittee is liable for civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance with this permit and must comply with applicable State laws including promulgated water quality standards. The permit cannot be interpreted to relieve the permittee of this liability even if it has not been modified to incorporate new requirements.

8. EXPIRATION OF PERMIT

The permittee shall not operate the system after the expiration date unless, the permittee has submitted such information and NOI forms as required by EPD at least 180 days prior to the expiration date.

9. CONTESTED HEARINGS

Any person aggrieved or adversely affected by any action of the Director of the EPD shall petition the Director for a hearing within 30 days of notice of the action.

10. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this permit are severable. If any permit provision or the application of any permit provision to any circumstance is held invalid, the provision does not affect other circumstances or the remainder of this permit.

11. NEW SYSTEMS

Prior to start-up of a new system:

- a. The professional engineer responsible for the system design must certify that the system has been constructed according to the design plans and specifications.
- b. The professional engineer responsible for the system design must certify that an operations manual has been developed. This operations manual will be considered a part of the permit requirements and will be enforceable under this general permit for the owner/operator covered by the NOI. The operations manual must be retained on site.
- c. Final authorization to begin operation of the system must be received in writing from EPD.

PART III. NOTICE OF INTENT REQUIREMENTS

A. DEADLINES FOR NOTIFICATION

1. Owners of an existing large community system must obtain coverage for an existing discharge of sanitary wastes to a subsurface disposal system under this general permit by submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) upon notification by EPD.
2. Owners of a new large community system who intend to obtain coverage for a proposed discharge of sanitary wastes to a subsurface disposal system under this general permit shall submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) and receive coverage under this permit prior to construction of the new system.
3. Construction of a new large community system will be considered a violation of this permit, the State Rules, and the Water Quality Control Act; unless an NOI has been submitted to EPD and EPD has included coverage of the system under this general permit; or unless the system is covered under an individual permit.
4. When ownership of a large community system which is covered by this general permit changes, the new owner must submit a new NOI to EPD in accordance with the requirements of this permit at least thirty (30) days prior to the change of ownership. Failure to submit the new NOI may be considered an intentional violation of this permit. The EPD may decline to allow continued coverage under this general permit and may require coverage by another permit.
5. Prior to any proposed change in use of a large community system that is covered by this general permit, such as from a warehouse to a wet industrial process, which would result in a change in volume or character of pollutants, the permittee must comply with Part IV of this permit.
6. An owner of a large community system that is operating without coverage under this permit is not precluded from submitting an NOI in accordance with the requirements of this permit after the deadlines provided in this section. In any such instance, EPD may bring an enforcement action for failure to submit the NOI in a timely manner or for any unauthorized discharges of sanitary wastes to a subsurface disposal system associated with the large community system that have occurred after the deadlines provided in this section.

B. THE CONTENTS OF NOTICE OF INTENTS (NOIs) FOR NEW LARGE COMMUNITY SYSTEMS SHALL INCLUDE:

1. The name, mailing address, contact person, phone numbers, county, and location of the facility for which the notification is submitted. The location address shall also include the latitude and longitude coordinates of the facility.
2. The estimated volume of treated sanitary wastes that will be injected in the subsurface fluid distribution system on an average daily and peak daily basis, and the method of sewage sludge handling and disposal.
3. Information shall be provided on the estimated strength of influent and effluent pH, BOD, TSS, oil and grease, and ammonia nitrogen. Upon request from EPD, information shall be provided on the estimated strength of other relevant wastewater constituents or pollutants that may be of concern to EPD.
4. A certification that an operations manual will be developed for the large community system that meets the requirements of the EPD guidelines and will be retained at the facility.
5. Non-governmental entities shall submit a copy of a continuous maintenance and operation agreement, a copy of a trust indenture with a local government or some other form of perpetual ownership acceptable to EPD, and a copy of a sewer use agreement that will regulate the introduction of wastes other than sanitary wastes. On a case-by-case basis, EPD may waive submittal of the sewer use agreement.
6. A copy of the Large Community Subsurface System Engineering Submittal for the new system.
7. Any additional information that may be required by EPD's NOI form.

C. THE CONTENTS OF NOTICE OF INTENTS (NOIs) FOR EXISTING LARGE COMMUNITY SYSTEMS SHALL INCLUDE:

1. The name, mailing address, contact person, phone numbers, county, and location of the facility for which the notification is submitted. The location address shall also include the latitude and longitude of the facility.
2. The design and present estimated volume of treated sanitary wastes that will be injected in the subsurface fluid distribution system on an average daily and peak daily basis, and the method of sewage sludge handling and disposal.
3. Information shall be provided on the present strength of influent pH, BOD, TSS, oil and grease, and ammonia nitrogen. If this information is not available, the information in Part III.B.3. of the permit must be submitted.
4. Non-governmental entities shall submit a copy of a continuous maintenance and operation agreement, a copy of a trust indenture with a local government or some other form of perpetual ownership acceptable to EPD, and a copy of a sewer use agreement that will regulate the introduction of wastes other than sanitary wastes. On a case-by-case basis, EPD may waive submittal of the sewer use agreement.
5. A copy of the construction permit (or other vehicle) for the existing large community system, showing the location of the existing large community system and the set-aside area for replacement. If such construction permit is not available, then the owner may submit a site plan showing the location of the preapplication treatment system, the subsurface fluid distribution system, the point of application, and the replacement area.
6. A certification that an operations manual is available for the large community system that meets the requirements of the EPD guidelines.
7. Any additional information that may be required by EPD's NOI form.

D. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. EPD will publish the required notice of a public comment period for those existing facilities that submitted an NOI to EPD before EPD publishes notice of this general permit.
2. New or Expanding Facilities must publish notice of a public comment period for a new or expanding system prior to receiving coverage under this general permit.

PART IV.

INTRODUCTION OF POLLUTANTS INTO THE TREATMENT WORKS

1. The permittee must notify EPD and obtain approval from EPD of:
 - a. Any introduction of pollutants into the treatment works or sewerage system from an indirect discharger that does not result from normal domestic activities;
 - b. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants from a source that existed when the permittee obtained coverage under this permit; and
 - c. Any industrial users connected to the system or proposing to connect to the system from the date of coverage of this permit.
2. This notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of the indirect discharge introduced and any anticipated impact on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the treatment works.
3. Upon a determination by EPD that the permittee meets the definition of a non-domestic septic system, EPD may notify the permittee of the intent to withdraw coverage under this general permit and require coverage under another general permit or an individual permit.