

## ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed Changes to the *Policy for the Use of Existing Sewage Disposal Systems*

## APPENDIX F

### POLICY FOR THE USE OF

#### EXISTING SEWAGE DISPOSAL ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (OWTS)

The use of an existing ~~sewage disposal system~~ OWTS for new or remodeling construction to serve a structure remodel, replacement, or change of use, will be acceptable if the ~~sewage disposal system~~ OWTS is functioning properly, and is sized appropriately for the proposed construction project, and the project does not impact the designated OWTS replacement area. Remodeling, replacement, or a planned change in use which will not affect the daily sewage flow to the ~~septic tank system~~ OWTS, and will not impact the remaining potential ~~repair~~ replacement area, will not require expansion, testing, or replacement of the existing ~~septic tank system~~ OWTS.

The acceptability of an existing ~~sewage disposal systems~~ OWTS for new ~~proposed development~~ construction, remodeling, or change in use will be determined as follows:

1. Existing ~~septic tank systems~~ OWTS which were approved by the Division of Environmental Health (DEH) after January 1, 1980, for which soils testing in accordance with the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board "Basin Plan Policy" has been conducted, or were based upon the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board "Basin Plan Policy", will be acceptable for use without further testing if: (1) the system shows no sign of failure or damage; and (2) the proposed development is compatible with the system as installed; and (3) the proposed development does not impact available OWTS replacement area.
2. Existing ~~septic tank systems~~ OWTS installed prior to January 1, 1980 and ~~without testing equivalent to the current Water Quality Control Board "Basin Plan Policy"~~ will be evaluated for approval as follows:
  - a. ~~Systems installed with a permit issued after March 20, 1974 will be inspected to determine if the existing system is function properly. Additionally, Applicants may be requested to expose portions of an existing OWTS to verify its size and location where no record or inadequate record of the OWTS exists.~~ Soil testing in conformance with the Humboldt County Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Regulations & Technical Manual (RTM) will be required in the primary and reserve replacement area(s) to determine if a reserve system the existing OWTS is sized appropriately for the intended use and that adequate replacement can be installed area exists in conformance with the Humboldt County Sewage Disposal Regulations. Reserve area testing will not be required for single family residences when the change consists of construction of an additional bedroom or bedrooms, and the existing system is of the appropriate size for the increased flow. Both the existing system and the reserve system will be required to be of the appropriate size for the proposed use. ~~Applicants may be requested to expose portions of an existing system to verify its size and location where no records of a final inspection the OWTS exists.~~ Expansion of an existing systems OWTS must be accomplished in accordance with the Humboldt County Sewage Disposal Regulations RTM.

- b. ~~Systems installed with a permit issued prior to March 21, 1974, or where no record of a permit exists, will be approved for use only after soil testing in the primary and reserve leach field areas demonstrates that the site is suitable in accordance with the Humboldt County Sewage Disposal Regulations. Existing sewage disposal systems (OWTS), which are functioning properly and are of the appropriate size, will be accepted for use as long as if site soil testing demonstrates suitability. Expansion of a system must be accomplished in accordance with current Humboldt County the Sewage Disposal Regulations (RTM). Site testing will not be required when the change in use consists of construction of an additional bedroom and the existing system is of the appropriate size for the increased flow.~~

~~The provisions of this policy may be waived, on a case-by-case basis, by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Environmental Health Director where extreme hardship, such as a dwelling destroyed by a fire, can be demonstrated.~~

~~For the purpose of this policy, replacement of an existing mobile home with a mobile home or preassembled housing with same or fewer number of bedrooms is not considered a new use and site testing will not be required if the existing system shows no sign of failure or damage. Additionally, reserve area testing will not be required.~~

~~A reserve is an area where an existing sewage disposal system can be repaired or replaced. This area may or may not be an area separate from the existing sewage disposal system.~~

~~This policy was approved by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors on October 23, 1984.~~

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~~(Prior version entitled "Policy for the Use of Existing Sewage Disposal Systems" was implemented on October 23, 1984.)~~