

CTTYOFMERIDEN
CITY COUNCIL
MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT 06450



ITEM#: 3
DATE: 5/1/06
REF.#:

RESOLUTION

Presented by:

Michael S. Rohde, by request

WHEREAS: The City of Meriden Sewer Regulations have not been updated in the last ten (10) years; and,

WHEREAS: The State Department of Environmental Protection has adopted new Regulations regarding requirements for the "Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments: which must be referenced and made part of the Sewer Codes; and,

WHEREAS. Additions, deletions, and clarifications were reviewed by the Legal Department and approved by the Public Utilities Commission at their regularly schedule meeting of April 18, 2006; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE
BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the City of Meriden City Council hereby authorizes and adopts the changes in Chapter 170, City of Meriden Sewer Regulations as part of the City of Meriden Code.

CHAPTER 170 - SEWERS

ARTICLE 1

General Regulations

- § 170-1. Legislative intent; applicability; enforcement.
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- § 170-30. Notice of violation.
- § 170-31. Failure to comply.
- §170-32. Violations and penalties.
- § 170-33. Liability for expenses caused by violation.
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ARTICLE IV

Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

- § 1709-37 Permit required.
 - § 170-38. Criteria on which issuance of a permit will be based.
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 - § 170-41. Inspections.
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GENERAL REFERENCES

Building Construction - see Chapter 77.

Garbage, rubbish, and refuse - see Chapter 116. Housing Standards - see Chapter 125. Health Nuisances - See Chapter 144. Streets and Sidewalks - See Chapter 180. Trailers and Trailer Camps - See Chapter 194. Water - See Chapter 207.

STATUTORY REFERENCES

Municipal Sewerage Systems - See Connecticut General Statutes § 7-245 et. seq.

ARTICLE I

General Requirements

§ 170-1. Legislative Intent; Applicability; Enforcement

- A. This Chapter establishes procedures for making connections to the public sewer in the City sanitary sewer system. It also establishes specific limits for pollutant discharges which, by their nature or by their interaction with sewage, will be detrimental to the public health, cause damage to the public sewer or the City's Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF), pollute the waters of the State, or otherwise create a public nuisance.

As part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the Federal Environmental Protection Administration (EPA) and the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Agency (DEP) impose discharge limitations on the WPCF. Discharge limitations are monitored via a prescribed testing, analysis and reporting program. It is the nature of the program that the limitations imposed may be modified and/or increased by mandate of the EPA and the DEP.

As a result, commercial and industrial (i.e., non-domestic) sanitary sewer users may be required to meet discharge requirements imposed upon the WPCF. These requirements are in addition to the existing Discharge Permit Requirement applicable to such users.

New restaurants, commercial, and industrial buildings, as well as existing restaurants, commercial, and industrial buildings undergoing any change in ownership, occupancy, use, expansion, and/or renovations shall be required to complete a "Conceptual Approval" Form and submit it for review and approval to the Engineering Department. The Engineering Department Staff shall review the Conceptual Approval Form and forward it to the Assistant Director WPCF for review and approval. Once approved, the completed Conceptual Approval Form will then be provided to the DEP by the Applicant. The DEP may or may not require a State Permit for the discharge. Upon such determination, the Applicant shall supply a copy of the DEP Permit, if applicable, or a written confirmation from the DEP that no Permit is required to the Assistant Director WPCF. The Assistant Director WPCF may, at his or her discretion, require additional or stricter requirements of the Applicant.

The City shall maintain a fee structure to compensate for costs incurred by the WPCF in maintaining discharge monitoring programs. Fees will be levied upon users for application and permit review, permit revisions, review of records and reports, and on-site compliance inspections of pre-treatment facilities and ground water remediation sites. These fees may be adjusted annually as part of the WPCF budget and rate setting process.

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) may impose fines against any discharge that violates City and/or State Regulations and/or Codes. If, in the opinion of the PUC, a particular violation constitutes a flagrant and/or recurring act of negligence that had a substantial negative effect on the WPCF, the violator can be held liable for all remedial actions undertaken.

- B. This Chapter is intended to:
- (1) Inform the public as to the technical and administrative procedures to be followed in obtaining a connection to the City's sanitary sewer system.
 - (2) Prevent the introduction of pollutants into the sanitary sewer system that will

interfere with the collection and/or treatment system.

- (3) Prevent the introduction of pollutants into the treatment system that will pass through the system, inadequately treated, into the waters of the State, or the atmosphere or otherwise be incompatible with the system
- (4) Improve the opportunity to recycle and reclaim wastewater and sludges from the system.

C. This Chapter shall apply to persons who are users of the public sewer system, regardless of where they reside. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Assistant Director of the WPCF for the City shall implement and enforce the provisions of this Chapter.

§ 170-2. Definitions; Word Usage.

A. As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Act or the Act: The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the "Clean Water Act", 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq., as amended.

Acute Toxicity Test. Involves two separate but simultaneously performed static, acute screening tests. In each test, organisms basic to the aquatic food chain are exposed to an aliquot of effluent/discharge to determine the effect of the effluent/discharge on the receiving stream and/or microbial activity within the WPCF.

The acute toxicity test will be a factor used in determining the extent of pretreatment required of industrial/commercial users. Sample collection, handling, and analytical techniques used to determine the acute toxicity of the discharge shall be as prescribed in "Methods for Measure the Acute Toxicity of Effluents to Freshwater and Marine Organisms" (EPA/6004-85/013), unless otherwise specified in writing by the DEP or in the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Assistant Director WPCF: The authorized agent or representative of the Water Pollution Control Authority who is responsible for the operation and management of the sewer collection system and/or the associated Water Pollution Control Facility.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD): The amount of oxygen required by microorganisms while stabilizing decomposable organic matter under aerobic conditions for five (5) days. The determination of BOD shall be performed in accordance with the procedures prescribed in the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Building Drain: The part of the lowest horizontal piping of building plumbing that receives the discharge from water fixtures and other sanitary pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer lateral beginning five (5) feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD): The oxygen equivalent of the organic matter that can be oxidized as measured by using a strong chemical oxidizing agent in an acidic medium.

City: The City of Meriden.

Compatible Pollutant: Biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, pH and fecal

coliform bacteria; plus any additional pollutants identified in the WPCF's NPDES Permit.

Composite Sample: A mixture of aliquot samples obtained at regular intervals over a prescribed time period. The volume of each aliquot is proportional to the discharge flow rate for the sampling interval. The minimum time period for composite sampling shall be four (4) hours.

Cooling Water: Process water in general used for cooling purposes to which the only pollutant added is heat which has such characteristics that it may be discharged to a natural outlet in accordance with applicable Federal and State Laws and Regulations.

DEP: The Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut.

Director. The Department Head responsible for the entire Department of Public Works, including the WPCF and distribution system.

Domestic Sewage: "Domestic Sewage" means sewerage that consists of water and human excrement or other waterborne wastes incidental to the occupancy of a residential building or a nonresidential building, but not including manufacturing process water, cooling water, wastewater from water-softening equipment, commercial laundry wastewater, blowdown from heating or cooling equipment, water from cellar or floor drains, or surface water from roofs, paved surfaces, or yard drains.

Floatable Oil: Oil, fat, or grease in a physical state such that it will separate by gravity from sewage by treatment in an approved pre-treatment facility.

Garbage: Animal or vegetable waste resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking, or serving of food.

Garbage Grinders/Disposals: The domestic use of grinders for the purpose of grinding/shredding garbage is strongly discouraged and the Assistant Director WPCF may order the removal of such equipment if it is determined to be the cause of sanitary sewer problems. Restaurant, commercial, and industrial use of grinders must be permitted by State and Local Authorities.

Grab Sample: A sample which is taken from a waste stream on a one-time basis with no regard to the flow in the waste stream and without consideration of time.

Holding-Tank Waste: Any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, and septage hauling trucks.

Incompatible Pollutant: All pollutants other than compatible pollutants as previously defined. See "Compatible Pollutants".

Industrial Wastewater: All wastewater from industrial processes, trade, or businesses.

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: A Permit issued pursuant to § 402 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

pH: The logarithm of the reciprocal of the hydrogen ion concentrations. The concentration is the weight of hydrogen ions, in grams, per liter of solution.

Person: Any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, company, corporation, association, joint-stock company, trust, estate, governmental entity, or any other legal entity or their legal representatives, agents, or assigns. The masculine gender shall include the feminine and the singular shall include the plural where indicated by the context.

Pre-treatment or Treatment: The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater to a less harmful state prior to, or in lieu of, discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a Water Pollution Control Facility. This reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical, or biological processes, except as prohibited by 40 CFR 403.6(d).

Public Sewer: A common sanitary sewer controlled by a Governmental Agency or Public Utility.

PUC: The Public Utilities Commission of the City of Meriden as it is constituted by its Charter, with the powers and duties granted it by the Charter and Ordinances of said City.

Restaurant: A business or place which prepares food for sale. Restaurant classifications will be determined by the Health Department. State of Connecticut Regulations as defined in the "General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Preparation Establishments" as approved on September 30, 2005, are hereby incorporated in the City of Meriden Sewer codes.

Sanitary Sewer: A sewer which collects and conveys domestic sewage from residences, public buildings, commercial establishments, industries and institutions. A "sanitary sewer" may also collect and convey permitted industrial wastewater and unintentionally admitted ground-, storm-, and surface waters.

Septage: The liquids and solids which are removed from a tank used to treat domestic sewage.

Sewage: Human or animal excretions and all domestic or manufacturing wastes as may tend to be detrimental to the public health or otherwise contravene stream standards established by the DEP.

Sewage Collection System: The structures and equipment required to collect and convey sewage to the WPCF.

Sewer Lateral: The extension from the building/house/structure that drains into the public sewer or other place of disposal; it may also be called a house connection. Anything that prevents the lateral waste stream from entering the public sanitary sewer line is considered a lateral problem and the responsibility of the owner. Any lateral that protrudes into the public sanitary sewer will be removed and/or repaired at the owner's expense. Once notified of the existence of said condition, the owner will be responsible for any and all blockages and related damages caused by the intrusion. If, during televised inspection, roots are observed protruding from a lateral into the public sanitary main, the owner of said lateral will be notified to take immediate corrective measures.

Slug: Any sudden or excessive discharge which exceeds permitted levels either in terms of pollutant concentration or instantaneous flow rate in such a manner as to adversely affect the sewage collection system and/or the WPCF.

Soluble Oil: Oil of either mineral or vegetable origin that disperses in water or sewage at

temperatures between zero degrees Celsius (0° C) and sixty-five degrees Celsius (65° C). For the purposes of this Chapter, emulsified oil shall be considered "soluble oil".

Storm Sewer: A sewer that collects and conveys stormwater or groundwater.

Suspended Solids: Solid matter, measured in milligrams per liter, which may be in suspension, floatable or settleable and is removable by laboratory filtering as prescribed in the latest edition of Standard Methods of Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Toxic Pollutant: Any pollutant or combination of pollutants listed as toxic in Regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the EPA under the Provisions of § 307(a) of the Act.

UOD: Ultimate oxygen demand. Equivalent of one and one-half (1.5) times the biochemical oxygen demand plus four and three-fifths (4.6) times the ammonia (NH₃). Used as control parameter for WPCF effluent, as established in NPDES Permit.

User: Any person who causes or permits the contribution of sewage into the City's sewer system.

Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF): An arrangement of devices for the treatment of sewage or sludge.

Watercourse: A natural or artificial channel for the continuous or intermittent passage of water.

§ 170-3. Use of public sewers.

- A. The owner or owners of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes situated within the City and abutting on any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary sewer of the City may, at the option of the City and at the expense of the owner(s), be required to install a building sewer to connect his or her building drain to the public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter within ninety (90) days after the date of official notice to do so.
- B. It shall be unlawful for any person to construct or repair any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended for the disposal of sewage if public sewers are available to that person.

§ 170-4. Building sewers and connections.

- A. Sewer Lateral: The extension from a building, house, or structure that drains into the public sewer or other place of disposal (may also be called a house connection). Anything that prevents the lateral waste stream from entering the public sanitary sewer line is considered a lateral problem and the responsibility of the owner. Any lateral that protrudes into the public sanitary sewer will be removed and/or repaired at the owner's expense. Once notified of the existence of said condition, the owner will be responsible for any and all blockages and related damages caused by the intrusion. If, during televised inspection, roots are observed protruding from a lateral into the public sanitary main, the owner of said lateral will be required to take immediate corrective measures.
- B. No unauthorized person(s) shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, repair, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof.
- C. Any person proposing a new discharge into the public sewer system or a substantial

change in the volume or character of pollutants that are being discharged into the public sewer system shall notify the Assistant Director WPCF at least forty-five (45) days prior to the proposed connection or change.

- D. A person intending to connect a building drain from his property to the public sewer shall first obtain a permit to do so from the City Engineering Department. The application shall be made on forms provided by the Engineering Department, and shall be accompanied by a sketch or plan showing the proposed installation in sufficient detail to enable the Engineering Department to determine whether it meets the requirements of this Regulation and other applicable Specifications, Codes, and Laws. The application shall be signed by a qualified contractor, as defined herein, who has been chosen to perform the work of installing and connecting the building drain to the public sewer. Upon approval of the application and plan, a permit shall be issued to have the work performed by the qualified contractor. In the event that the premises changes ownership before the work is undertaken or completed, or if another contractor is chosen to perform or finish the work, the original permit becomes void and a new permit must be obtained by the parties in interest. The PUC may, at its discretion, allow service pipes or sewer service to consumers other than the owner of the premises served, upon the filing by such consumers of the application required herein.
- E. Prior to obtaining the permit to connect identified in Subsection D herein, the applicant or his authorized representative shall provide adequate documentation to the Engineering Department describing the proposed connection. The Engineering Department and/or the PUC shall review the application to determine if the proposal is acceptable or if changes are required. It shall be unlawful for any person who has procured such a permit to perform any acts in a manner other than those permitted or to connect with any such sewer at any hub or slant pipe other than the one approved in such permit. The contractor shall notify the Engineering Department forty-eight (48) hours before starting any work authorized under this permit.
- F. A connection to the public sewer will be made only after the building's plumbing has been approved by the City Building Department. A fresh air vent shall be required for the building, and all plumbing shall be in good working order. No trench containing a building drain or connection to the sanitary sewer shall be backfilled until the Engineering Department has completed an inspection of and approved the work. The water level in the trench shall be maintained at a level below the sewer connection before the cap is removed and while the connection is being made and until such time as it has been inspected, approved, and backfilled.
- G. Permits to connect to the public sewer may be revoked and annulled by the Assistant Director WPCF for such reasons and at such times as he may deem sufficient and the City shall be held harmless as a consequence of said revocation or the cause thereof. All parties in interest shall be held to have waived the right to claim damages from the City or its agents on account of such revocation.
- H. All costs and expenses incidental to the installation and connection of the building sewer from the building to the street shall be borne by the owner(s). The owner(s) shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.
- I. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no public sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building though an adjoining alley, courtyard, or

driveway, the building that provides service for the building which fronts on the public sewer may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one (1) building sewer. The City does not assume any obligation or responsibility for damage caused by or resulting from any such aforementioned connection.

- J. Existing building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when the proposal is approved by the Engineering Department.
- K. The size, slope, alignment, materials of construction of a building sewer and the methods to be used in excavating, placing of the pipe, jointing, testing and backfilling, and trenching and connection of the building sewer to the public sewer shall all conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable Rules and Regulations of the City. In the absence of Code Provisions or in amplification thereof, the materials and procedures set forth in the appropriate specification of the American Society for Testing and Materials and WPCF Manual of Practice No. 9 shall apply. No connections shall be made with any public sanitary or stormwater sewer except than by drain pipe, which shall be six (6) inches in diameter. Every drain connecting premises with the City sanitary sewer shall be laid to a uniform grade and line, with a fall throughout its length toward the public sewer of not less than one (1) foot per one hundred (100) feet.
- L. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by an approved means and discharged to the building sewer. Duplex lift systems shall be required for commercial and industrial buildings.
- M. No person shall connect roof downspouts, foundation drains, areaway drains, or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain that is connected directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.
- N. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights sufficient to protect the public from hazard. The person connecting the building sewer shall restore all streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work in a manner satisfactory to the City.
- O. No building sewer shall be constructed within twenty-five (25) feet of a water supply well. If a building sewer is constructed within twenty-five (25) to seventy-five (75) feet of a water supply well, it shall be constructed in accordance with all applicable guidelines and regulations.
- P. Any sanitary sewer laterally installed to connect a building to a City sanitary sewer main shall not extend beyond the projected side property lines of the parcel unless otherwise approved by the Public Utilities Commission and shall not exceed two hundred (200) feet without a cleanout.
- Q. All building sewers shall be installed by a drainlayer possessing a valid license issued under Chapter 393 of the Connecticut General Statutes. No person shall make any connection with any public sanitary or stormwater sewer unless he or she is licensed and has obtained all necessary permits. No person shall employ any unlicensed person to do such work.
- R. Every person so licensed shall file with the Engineering Department a surety bond, payable to the City in an amount acceptable to the City, pursuant to which the licensee will indemnify and save harmless the City from all loss, cost, or damage arising out of or in connection with

any work done under such license.

- S. All building sewers from the sewer main to the building shall be installed and maintained by and at the expense of the person whose property is being serviced. Whenever the Assistant Director WPCF is informed or learns that a cavity, depression, or other abnormality in the public street is or may be caused by disrepair in the public sewer or building sewer, the Assistant Director WPCF will ascertain the cause. If it is determined that such cavity or other abnormality is caused or contributed to by disrepair of the public sewer, the Assistant Director WPCF shall proceed to make the necessary repairs. However, if it is determined by the Assistant Director WPCF that such cavity, depression, or other abnormality is caused by a building sewer, the property owner(s) shall be notified of such finding and shall engage a licensed drainlayer to make the necessary repairs under the supervision of the Assistant Director WPCF and at no expense to the City. This may include, but is not limited to, laterals that extend into the public main and roots protruding from laterals that extend into the public main.
- T. Whenever the Assistant Director WPCF is informed or learns of a sewer stoppage, the Assistant Director WPCF shall ascertain if the public sewer is clear. Any stoppages found therein will be relieved as quickly as possible. If the public sewer is found to be clear, the property owner(s) having made the complaint of sewer stoppage shall be so notified and shall then engage a licensed plumber, reputable cleaner, or licensed drainlayer to clear any stoppages in the building sewer.
- U. The PUC may, at any time, order a water meter for sewer service placed on any water service connection if it deems it is in the best interest of the City to do so; and any property owner, upon notification by the PUC, shall allow a representative of the Water Division to enter upon his or her premises to install such a meter. Upon application by the consumer, a meter shall be placed on any service previously unmetered. The consumer shall provide a proper place for the installation of a meter immediately inside the building wall which shall be of easy access at all times for reading and repair. The Water Division shall determine the size of the meter to be installed on any service and shall determine when any meter shall be repaired or replaced.

Water meters for sewer service shall not be supplied to a new account until the following conditions have been met: 1) a proper and adequate water meter setter has been provided by the owner immediately inside the building wall which shall be of easy access at all times for meter reading and repair; 2) the required fee for the proper size meter has been paid to the Water Division by the owner; and 3) the Water Division has installed and sealed the required meter. The PUC shall act as an Appeals Board to determine when and if a frost proof meter pit shall be required rather than a meter location within the building.

The fee for the installation of new meters shall be determined by the Water Division.

- V. Backwater valves must be installed on all plumbing fixtures (including washing machines, toilets, sinks, showers, bathtubs, etc.) that are below the elevation of the nearest upstream sanitary sewer manhole cover.

ARTICLE II

Water Pollution Control Authority

§ 170-5. Designation of Authority:

Pursuant to Section 7-246 of the General Statutes, the PUC is designated the Water Pollution Control Authority for the City.

§ 170-6. Powers and Duties.

The Water Pollution Control Authority shall have all the powers conferred by Sections 7-245 and 7-273 of the Connecticut General Statutes and all the powers and duties granted it by the Charter and Ordinances of the City. It shall exercise such powers in such manner as it shall deem to be in the best interests of the City.

§ 170-7. Sewer Charges and Fees:

A. Establishment of Sewer Charges:

- (1) The Water Pollution Control Authority may establish and revise fair and reasonable charges for connection with and use of a sewerage system pursuant to Section 7-255 of the General Statutes.
- (2) The Water Pollution Control Authority shall secure the City Council's approval of proposed and revised charges.

B. Sewer Rates for Metered Services:

- (1) The sanitary sewer rents and rates for metered service and fixed user charges for the City shall consist of a flat basic service charge based on water meter size plus a commodity charge based on consumption.
- (2) Customers Outside City Limits: The rates and charges for users of property located outside the territorial limits of the City shall be fifty percent (50%) higher than the rates and charges above for the users located within the City except where specifically prohibited by prior contract agreement or as legally changed by the PUC.
- (3) Private Well Water Discharge into City Sanitary Sewer: The metering of such activity shall be required. The type and location of meters shall be determined by the City. While metering of the supply source is generally preferred due to the improved meter accuracy over discharge meters, discharge meters may be required in certain situations at the City's sole and absolute discretion. For closed loop systems served by private wells and not normally discharging into City sewers, the water meter requirement may be waived by the Engineering Department. For existing buildings or facilities served by private wells only or private wells and water supplied by the City, alternatives including, but not limited to the following, may be required at the discretion of the City:
 - (a) The Director of Public Works or the PUC or their authorized agent may order that a water meter be required according to City Standards for each supply to ensure proper billing for discharge into City sanitary sewers. This is the preferred alternative for all existing and proposed facilities; or
 - (b) An estimate of usage will be made based on industry standards for the type of use and other applicable factors. The City may require that the customer provide an estimate of use, supported by detailed calculations, or the City may provide the estimate. If the customer disagrees with an

estimate of usage prepared by the City, the City billing review officer shall attempt to resolve the dispute. In the event that a dispute continues to exist regarding estimated usage, the matter may be referred to the PUC.

(4) Determination of Charge When Meter Found Defective:

- (a) When a water meter is operating incorrectly and a test of the meter results in an accurate determination of the percentage of error exceeding two percent (2%) the consumer shall be allowed a credit for the amount overpaid.
- (b) Where a water meter is operating incorrectly and it is not possible to accurately determine consumption during any billing period, the sewer use charge for that period shall be in proportion to previous charges for similar periods when the meter was operating correctly.

(5) When Rents are Due; Penalty: Sanitary sewer rents shall be due and payable at the Office of the Collector of Revenue semi-annually on the first day of June and December. Interest charges at a rate prescribed by the Collector of Revenue and not exceeding the maximum amount allowed by the Connecticut General Statutes shall be added as penalty to all sewer rents remaining unpaid one (1) month after their due date. The charges, if applicable, shall be calculated from the payment date.

(6) Abatements for Vacancy: Any consumer to whom water is furnished through an unmetered service may claim a sewer bill abatement for partial or complete vacancy of his premises by filing the proper notice at the Office of the Water Division at the beginning and termination of such vacancy, provided that no abatement shall be allowed for a vacancy of less than two (2) months' duration, and provided further that no abatement may be claimed for any period prior to the date of the filing such notice. The right to claim an abatement shall be forfeited if the consumer fails to give timely and proper notice of the termination of the vacancy.

C. Septic Waste Discharge Fees:

- (1) A fee shall be levied against private septic waste haulers who discharge septic waste at the WPCF. This fee shall be paid in full to the WPCF prior to acceptance of septic waste. As the annual sewer user rate changes, the equivalent percentage of increase or decrease shall be applied to septic waste fees. As the annual sewer user rate increases or decreases, the equivalent percentage of increase or decrease shall be applied to septic waste fees, such fees to be adjusted as part of the City budget process.
- (2) The Assistant Director of the WPCF may prohibit a private septic waste hauler from discharging at the WPCF if it is deemed that the septic waste may be harmful to the plant.

D. Special Connection Charges:

- (1) A special connection charge shall be paid for each connection made to the municipal sanitary sewer system. This special connection charge shall be used as

the basis for assessing properties unassessed for their share of benefits derived from the construction of sewers, and for apportionment of sanitary sewers built by developers, and for properties previously assessed which have or will have a greater intensity of use.

- (2) Special connection charges shall be paid in full prior to connection unless otherwise approved by the PUC. Special connection charge rates are assessed pursuant to the authority granted in Section 7- 255 of the General Statutes, and are outlined in the City of Meriden "Residential and Non-Residential Special Connection Charge Policies" and the "General Policy for Layout and Assessment of Sanitary Sewers" adopted by the PUC

- E. Review of Applications, Forms, and Permits: The City shall review all proposed residential and commercial/industrial discharges and maintain a perpetual filing system for all regulated discharges. Fees for these services will be set and adjusted as part of the City budget process and be available on the City of Meriden Water Pollution Control Facility's website or by contacting the WPCF.

§ 170-8. Collection of Sewer Charges.

The Collector of Revenue shall be the collector of all sewerage system connection and use charges, betterment charges (assessments), liens and violations levied by the WPCA under the provisions of this Chapter, and the Collector of Revenue shall collect such charges in accordance with the provisions of the General Statutes governing the collection of property taxes.

ARTICLE III

Discharge Limitations

§ 170-9. Stormwater Sewers.

Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to sewers specifically designated as storm sewers in accordance with all applicable State and Federal Laws and Regulations. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any unpolluted water such as stormwater, groundwater, roof runoff or subsurface drainage, to any sanitary sewer. Nor shall any person connect any drain plumbing fixtures or other sanitary sewer system with any stormwater sewer.

§170-10. Certain discharges prohibited.

No user shall contribute or cause to be contributed, directly or indirectly, any pollutant or wastewater that interferes with the operation or performance of the WPCF. This prohibition applies to all users of the WPCF whether or not the user is subject to national categorical pre-treatment standards or any other Federal or State Pre-treatment Standards or Requirements. A user shall not contribute the following substances to any WPCF:

- A. Any liquids, solids, or gases which, by reason of their nature or quantity, are or may be sufficient, either alone or by interaction with other substances, to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any way to the WPCF or to the operation of the WPCF. At no time shall two (2) successive readings on an explosion hazard meter at the point of discharge into the sewage collection system (or at any point in the system), exceed five percent (5%) nor shall any single reading exceed ten percent (10%) of the meter's lower explosive limit (LEL).

- B. Solids or viscous substances which may cause obstruction to the flow in the sewer system or otherwise interfere with the operation of the WPCF, including, but not limited to, grease, animal guts or tissues, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides or fleshings, entrails, whole blood, feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rags, spent grains, spent hops, wastepaper, wood, plastics, gas, tar, asphalt residues, residues from refining or processing of fuel or lubricating oil, mud or glass grinding or polishing wastes.
- C. Any sewage having corrosive properties capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, or personnel of the WPCF. The upper and lower limits of pH for any industrial wastewater discharge shall be those contained in the WPCF Permit.
- D. Any sewage containing toxic pollutants in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans, animals or plant life, create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the WPCF or exceed the limitation set forth in a Categorical Pre-treatment Standard. A toxic pollutant shall include, but not be limited to, any pollutant identified in Section 307(a) of the Act (i.e. heavy metals and toxic organics). All metals are to be measured as total metals.
- E. Any noxious or malodorous sewage, gas, or solid that, either singly or by interaction with other sewage, is sufficient to prevent entry into the public sewers for maintenance and repair.
- F. Any sewage that, by interaction with other sewage in the public sewer, releases noxious gases, forms suspended solids which interfere with the collection system, or creates a condition that may be deleterious to structures and treatment processes or that may exceed the effluent limitations of the WPCF's NPDES Permit.
- G. Any substance which may cause the WPCF's product, including effluent, residues, sludges, or scums, to be unsuitable for reclamation where the WPCF is pursuing a reuse and reclamation program. In no case shall a substance discharged to the WPCF cause the facility to be in non-compliance with sludge use or disposal criteria, guidelines or regulations developed under § 405 of the Act or any criteria, guidelines or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or applicable State sludge management criteria.
- H. Any substance that causes a violation of the WPCF's NPDES permit or the receiving water quality standards. The Assistant Director WPCF, with the concurrence of the PUC, may modify acceptable discharge limits into the WPCF if deemed appropriate and in the best interest of the WPCF.
- I. Sewage containing substances that are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the wastewater treatment process employed or that are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the WPCF effluent cannot meet the limits contained in the NPDES Permit.

§ 170-11. Certain Discharges Limited.

Discharged substances, materials, waters or waste hereinafter described shall be limited to concentrations or quantities that will not harm either the sewers or the WPCF, will not have an adverse effect on the receiving stream, or will not otherwise endanger public property or constitute a nuisance. The Assistant Director WPCF may set lower limitations if he or she determines that more severe limitations are necessary to meet the water quality standards of the receiving stream.

The limitations or restrictions on materials or characteristics of sewage discharged to the public sewer are as follows:

- A. Sewage having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty degrees Fahrenheit (150° F) [sixty-five degrees Celsius (65° C)].
- B. Sewage containing fat, wax, grease, petroleum, or mineral oil, whether emulsified or not, in excess of one hundred (100) milligrams per liter with floatable oil not to exceed twenty (20) milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit (32° F) and one hundred fifty degrees Fahrenheit (150° F) [zero degrees Celsius (0° C)]. Restaurants shall have grease traps of 1,000-gallon capacity minimum, or one third of its daily discharge and/or a professionally engineered system that meets all applicable sanitary sewer requirements noted in the City Code, accompanied by a certification statement signed by a professional engineer.
- C. The domestic use of grinders for the purpose of grinding/shredding garbage is strongly discouraged and the Assistant Director WPCF may order the removal of such equipment if he or she determines it to be the cause of sanitary sewer problems. Restaurant, commercial, and industrial use of grinders must be permitted by State and Local Authorities.

Solids separators may be required for commercial or industrial establishments if deemed necessary by the Assistant Director of the WPCF, and/or the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

- D. Any sewage containing odor-producing substances exceeding limits established by the PUC and/or the DEP.
- E. Any radioactive waste or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the PUC and/or the DEP in compliance with all applicable State, Federal, or Municipal Regulations.
- F. Materials that exert or cause:
 - (1) Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium chloride and sodium sulfate).
 - (2) Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions).
 - (3) Unusual BOD, COD, or chlorine demand in sufficient quantities to constitute a significant load on the WPCF.
 - (4) Unusual volume of flow or concentrations of wastes constituting a slug as defined in Section 170-2.

- G. Overflow from holding tanks or other receptacles storing organic wastes.
- H. Sewage with a concentration of pollutants including, but not limited to, the items and limits listed below. The Assistant Director WPCF, with the concurrence of the PUC, may require more stringent limits if it is determined to be in the best interest of the WPCF.

POLLUTANT	CONCENTRATION [parts/million (mg/l)]
Arsenic as As	0.05
Barium as Ba	5.0
Boron as B	5.0
Cyanides as CN (amenable)	0.1
Fluoride as F	20
Chromium (Total)	1.0
Chromium (CR + 6)	0.1
Magnesium as Mg	100
Manganese as Mn	5.0
Copper as Cu	1.0
Zinc as Zn	1.0
Cadmium	0.1
Lead	0.1
Tin	2.0
Silver	0.1
Mercury	0.01
Nickel	1.0

Note: All metals are to be measured as total metals.

§ 170-12. Certain Discharges Subject to Review and Approval.

The admission into the public sewers of any waters or wastes having a five-day BOD greater than five hundred (500) parts per million by weight, a COD of greater than 750 parts per million by weight, or containing more than six hundred (600) parts per million by weight of suspended solids, or containing more than fifteen (15) parts per million by weight of chlorine demand, or containing any quantity of substance described in Section 170-11, or having an average daily flow greater than two percent (2%) of the average daily City sewage flow shall be subject to review and approval of the Assistant Director WPCF. When Assistant Director WPCF deems it necessary, the person discharging or causing the discharge of any such waters or wastes into the public sewers shall provide, at his own expense, such preliminary treatment as may be necessary to reduce the BOD to not more than five hundred (500) parts per million by weight, the suspended solids to not more than six hundred (600) parts per million by weight, and/or the chlorine demand to not more than fifteen (15) parts per million by weight. In addition, the person discharging or causing the discharge may be required to reduce objectionable characteristics or constituents of the substances described in Section 170-11 to the limits permitted thereunder, and control the quantities and rates of discharge of such waters and wastes

§ 170-13. Permit Required for Certain Discharges.

In accordance with Section 25-54i of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, a DEP Permit and PUC approval are required prior to the initiation of a discharge of any of the following wastewaters to a public sewer:

- (1) Industrial wastewater of any quantity.
- (2) Domestic sewage in excess of five thousand (5,000) gallons per day through any individual building sewer to a public sewer.

A potential discharger must obtain a conceptual approval form from the Engineering Department. The form must be properly filled out and returned to the Engineering Department for review and approval. The potential discharger must then submit an approved copy of the conceptual approval form with the discharge application to the Department of Environmental Protection and the PUC not later than ninety (90) days prior to the anticipated date of the initiation of the proposed discharge.

§ 170-14. Discharge of Deleterious Substances.

- A. If any sewage is discharged or is proposed to be discharged into the public sewers that contains the substances or possesses the characteristics enumerated in Section 170-11 of this Chapter and which, in the judgment of the PUC, may have a deleterious effect upon the wastewater facilities, processes, equipment, or receiving waters or that otherwise may create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the PUC may, in accordance with Section 25-54i(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended:
- (1) Reject the discharge of the sewage.
 - (2) Require pre-treatment to an acceptable condition prior to discharge into the public sewers (e.g., swimming pools).

Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge e.g., swimming pools).

- B. If the DEP permits the pre-treatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the applicable equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the PUC, subject to the requirements of all applicable Codes, Ordinances, and Laws.

§ 170-15. Right of Assistant Director to Reject or Restrict Discharges.

The Assistant Director WPCF shall have the right to reject the discharge of any wastes or require more stringent effluent limitations than those required by the user's Section 24-54i Permit.

§ 170-16. Separators to be Used when Necessary.

Sewer users shall employ grease, oil, and gross particle separators when, in the opinion of the DEP and/or the Assistant Director WPCF, such separators are necessary for the proper handling of sewage containing floatable grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand or other harmful substances. All separators shall be of a type and capacity approved by the DEP and/or PUC and shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. In maintaining such separators, the user shall be responsible for the proper removal and disposal by appropriate means of the captured material and shall maintain records of the dates and means of disposal, such records being subject to review by the Assistant Director WPCF. Any removal and hauling of the collected materials shall be performed by a waste disposal firm possessing a valid permit from the DEP under Section 25-54h of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

§ 170-17. Maintenance of Pre-treatment or Flow-equalizing Facilities.

When pre-treatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided or required for any sewage, such facilities shall be maintained in satisfactory and effective operation at all times by the owner(s) at his or her expense.

§ 170-18. Installation of Sampling Structure.

The owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable structure, together with such necessary meters and other appurtenances in the building sewer, to facilitate observation, sampling, and measurement of each individual treatment system's discharge. Such structure, when required, shall be accessible, safely located and shall be constructed in accordance with plans approved by the PUC. The sampling structure shall be located at a point along the industrial waste stream where a representative sample of the industrial wastewater may be obtained prior to its being diluted by domestic sewage or any other discharges in the building sewer. The structure shall be installed by the owner, at his or her expense, and shall be maintained so as to be safe and accessible at all times.

§ 170-19. Monitoring of Industrial Discharges.

Each industry discharging into a public sewer shall perform such monitoring of its discharge as required by the DEP in any State Discharge Permit issued pursuant to Section 25-541 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, including, but not limited to, installation, use, and maintenance of monitoring equipment, keeping of records, and the reporting of results to the DEP and the Assistant Director WPCF.

All present and future DEP/EPA treatment and testing parameters imposed on the WPCF shall be applicable to all industrial/commercial sanitary sewer users/dischargers as required by the Assistant Director WPCF.

The PUC may, at any time, order a water meter placed on any service connection if it deems it in the best interest of the City to do so; and any user, upon notification by the PUC, shall allow a representative of the Water Division to enter upon his or her premises to install such a meter. Upon application by the consumer, a meter shall be placed on any service previously unmetered. The consumer shall provide a proper place for the installation of a meter immediately inside the building wall which shall easily accessible at all times for reading and repair. The Director of Public Works, or his representatives, shall determine the size of the meter to be installed on any service and shall determine when any meter shall be repaired or replaced.

Water meters for sewer service shall not be supplied to a new account until a proper and adequate water meter setter has been provided by the owner immediately inside the building wall which shall be easily accessible at all times for meter reading and repair, the required fee for the proper size meter has been paid to the Water Division by the owner, and the Water Division has installed and sealed the required meter. The PUC shall act as an Appeals Board on questions regarding whether a frost-proof meter pit shall be required within the building.

The fee for the installation of new meters shall be determined by the Water Division.

§ 170-20. Determination of Measurements and Sampling Methods.

All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of sewage to which reference is made in this Chapter shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Wastewater published by the American Health Association. Sampling methods, location, times, duration, and frequencies are to be determined on an individual basis subject to the stipulations and general conditions of the discharger's State Discharge Permit and the Assistant Director, WPCF.

§ 170-21. Special Agreements.

Nothing contained in this Chapter shall be construed to prevent any special agreement or arrangement

between the City and any industrial concern whereby industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the City for treatment, provided that such agreements do not contravene any requirements contained in existing State or Federal Laws or Regulations and are compatible with any user charge and industrial cost recovery system in effect.

§170-22. Effect of Federal Standard.

Upon the promulgation of the Federal Categorical Pre-treatment Standard for a particular industrial subcategory, the Federal Standard, if more stringent than limitations imposed under this Chapter for sources in that subcategory, shall supersede the limitations imposed under this Chapter.

§ 170-23. Increased Use of Process Water Prohibited.

No user shall increase its use of process water in an attempt to dilute a discharge as a partial or complete substitute for adequate treatment to achieve compliance with the limitations contained in the Federal Categorical Pre-treatment Standards or in any specific pollutant limitations that may be developed by the DEP.

§ 170-24. Protection from Accidental Discharge Required.

Each user shall provide protection from accidental discharge of prohibited materials or other substances regulated by this Chapter. Facilities designed to prevent accidental discharge of prohibited materials shall be provided and maintained at the owner's or user's expense. The Director of Public Works may require that plans showing facilities and operating procedures be submitted for review and approval prior to construction of such facilities.

§ 170-25. Report of Accidental Discharge Required.

Users shall immediately notify the Assistant Director WPCF of all accidental discharges.

In addition, within five (5) days following an accidental discharge, the user shall submit to the Assistant Director WPCF and the DEP a detailed written report describing the cause of the discharge and the measures to be taken by the user to prevent future occurrences. Such notification shall not relieve the user of any expense, loss, damage, or other liability incurred as a result of damage to the WPCF, fish kills, aquatic plants, or any other damage to persons or property; nor shall such notification relieve the user of any fines, civil penalties, or other liability that may be imposed under this Chapter or other applicable law.

Industrial/commercial users shall permanently post a notice in a prominent place advising employees whom to contact in the event of an accidental discharge. Employers shall ensure that all employees are advised of the emergency notification procedure.

§ 170-26. Tampering with System Prohibited.

No person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is part of the sewage collection system or the WPCF.

§ 170-27. Right of Entry.

Users shall permit the Assistant Director WPCF and other duly authorized employees of the City exhibiting proper credentials and identification to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter

§170-28. Liability for Damages.

While performing the activities detailed in Section 170-27, the Assistant Director WPCF and other duly authorized employees of the City shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the user. The user shall be held harmless for injury or death to the City employees, and the City shall indemnify the user against loss or damage to its property by City employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the user resulting from the City's activities, except as such may be caused by the user's negligence or failure of the user's negligence or failure to maintain safe conditions as required in Section 170-4.

§ 170-29. Sewage Works Lying within Easements.

Users shall permit the Assistant Director WPCF and other duly authorized employees of the City exhibiting proper credentials and identification to enter all private properties through which the City holds an easement or any other claim for access for the purposes of repair and maintenance of any portion of the sewer works lying within said easement. Any obstructions limiting or prohibiting such access shall be removed at the homeowner's expense.

§ 170-30. Notice of Violation.

The City shall provide any person found to be in violation of any provision of this Chapter, except Section 170-26, shall be served by the City with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease and/or rectify all violations and shall be liable to the City for any and all expense, loss, or damage which may be caused to the public sewer treatment works or appurtenances by reason of such violation.

§ 170-31. Failure to Comply.

If any person, after due time and proper order or direction from the Assistant Director WPCF, fails to take the remedial steps or perform the acts required by this Chapter or fails thereafter to use, operate, and maintain a connection with the public sewers of the City or appurtenances thereof, as required by this Chapter, the PUC, through such agents and/or facilities as it may choose, may disconnect such building sewer or connection or drain that was wrongfully connected, altered, repaired, or used or through which improper wastes were discharged into the public sewer or drainage system of the City and may, if necessary, interfere with or cut off drainage from other property which is served by such building sewer, connection, or drain. If a building sewer, connection, or drain is disconnected from the public sewer system as herein provided, the City may collect the cost of such disconnection from any person responsible for or who profited by such violation.

§ 170-32. Violations and penalties.

Any person who continues any violation beyond the time limit provided in Section 170-30, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall be fined an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation. Each day in which any such violation continues shall be deemed a separate violation.

§ 170-33. Liability for Expenses Caused by Violation.

Any person found to be in violation of any of the provisions of this Chapter shall become liable to the City for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned by the City by reason of such violation.

§170-34. Violation of Statute.

Any person found to be in violation of Section 25-54i of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, shall be subject to monetary penalty or forfeiture pursuant to Section 25-54q of the General Statutes.

§ 170-35. Appeals.

Any person who may be aggrieved by any interpretation of any provision of this Chapter, or by an order under authority conferred by this Chapter, or by requirement of this Chapter, or by any classification of any sewer, drain, or any wastewater proposed to be discharged into sewer or drain, may appeal within twenty-one (21) days from the date of such interpretation, order, classification, or requirement to the PUC. Any such appeal shall be in writing and forwarded to the PUC by certified mail, return receipt requested, setting forth the dispute in reasonable detail. The PUC shall consider any such appeal made to it within ninety (90) days of receipt and, if so requested by any such person interested therein, shall afford all interested parties an opportunity to be heard by it or by a committee thereof. The PUC shall take such action it deems appropriate in response to such appeal and, in its discretion, may alter any such interpretation, order, or requirement. Until such time as the PUC has received and considered an appeal; and has voted to change the interpretation, order or requirement, such interpretation, order or requirement shall remain in full force and effect.

§ 170-36 Repealer; Severability.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provision of this Chapter shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Chapter that can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

ARTICLE IV

Subsurface Sewage Disposal Systems (Septic Systems)

§ 170-37 Permit required.

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to install, repair, or alter any subsurface sewage disposal system in the City without a Permit issued by the Division of Health. Applications for such Permits shall be made on forms to be provided by the Division of Health and shall be approved by the Director of Health or his or her agent before the commencement of any such work.
- B. Construction shall not be commenced upon any dwelling or other residential, commercial, or industrial structure or any buildings that are used for human occupancy or that are to be served by on-site subsurface sewage disposal facilities until approved by the Director of Health or his or her duly appointed agent.

§ 170-38. Permit Criteria.

Applications for Permits required by Section 170-37 shall be approved on the basis of conformance with requirements for subsurface sewage disposal systems as specified under the provisions of the Public Health Code of the State of Connecticut and under any Regulations adopted in conformity with such Code.

§ 170-39. Fees.

- A. The Division of Health is authorized to charge the applicant a “per lot” testing and review fee or, in the case of multiple-unit dwellings, a “per unit” testing and review fee for the performance of necessary soil tests and review of the applicable plans.
- B. Upon approval of soil tests and plans, a “per lot” permit fee or, in the case of multiple dwellings, a “per unit” permit fee shall be charged in addition to the fees for soil testing and plan review. A fee shall be charged for Permits issued for repair or minor alterations to such systems.

§ 170-40. Establishment of Additional Requirements.

- A. The City Council is authorized to approve additional requirements and/or modifications of the regulation of subsurface sewage disposal systems.
- B. Such additions and/or modifications, once approved by the City Council, shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City prior to becoming effective.
- C. Copies of any such adopted additions and/or modifications shall be made available to applicants during the application process.

§ 170-41. Inspections.

The Director of Health or his or her agent shall inspect sewage disposal systems as often as may be necessary during the construction or repair process. However, in no case shall any new, repaired, or altered system be covered by backfilling before such system, repair, or alteration is approved in writing by the Director of Health or his or her agent.