



Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Local Agency Management Program Public Review and Comment Period

Introduction

California law (Health & Safety Code, §§ 116275; 116500) provides that a county health officer or a comprehensive environmental agency is responsible for permitting the installation of and regulating OWTS within its jurisdictional boundaries. In Alameda County, the Health Officer has designated the Director of Environmental Health as a Deputy Health Officer for the purpose of enforcing State and local environmental health law. Moreover, all cities within the County have designated the County's Health Officer as their jurisdictions' health officer.

The County currently administers a local wastewater management program for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) under the authority of Chapter 15.18 of the Alameda County General Ordinance Code. On June 19, 2012, the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or SWRCB) adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (State OWTS Policy).

The OWTS Policy became effective in May 2013 and requires local agencies to implement the statewide minimum standards of the OWTS Policy which provides provisions for low risk Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, or develop a local program by adopting a Local Agency Management Program (LAMP). The LAMP may allow alternatives to the OWTS Policy; however the LAMP must demonstrate that the standards achieve the same purpose as the OWTS Policy which is to protect water quality and public health. The LAMP must be submitted to the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) no later than May 13, 2016, and must be implemented prior to May 13, 2018.

Comments

Alameda County's draft LAMP consists of three documents: (1) an amended Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Ordinance; (2) Local Agency Management Program (programmatic document); and (3) Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Technical Manual. These documents will be made available for public review and comment as draft "interim" documents and draft "final" documents.

Alameda County Department of Environmental Health will hold public meetings from March until August 2016 to present the draft interim and final draft LAMP documents and receive comments. Information on the specific dates, times, and locations of the meetings will be posted online at http://www.acgov.org/aceh/landuse/draft_lamp.htm.

All written comments received on the draft LAMP documents will be considered. The most effective comments are those that follow these guidelines:

- Comments should be concise and focus directly on the draft LAMP documents.
- Comments should identify the specific section(s) at issue of the draft LAMP documents and should include supporting evidence and facts.

- The commenter should provide complete references and/or citations, particularly when referring to websites (that is, provide a specific URL address rather than simply citing “ACDEH website” for example).

Formal comments can be submitted in the following formats:

- At a public meeting via Comment Card
- Email to: dilan.roe@acgov.org or teena.le@acgov.org
(Subject: Draft LAMP Document Public Comment)
- Mail to:
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health
Attn: Dilan Roe, Program Manager
1131 Harbor Bay Pkwy
Alameda, CA 94502

Statements made to ACDEH staff are not considered formal comments.

ACDEH will consider all formal comments received and will respond in a Response to Comments document which will be posted online. The draft LAMP documents will be finalized after the formal public review and comment period ends.

Interim Draft LAMP Documents

Interim draft documents will be available on ACDEH’s Land Use website beginning on March 16, 2016 in accordance with the attached Public Review Period schedule.

ACDEH will hold public meetings throughout March and April 2016 to present the interim draft LAMP documents and receive comments. Information on the specific dates, times, and location listed below and are posted online at http://www.acgov.org/aceh/landuse/draft_lamp.htm.

Comments on the draft interim LAMP documents must be submitted to ACDEH by May 1st, 2016. All formal comments received by ACDEH will be reviewed and responded to in a Response to Comments document which will be posted online.

ACDEH will present the interim draft LAMP documents and Response to Comments document to the Board of Supervisors for consideration of submittal to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on April 26, 2016. Following Board approval, ACDEH will submit the interim draft documents and the Response to Comments document to the Regional Water Board for review by May 13th, 2016.

Final Draft LAMP Documents

ACDEH will meet with the Regional Water Board to discuss the interim draft LAMP documents and comments received during the public review period.

ACDEH will hold a second round of public meetings in the summer of 2016 to discuss the Regional Water Board’s initial comments on the interim draft LAMP documents, the Response to Comments document, and proposed revisions to the LAMP documents based on the Regional Water Board’s comments. Information on the specific dates, times, and locations of the public meetings will be posted online at http://www.acgov.org/aceh/landuse/draft_lamp.htm.

Following the public review and comment period, ACDEH will submit the final draft LAMP documents and a revised Response to Comments document to the Regional Water Board by September 14th, 2016.

The public review and comment period and submittal to the State timeline is attached to this document.

Interim Draft LAMP Documents Meeting Schedule

March 14, 2016	Martinelli Event Center 3585 Greenville Rd Livermore, CA 94550 6:00pm to 8:00pm
March 17, 2016	Septic Commission Meeting Chabot/Canyon Room Castro Valley Library 3600 Norbridge Ave Castro Valley, CA 6:00pm to 8:00pm
March 21, 2016	Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council Meeting Castro Valley Library 3600 Norbridge Ave Castro Valley, CA 6:00pm to 8:00pm
March 23, 2016	Alameda County Department of Environmental Health Room 106 1131 Harbor Bay Pkwy Alameda, CA 6:00pm to 8:00pm
April 4, 2016	BOS Transportation & Planning Meeting 5th Floor Chambers 1221 Oak St Oakland, CA 9:30am to 11:00am
April 7, 2016	Septic Commission Meeting Chabot/Canyon Room Castro Valley Library 3600 Norbridge Ave Castro Valley, CA 6:00pm to 8:00pm
April 12, 2016	Sunol Septic Work Group Meeting Sunol Glen School Cafeteria 11601 Main St Sunol, CA 6:00pm to 8:00pm

- April 14, 2016** Fairview Stakeholders Meeting
The HARD Office Board Room
1099 E St
Hayward, CA
6:30pm to 8:30pm
- April 18, 2016** Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council Meeting
Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave
Castro Valley, CA
6:00pm to 8:00pm
- April 26, 2016** BOS Regular Meeting
5th Floor Chambers
1221 Oak St
Oakland, CA
9:30am to 12:00pm
- April 27, 2016** Hillcrest Improvement Association Meeting
Skyline Community Church
12540 Skyline Blvd
Oakland, CA
7:00pm to 8:30pm

For information about ACDEH's Onsite Wastewater Systems and proposed LAMP, please visit:

http://www.acgov.org/aceh/landuse/draft_lamp.htm