

From: [Whittlesey, Joseph](#)  
To: [Whitney, Andrew](#)  
Subject: RE: PLN-2025-19445 Espinoza Remodel CDP  
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 8:51:21 AM  
Attachments: [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

Hi Andrew,

Thanks again for following up on this one and getting clarification from the applicant. I've recommended conditional approval, requesting the applicant perform an evaluation of the existing septic system before the associated building permit is issued to ensure the system is functioning properly in accordance with DEH's Use of an Existing OWTS policy. I added recommended COA language in the project workflow, but I've copied below as well for good measure.

*Prior to subsequent building permit issuance, applicant shall demonstrate existing onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) supporting the existing residence is in good working order by providing DEH with an OWTS Inspection Report of the system prepared by a Qualified Professional or Qualified Service Provider including hydraulic load test results and general evaluation.*

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

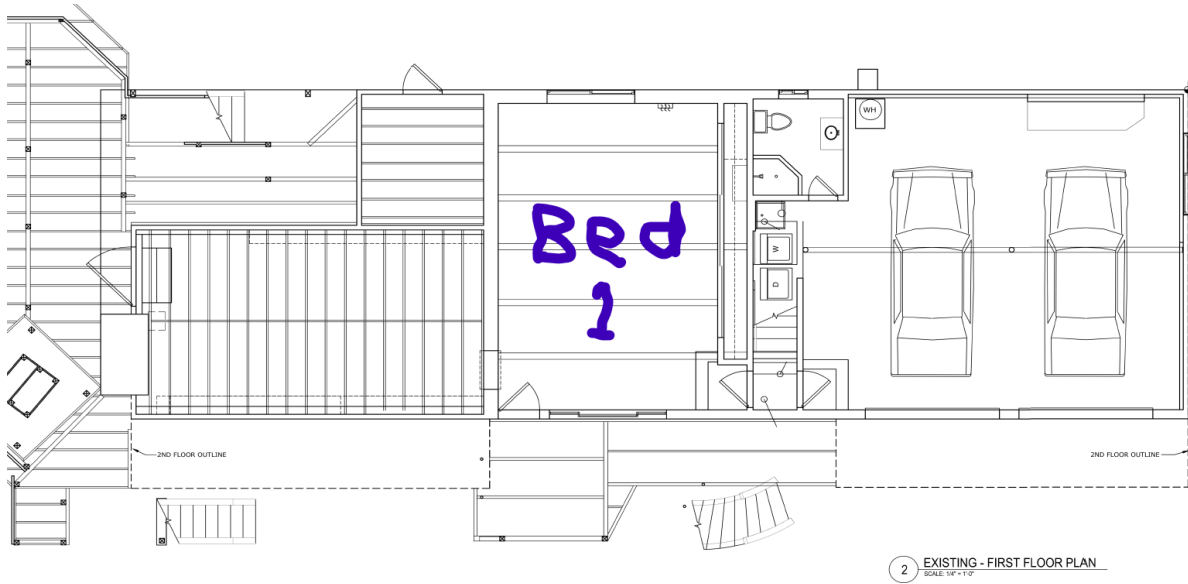
Joey Whittlesey  
Senior Environmental Health Specialist  
[Land Use Program](#)  
[Division of Environmental Health](#)  
100 H Street, Suite 100, Eureka, CA 95501  
Phone: (707) 268-2240 - Fax: (707) 441-5699

From: Whitney, Andrew <[awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:18 PM  
To: Whittlesey, Joseph <[jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
Subject: RE: PLN-2025-19445 Espinoza Remodel CDP

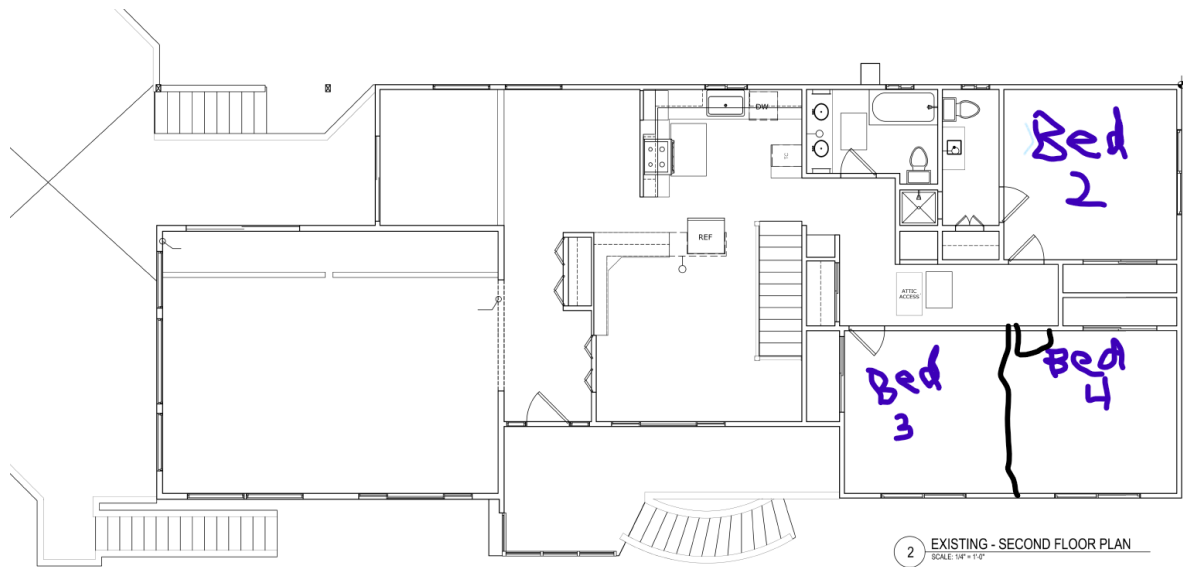
Hi Joey, I have been in contact with Lane Kennard at Vittrakis Builders. He told me that the house was built as a 4-bedroom house with an OSWTS designed for a 4-bedroom residence. I've included some snips from the plans that show the bedrooms, at some point they removed a wall between bedrooms 3 and 4.

Stephen Leach installed the water system. He has stated that the Espinoza residence is the only house on the system, it is not a shared system. There are other systems upstream on the same watercourse, but they are not connected to the Espinoza's system. Contact info for Stephan Leach : [leach9510@gmail.com](mailto:leach9510@gmail.com) Phone: 707-834-1874. I have attached emails from Stephen.

Please let me know if you have any question or if I can add clarification. Thanks Andrew



2 EXISTING - FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



**From:** Whittlesey, Joseph <[jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026 3:31 PM  
**To:** Whitney, Andrew <[awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: PLN-2025-19445 Espinoza Remodel CDP

Hi Andrew,

Following up on our phone call this afternoon, DEH will need to confirm number of existing bedrooms and number of connections to the shared water system before making comments and returning a recommendation for this CDP referral.

Thank you,

Joey Whittlesey  
 Senior Environmental Health Specialist  
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**From:** Whitney, Andrew <[awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:awhitney2@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 9, 2026 5:12 PM  
**To:** Whittlesey, Joseph <[jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:jwhittlesey@co.humboldt.ca.us)>  
**Subject:** PLN-2025-19445 Espinoza Remodel CDP

Hello Joey, Does DEH have any comment on PLN-2025-19445 Espinoza Remodel CDP? The project doesn't add to the building footprint or additional bedrooms so it seems modifications to the onsite septic system would not be needed. Am I correct? The source of water for the existing residence is "shared water system". Does DEH have any concerns there? Please let me know. Thank you.



**Andrew Whitney**  
 Associate Planner  
 Planning and Building Department  
 Direct: 707-268-3735  
 3015 H Street, Eureka CA  
 New office hours: M-Th 8:30-2:00, Closed on Friday