The State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

To: All Interested Parties

From: Robert A. Tardif, P.E., Administrator
Subsurface Systems Bureau

Date: April 21, 2011

Re: Newly Adopted Subsurface System Bureau Rules

Effective April 16, 2011 revisions to the Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal System Design Rules (Rules) were adopted. Please visit: http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#aquality to view those sections of the Rules that have been changed.

Included in the changes are amendments to Env-Wq 1003.10, now titled Replacement of Existing Residential ISDS. (formerly Repair or Replacement of Existing Residential ISDS.).
These revisions supercede and replace previous requirements for the repair or replacement of existing ISDSs from the 2008 rules.

Specifically, for circumstances where an Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) that serves a residence needs to be repaired or replaced, the ISDS owner must now submit a complete application for review and approval to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) prepared by either a permitted designer or the residential ISDS homeowner. The purpose of this procedure is to better ensure that systems that are repaired or replaced are designed and installed in accordance with New Hampshire standards to minimize the possibility of future failure.

In order to ensure a smooth transition to the new rules, valid, binding contracts with permitted designers or installers signed prior to January 14, 2011 (the date of the initial proposal for these rule revisions) for work to repair or replace an ISDS in accordance with the previous 2008 Rules will be allowed under the new rule revision. All work performed resulting from those contracts must be completed prior to June 1, 2011. After June 1, 2011, all ISDS construction activities must be performed in accordance with a design approved by the department in accordance with the April 16, 2011 rules revisions.

Please contact the Subsurface Systems Bureau at 603-271-3501 if you require further information.

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