Alabama Dept of Public Health
New Onsite Regulations

Overview of Permitting Requirements
PERMITS

- Permit To Install/Repair
- Site Preparation Plan
- State-Issued Performance Permits
- Approval For Use
- Certification of Financial Viability
- State-Issued Product Permits
Permit to Install

No person shall begin the installation or repair of an OSS itself until the owner or the owner's agent possesses a valid Permit To Install an Onsite Sewage System, issued by the LHD.
Small-Flow Development

- Building development that is on a single parcel of land that leads to a system or systems discharging sewage or high strength sewage with 8 or less bedrooms as defined by these rules, with a combined flow of less than 1,200 gpd. This definition includes a single lot-single dwelling development, a small subdivision or rental property developments such as small mobile home parks, campgrounds or multi-family dwellings.
  - Examples:
    - A house on your lot that is not part of a subdivision.
    - A small subdivision.
    - An establishment with less than 1,200 gpd design flow.
Large-Flow Development

Building development of dwellings or establishments that leads to a system or systems with a combined flow of sewage of 1,200 gpd or greater. This includes but is not limited to rental and lease property developments such as mobile home parks, subdivisions, campgrounds, multi-family dwellings, condominiums and town houses when combined flow is 1,200 gpd or greater. It also includes but is not limited to any dwellings or buildings that are connected to one or more OSS serving a subdivision.

Systems treating sewage from dwellings/establishments with a flow of over 1,200 gpd must:

1. go through a more thorough planning process (site preparation plan)
2. be designed by an engineer
3. be issued a performance (NPDES type) permit.

Examples:
- a 9 bedroom subdivision.
- 4 houses now of what will eventually be a large subdivision.
General Requirements - .11

- Application submitted in duplicate.
- Small Flow - CEP-2
- Large Flow - CEP-3
- The appropriate planning shall take place before any building development occurs.
Time Limitations & Permitting Actions - .12

- LHD has 10 working days to review Small Flow – CEP-2 applications.
- CEP-3 review time will vary.
- Application incomplete
  - Written or verbal notification given to applicant.
    - If 90 days, no response from applicant - denied.
12 cont.

- Complete application
  - Field review
- Permit To Install issued, with or without conditions
- Permit denied in writing
Time Limitations - .12

- Permit issued after 1/1/2000 – honored for 5 years from effective date of these rules (March 19, 2011)
  - Issued under these rules – valid for 5 years from date of issuance
- If system is not operational within 2 years of Approval For Use – Approval For Use becomes invalid
Engineer Designed Systems

- Small-Flow Developments
  - Construction plan shall be submitted in accordance with .15.
The system is designed to handle more than 1,200 gpd, of sewage as determined by Rule 420-3-1-.36 Design Flow and Wastewater Concentrations.

The system will handle any amount of high-strength sewage.

The site characteristics prohibit the use of a conventional system, or require any cut or fill to be used except that necessary to place a shallow placement system.

The lot is smaller than the minimums set out in Rule 420-3-1-.09 Minimum Size Requirements for Sites Using an OSS.

Sites that require mound systems as described in Rule 420-3-1-.66 Mounds.

Sites which have received or will require Modification or Fill as described in Rule 420-3-1-.67 Lot Modification and Controlled Fill Systems.

The REDF is to be smaller than the primary EDF or the REDF includes driveway or parking areas.

A holding tank is specified. See Rule 420-3-1-.55 Holding Tank Requirements.

An OSS using complex pumping systems.

Sites with a percolation rate over 120 min/inch.

Sites with slope of over 25%.
Site Preparation Plan (SPP) - .19

- Required for:
  - Large-Flow Development (including subdivisions).
  - Large-Flow Systems.
  - Establishments generating flow of over 1,200 gpd.
The primary purposes of a Site Preparation Plan are:

- to initiate early involvement of the Local Health Department (LHD) in a project,
- so as to protect the EDF(s) from any disturbance that will effect the performance of the onsite system such as removing or compacting soil,
- and aid the ADPH in determining the suitability of a site for onsite sewage treatment and disposal,
- determine the type and location of the system(s) to be installed,
- and avoid costly and untimely delays later on in the project.

The process requires an engineer be involved from the beginning and that he design an advanced treatment system that will be permitted using a State-Issued Performance Permit. The plans and specifications for these systems are the most involved.
Three Phases of SPP

- Phase I – Intent To Develop
- Phase II – Site visit and Field Review
- Phase III – Actual submittal of plans
This permit is required for all systems over 1,200 gpd and is issued prior to the issuance of the Permit to Install.

The issuance of the Approval to Use then activates this permit, requiring the permittee to comply with the conditions and requirements of the permit on an ongoing basis.

The Board, in consultation with the LHD, may issue this permit on any system in situations where the Approval for Use alone is not considered adequate to protect public health or the environment.

The Permit shall not be issued until the ADPH determines that the conditions of the Site Preparation Plan have been met.
The Approval for Use is issued after the LHD (and State Health Department, in some cases) is satisfied that all the conditions of these rules have been met.
Financial Viability Certification

- Applies to **Private** Onsite Management Entities
- Shall submit application to Board
- Board has contract with Public Service Commission to review information
- Board issues “permit” with tariff sheets that outlines cost per month of service.
Manufacturers of proprietary products/treatment systems/disposal system may be issued permits by the Board.

Applicant must demonstrate product can operate within range of conditions.
This Chart Assumes that The site is usable and all Regulatory Requirements are met

Start

Large Flow Development Engineer Required Rules .15-.23

Small Flow Development 1200 gpd or less Rules .13-.15

No CEP 3

Site Evaluation Plan Rules .71-.87
Site prep Plan .19

Yes

CEP 2

Large system 1200 gpd or small system on each lot

Small go to CEP 2

Conventional or Engineered Rule .35

Construction Plan Required Rule .15

Large Flow Sys. Continue With CEP 3

Performance Permit from State issued with Permit to Install Rule .29

LHD issues Approval for Use Activates Performance Permit.

Conventional

LHD issues Permit To Install Performance Permit (Certain Conditions)

Engineered

This Chart Assumes that The site is usable and all Regulatory Requirements are met