

# State of New Jersey

THE PINELANDS COMMISSION PO Box 359 New Lisbon, NJ 08064 (609) 894-7300 www.nj.gov/pinelands



RICHARD PRICKETT Chairman NANCY WITTENBERG Executive Director

General Information: Info@pinelands.nj.gov Application Specific Information: AppInfo@pinelands.nj.gov

# **MEMORANDUM**

To: CMP Policy & Implementation Committee

From: Susan R. Grogan

Director of Planning

Date: May 20, 2020

Subject: May 29, 2020 Committee meeting

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Enclosed please find the agenda for the Committee's upcoming meeting on May 29, 2020. We have also enclosed the following:

- The minutes from the Committee's April 24, 2020 meeting; and
- A draft resolution and rule proposal for the CMP amendments related to the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program. After the Committee's discussion of our recommendations and draft CMP amendments in February, one notable change has been made. The HOOT ANR technology was originally recommended for removal from the pilot program due to the lack of installations in the Pinelands Area since 2011. During preparation of the rule proposal, the Commission was notified of the pending installation of one HOOT ANR system. We are therefore recommending that the technology be retained in the program to provide an opportunity for additional installations and testing.

The proposed amendments have been submitted to the Governor's office for review. Upon their approval, the Commission will be able to move forward with formal authorization of the rule proposal.

Please note that Gabe Mahon, Chief of the Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, will be attending the Committee meeting to make a presentation on the Department's recently adopted stormwater management regulations.

The Committee meeting will be conducted via teleconference. Specific access information will be provided to all Committee members in a separate email. The public will be able to view and participate in the meeting through the following YouTube link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBgpC8sbR3Acrjo7ppxs3Uw

/CS15

cc: All Commissioners (agenda only)



PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor SHEILA Y. OLIVER Lt. Governor

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# CMP POLICY & IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

May 29, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.

Pinelands Commission YouTube link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBgpC8sbR3Acrjo7ppxs3Uw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBgpC8sbR3Acrjo7ppxs3Uw</a>

To provide public comment, please dial: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 833 5477 1666.

# Agenda

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Adoption of minutes from the April 24, 2020 CMP Policy & Implementation Committee meeting
- 3. Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program
  - Review of draft rule proposal
  - Recommendation to Commission
- 4. Stormwater Management Regulations
  - Overview of current CMP standards
  - Presentation on new NJDEP regulations
- 5. Continued discussion of draft CMP amendments related to coordinated permitting
- 6. Public Comment
- 7. Closed Session

#### CMP POLICY & IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

This meeting was conducted remotely
All participants were present via Zoom conference
April 24, 2020 - 9:30 a.m.

#### **MINUTES**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**: Chairman Richard Prickett, Sean Earlen, Jordan Howell, Jerome H. Irick, Ed Lloyd, and Mark Lohbauer

**MEMBER ABSENT**: Candace Ashmun

**STAFF PRESENT:** Nancy Wittenberg, Stacey P. Roth, Susan R. Grogan, Charles Horner, Paul Leakan, Jessica Lynch, Jessica Noble and Betsy Piner. Also present was Craig Ambrose, with the Governor's Authorities Unit.

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Prickett called the meeting of the Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) Policy and Implementation (P&I) Committee to order at 9:37 a.m. and asked for a moment of silence to reflect upon all those who have been profoundly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms. Wittenberg said that, thanks in great part to the efforts of Mr. Evan Bossett and his office, staff has remained working, efficient and productive. She noted that a new accounting firm was helping with the audit, that a request for proposals for painting Fenwick Manor has been issued and that the Science Office has secured permission from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to continue their field work in the state parks, which are currently closed to the public. She said regular staff meetings were continuing, development applications are being processed and overall she felt things were going very well.

Chairman Prickett responded that he too was pleased with how well the office was functioning.

# 3. Adoption of minutes from the February 28, 2020 CMP Policy & Implementation Committee Meeting

Commissioner Lohbauer moved the adoption of the February 28 2020 meeting minutes (Open and Closed sessions). Commissioner Earlen seconded the motion. The minutes were adopted, with all Committee members voting in the affirmative.

4. Extension of Garden State Parkway Secondary Impacts Agreement for Interchange 44

Ms. Roth provided the Committee with an update on the status of land acquisition by Atlantic County under the agreement that provided for the interchange expansion of Exit 44 on the Garden State Parkway. She provided a PowerPoint presentation (*Attachment A to these minutes and posted on the Commission's website at*):

https://www.nj.gov/pinelands/home/presentations/Interchange%2044%20-%20PI%20Presentation.pdf

She said when the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) wanted to create a full interchange at Exit 44 (adding Northbound entrance and Southbound exit ramps), Atlantic County signed an agreement (June 18, 2012) to acquire any lands needed to meet the offset and mitigation obligations required to complete the project. The County then signed an agreement with the Commission (January 6, 2014) to "obviate" secondary impacts by limiting development on a total of 356 acres within 1.5 miles of the interchange project through easements or land acquisition. Under a three-tiered approach, if within three years the County was unable to obviate secondary impacts within the primary 1.5 miles, lands could be preserved in the second tier further out from the interchange. Finally, if needed, an additional 18-months was granted to secure lands in the third tier. At the conclusion of the six-year agreement (January 6, 2020), if the required 356 acres were not protected, Atlantic County was obligated to pay the equivalent market value of the remaining lands to a non-profit, government agency, college or university or undertake the acquisition of Pinelands Development Credits from agricultural lands or other projects to improve water quality within the boundary of Tiers 1 through 3 in Atlantic County.

Ms. Roth said Atlantic County had chosen to acquire lands, rather than easements, and focused on the Tier 1 area. She said as of March 5, 2020, the County had acquired 327 of the 356 acres within Tier 1 and was currently in negotiations with Galloway Township to obtain an additional 15 acres of the remaining 29. She said the agreement allows the County to request an 18-month extension to meet its obligation and it had done so by letter dated March 5, 2020.

Ms. Grogan said the County had done an excellent job in meeting the agreement. All the targeted lands are in Galloway's Rural Development Area so she felt this had been a very successful endeavor.

Ms. Roth said the County is planning to preserve even more lands than the required 356 acres, and staff is recommending granting the extension. She said because of the current health crisis, the recommendation is to add an additional six months and extend the agreement until January 7, 2022.

Commissioner Lohbauer moved the recommendation to the Commission to grant the extension until January 7, 2022. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion and all Committee members voted in the affirmative.

# 5. Review of draft CMP amendments related to coordinated permitting

Ms. Roth said she and Ms. Grogan had been working with former DAG Marci Green on a number of rules. She made a PowerPoint presentation on coordinated permitting provisions, the so-called "gap" rule (Attachment B to these minutes and posted on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.state.nj.us/pinelands/home/presentations/Coordinated%20Rule%20Amendment%20">https://www.state.nj.us/pinelands/home/presentations/Coordinated%20Rule%20Amendment%20</a> (A).pdf

Ms. Grogan said this is another in the series of rules for which staff had provided an overview at the January 24, 2020 P&I Committee meeting.

Ms. Roth said the process for private applications requires an applicant to secure a certificate of filing from the Commission and then obtain local approvals that staff can "call-up" or approve as appropriate. Public applications go directly before the Commission for action. Ms. Roth said under the Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL), a provision specific to the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) allows that agency to pre-empt municipal review of certain infrastructure applications by utility companies. These are private applications but the result is there are no municipal approvals to "call-up." Ms. Roth said the Attorney General's office has been urging the Commission to move forward and codify a process by which such applications can be reviewed by the Commission. A new process would require these applications to be treated as public development applications with public notice requirements, updates on the website status reports and opportunity for written and oral comment at a Commission meeting. Upon the close of the public comment period, the staff would prepare its report and present it to the Commission at its next meeting.

She provided a description as to how the process of treating such private applications as public ones might function and noted that there are related issues regarding litigation and public comment that the Commission should deal with later but they will require a lengthier and more complex process.

A discussion ensued regarding the length of the public comment period on such applications and Ms. Roth said typically, since public applications are rarely complete upon receipt and posted on the status report, with the 30-day review period of the submission of additional information and ongoing back and forth between review and applicant, there could be as long as six months of public comment.

In response to Commissioner Lloyd's question as to how compressed the timeline might be, Ms. Roth said although 30 days might be typical, if the application arrived and was deemed compete before the agenda for the next Commission was issued, it could be as brief as 11 days.

Commissioner Lloyd said he believed a minimum 30-day comment period should be included.

Ms. Wittenberg asked if this revised period would apply to all public development applications, which could mean that others would be put at a disadvantage, particularly those with applications of an urgent nature.

Ms. Roth said if the Commission wants to create an application process significantly different than that currently in the CMP, the amendment process will take much longer.

Mr. Horner said there has never been an instance where a municipality has submitted a major development application and it was scheduled the next day to begin the 10-day public comment period.

Commissioner Lohbauer said he wanted a process for those limited cases so that the Commission can guarantee the public's involvement in the full process.

Ms. Roth said a 30-day comment period could be added to the "gap" rules but the full evidentiary process is in litigation now and will be addressed in the next iteration of the rules.

In response to Ms. Wittenberg's question to Ms. Grogan if the addition of this 30-day comment period could be done, Ms. Grogan said the rule will need to be very clear that it applies only to those projects seeking BPU exemption. She felt that distinction could be made.

In response to Chairman Pricket's comment that he would like to address these issues at the next P&I Committee, and Commissioner Lloyd's wish to discuss evidentiary hearings, Ms. Roth said that this is still the rule proposal stage and once the language is worked out, it will be published in the New Jersey Register and a public hearing scheduled. There is still the entire rulemaking process before us. She said she felt these small changes needed to go through now.

Ms. Roth said as for the concerns of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) (*Attachment C to these minutes*), the municipal planning board process is being pre-empted by the BPU, but the BPU conducts its own hearing, albeit they can determine who provides testimony. She said she believed the BPU pre-emption was designed for projects involving multiple municipalities.

Commissioner Lloyd concurred that it was for linear projects so that they could not be thwarted by a single municipality. He said he didn't think a BPU hearing addressed the concerns of PPA in allowing the public to address a planning board. He said if the Commission is making only small changes at this time, he feared that the larger concerns of lack of an evidentiary hearing will never be addressed. He said he believed these were private applications and should not be treated as public ones and that he felt that most Commissioners believed there should be a larger public process.

Ms. Wittenberg said the matter is being litigated regarding "interested party and "interested person" and the staff is following the recommendations of the Attorney General's office. She said DAG Kristina Miles could be at the May Commission meeting to discuss the matter further.

In response to Commissioner Lloyd's question as to what the staff envisioned, Ms. Grogan said there are several pieces to this round of rulemaking and they hoped to have a proposal before the Governor's Authorities Unit in time for the July Commission meeting. She said there will be an opportunity to discuss new language at the May P&I Committee meeting.

Chairman Prickett said he believed the Commission needed time to look at these rules in depth. He asked that the PPA letter be included in the minutes of this meeting.

In response to Commissioner Lloyd's question as to how many people were watching this meeting, Mr. Leakan responded there were 22 people watching the YouTube livestream. A few moments later he said it had increased to 25.

## 6. Public Comment

Ms. Rhyan Grech, with the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA), referenced PPA's letter concerning the proposed "gap" rule. She said that Commissioner Lloyd had captured their concerns. She said no matter how long the public comment period might be extended, by eliminating sworn testimony before a planning board the record is incomplete. She said just because the Commission is in litigation, it doesn't mean that a private application becomes a public one.

Commissioner Lloyd said the BPU sometimes allows interveners in its hearings but that process is more expansive. He said the Commission should allow interveners for Pinelands issues.

Commissioner Lohbauer thanked the staff for how well this meeting had been conducted. Ms. Wittenberg noted that the credit belongs to Ms. Lynch and Mr. Bossett. Commissioner Irick added his thanks and noted that this had been one of the best remote meetings he had attended.

#### **Closed Session**

Ms. Roth stated that the Committee would meet in closed session to discuss litigation matters related to the Heritage Minerals/Hovson's, Inc. site. She said no action would be taken and the Committee would not resume its public meeting.

Commissioner Lloyd moved to meet in closed session at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Lohbauer seconded the motion and all voted unanimously to do so.

Certified as true and correct:

**Betsy Piner** 

Principal Planning Assistant

Date: May 6, 2020

#### **INTERCHANGE 44**

# EXTENSION OF SECONDARY IMPACT AGREEMENT

Pinelands Commission
Policy and Implementation Committee
April 24, 2020

# **GSP Overlay District**

N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.35(b)

"The uses listed in (a)1 through 3 above shall be permitted provided they will not induce changes in the location, pattern or intensity of land use which would be inconsistent with the Pinelands land use program as implemented through the Commission's certification, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-3, of the master plans and land use ordinances of Pinelands municipalities."

# **Interchange 44 Project**

- NJ Turnpike Authority was to complete Interchange 44 on the Garden State Parkway by adding a Northbound Exit Ramp and Southbound Entrance Ramp.
- Project located in the State designated Pinelands Area.
- Pursuant to an agreement between NJTA and Atlantic County dated June 18, 2012, the County agreed to be responsible for land acquisition to complete the project, including any lands necessary to satisfy mitigation or other permitting requirements.

# **Secondary Impacts Agreement**

- Pinelands Commission and Atlantic County entered into a Secondary Impacts Agreement on January 1, 2014.
- The Secondary Impacts Agreement set forth the means by which Atlantic County would "obviate" secondary impacts associated with the Interchange 44 project.
- Specifically, Atlantic County was to limit development potential on parcels located within 1.5 miles of Interchange 44, totaling 356 acres.

# **Three Tier Approach**

- Atlantic County had 3 years from execution of the Secondary Impacts Agreement to obviate secondary impacts, through land acquisition or easements within Tier 1.
- After the initial 3 years, Atlantic County had an additional 18 months to obviate secondary impacts equal to 2 times the amount of its remaining obligation within Tier 2;
- At the end of this 18 month period, Atlantic County had 18 additional months to satisfy any remaining obligation within Tier 3.

# Three Tier Approach, continued

 At the end of 6 years, the Agreement contains a provision where the County pays an amount equal to fair market value of any acreage that it fails to acquire within Tier 1 within six years from the effective date of the Agreement; i.e. January 7, 2020, to a non-profit, government entity or university or college to undertake the acquisition of Pinelands Development Credits from agricultural lands or other projects, including land acquisition, to improve water quality within the boundaries of Tiers 1 through 3 in Atlantic County.



# **Atlantic County's efforts**

- Atlantic County focused its efforts on acquisition of land within Tier 1.
- As of March 5, 2020, Atlantic County has acquired 327 out of 356 acres within Tier 1.
- Only 29 acres remain to be acquired for Atlantic County to complete its obligation under the Secondary Impacts Agreement.



# Extension of Secondary Impacts Agreement

- The Secondary Impacts Agreement affords the opportunity to request an extension of the time period to complete the obligation to obviate secondary impacts from the Commission's Executive Director for a period of up to 18 months with the submission of documentation demonstrating that completion of the task to obviate secondary impacts will be completed within the extended time period.
- Atlantic County has indicated that it is continuing its efforts to work with Galloway Township to acquire lands owned by the Township located in Tier 1.
- Atlantic County has requested an extension to complete its acquisition of the remaining 29 acres required by the Agreement.

# **Staff Recommendation**

- The Commission allow the County to complete its acquisition of the remaining 29 acres rather than having the County provide funds to a non-profit, governmental entity or university to complete the task for it, given the County's diligent effort to date to complete its obligations under the Agreement.
- The Commission extend the acquisition deadline by 2 years in recognition of the current unprecedented health crisis.
- With the extension, Atlantic County would have until January 7, 2022 to acquire the remaining 29 acres.

# **Proposed CMP Amendment:**

**Coordinated Permitting Provisions** 

Policy & Implementation Committee April 24, 2020

# **Purpose of the Amendment**

To codify the application process for infrastructure projects proposed by public utilities that qualify for MLUL pre-emption pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-19 and do not receive municipal approvals.

# **MLUL Preemption**

- N.J.S.A. 40:55D-19:
  - MLUL (nor regulations adopted thereunder) does not apply to:
    - Development proposed for the furnishing of service;
    - Proposed by a public utility;
    - Installation in more than one municipality; and
    - BPU determines the development is reasonably necessary for public service, convenience or welfare
- Public utility must petition Board of Public Utilities (BPU)
- BPU makes determination after notice and hearing
- Municipal approval is preempted

#### Coordinated Permitting - N.J.A.C. 7:50-4.81 et seq.

- Prior to filing an application with BPU, the public utility shall file a copy of the application with the Commission (N.J.A.C. 7:50-4.81(b))
- Staff reviews the application, requests additional information, and deems the application complete
- Staff issues a Certificate of Filing

# Coordinated Permitting Process under Proposed Amendments

- BPU determines the proposed infrastructure project qualifies for the 40:55D-19 pre-emption.
- Applicant provides a copy of the BPU determination to the Commission.
- Proposed amendment requires that the proposed infrastructure project be reviewed in accordance with the public development regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:50-4.53 through -4.57.)

#### Pinelands Development Application Process for Public Utility Development for which Municipal Review is Pre-empted

- Applicant submits Pinelands development application and fulfills public notice requirements.
- Staff updates the status report on the Commission's website to provide the dates for oral public comment and submission of written comments.
- Oral comments accepted at PC meeting.
- Written comments accepted through close of business on day of PC meeting

# **Application Process (continued)**

- Staff prepares a recommendation report after the comment period closes.
- The application is presented to the Commission at its next meeting.



# PINELANDS PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

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April 21, 2020

Richard Prickett, Chair Nancy Wittenberg, Executive Director New Jersey Pinelands Commission 17 Springfield Road New Lisbon, NJ 08068

Dear Chairman Pricket, Director Wittenberg and Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) to express concern about the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) regarding coordinated permitting. To address a remand order from the Appellate Division, the Commission must develop a process to consider applications that are exempted from municipal review by the Board of Public Utilities. Skipping this crucial step leaves a gap in the approval process, and the CMP must be amended to provide the same analysis of the application as other private applications.

The CMP and Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) lay out a clear process for applications from private, for-profit entities. This process allows for an evidentiary hearing: an opportunity for sworn testimony, evidence submittal and examination, and cross-examination. It is the only way for the public, and for the Commission, to acquire, examine and consider all aspects of a complicated development proposal. Eliminating municipal review allows the applicant to bypass the level of scrutiny guaranteed to the public per the CMP and MLUL.

However, the amendment proposed is woefully inadequate in providing the same level of consideration to the types of applications specified in the remand order. The draft amendment suggests processing such an application in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-4.53 through 4.57, which is the process for a public application. The opportunity for public comment offered for a public application is in no way an equivalent substitute for a genuine evidentiary hearing.

The rule should state that any member of the public can invoke an evidentiary hearing, either before the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) or before the Commission itself if the OAL hearing is not available. It is the only way to guarantee a true test of the findings presented, and that a proper record will be created.

The CMP states "No department, board, bureau, official or other agency of the State of New Jersey shall issue any approval, certificate, license, consent, permit, or financial assistance for the construction of any structure or the disturbance of any land in the Pinelands Area unless such approval or grant is consistent with the minimum standards of this Plan." (NJAC 7:50-4.81(a)). Compliance with the minimum standards of the CMP can only be determined by the Pinelands Commission, and the

determination of preemption from municipal review by a separate agency should not have any impact on how a private application is considered or approved with respect to the CMP.

Private corporations such as New Jersey Natural Gas, South Jersey Gas, or other for-profit, commercial entities must be held to the same standards as other private developers, and must submit to an evidentiary hearing. The final CMP amendment should clearly indicate that the Commission and the public are offered this protection.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rhyan Grech

Policy Advocate



# RESOLUTION OF THE NEW JERSEY PINELANDS COMMISSION

NO. PC4-20	<b>)-</b>
TITLE:	To Authorize the Executive Director to Propose Amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan in Accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Alternate Design Wastewater Treatment Systems Pilot Program)
Commissione seconds the m	r moves and Commissioner notion that:

**WHEREAS,** on May 10, 2002, the Pinelands Commission adopted amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan that established the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, these Comprehensive Management Plan amendments took effect on August 5, 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23, the Executive Director reviewed this Pilot Program and reported on its implementation to the Commission in November 2006, November 2009, November 2012 and November 2017; and

WHEREAS, based on the Executive Director's recommendations, the Commission previously adopted amendments to the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program to, among other things, allow for continued installation and monitoring of alternate design wastewater treatment systems, recognize the successful performance of three technologies by authorizing them for use on a permanent basis, remove two technologies from the Pilot Program due to non-participation and inability to meet Comprehensive Management Plan standards, and provide an opportunity for new technologies to participate in the Pilot Program; and

**WHEREAS,** as required by N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23, the Executive Director again reviewed the Pilot Program and reported on its implementation to the Commission in a report dated November 2019; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Implementation Report recommends extension of the Pilot Program to at least 2025, authorization of one technology on a permanent basis in recognition of its demonstrated success in meeting Comprehensive Management Plan water quality standards, removal of other technologies from the pilot program due to their inability to meet Comprehensive Management Plan water quality standards or lack of installation in the Pinelands Area and recruitment of new technologies into the pilot program in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, these recommendations, the full Implementation Report and proposed Comprehensive Management Plan amendments were discussed with the Commission's CMP Policy & Implementation Committee on February 28, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan have been reviewed by the Pinelands Commission; and

**WHEREAS,** the Pinelands Commission wishes to formally consider the amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan set forth in the attachment hereto, dated May 20, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administrative Procedure Act of 1968, as amended, and the Office of Administrative Law implementing regulations set forth a detailed procedure governing proposed rulemaking; and

**WHEREAS,** the Pinelands Commission also wishes to obtain the comments of the public, governmental agencies and the Pinelands Municipal Council on the proposed amendments, in accordance with the Pinelands Protection Act and Subchapter 7 of the Comprehensive Management Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:18A-5h, no action authorized by the Commission shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Commission has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. The Commission hereby authorizes the Executive Director to submit the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Management Plan, attached hereto and dated May 20, 2020, and the required supporting documentation to the Office of Administrative Law for publication as proposed regulations;
- 2. The Executive Director shall transmit the proposed amendments to all Pinelands municipalities and counties and the Pinelands Municipal Council for review;
- 3. The public comment period on the proposed amendments shall extend 60 days from the date of publication of the proposal in the *New Jersey Register* and the Executive Director shall affix the date of a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendments; and
- 4. Subsequent to the comment period, the Executive Director shall expeditiously prepare proposed final amendments, with any pertinent changes to these amendments, for review by the Commission's CMP Policy and Implementation Committee, and shall submit same to the Commission for final action.

# **Record of Commission Votes**

		AYE	NAY	NP	A/R*		AYE	NAY	NP	A/R*		AYE	NAY	NP	A/R*
	Ashmun					Irick					Quinn				
	Avery					Jannarone					Rohan Green				
	Christy					Lloyd					Prickett				
	Earlen					Lohbauer									
	Howell					Pikolycky									
*A = Abstained / R = Recused															
Adopted at a meeting of the Pinelands Commission Date:															

Adopted at a meeting of the Finerands Commission	Date.
Nancy Wittenberg	Richard Prickett
Executive Director	Chairman

# **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

#### PINELANDS COMMISSION

**Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan** 

Minimum Standards for Land Use Distribution and Intensities; Water Quality; Pilot Program for Alternate Design Wastewater Treatment Systems

Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.22, 5.23, 5.24, 5.26, 5.27, 5.28, 6.84, 6.85, 10.21, 10.22 and 10.23

Authorized By: New Jersey Pinelands Commission, Nancy Wittenberg, Executive Director

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:18A-6j

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement

Proposal Number:

A **public hearing** concerning this proposal will be held on:

\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020 at 9:30 A.M. Richard J. Sullivan Center 15C Springfield Road New Lisbon, New Jersey

Submit written comments by regular mail, facsimile or e-mail by \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2020 to:

Susan R. Grogan, P.P., AICP Director of Planning Pinelands Commission P.O. Box 359

New Lisbon, NJ 08064 Facsimile: (609)894-7330

E-mail: planning@pinelands.nj.gov or through the Commission's website at

http://nj.gov/pinelands/home/contact/planning.shtml

The name and mailing address of the commenter must be submitted with all public comments. Commenters who do not wish their names and affiliations to be published in any notice of adoption subsequently prepared by the Commission should so indicate when they submit their comments.

The agency proposal follows:

## **Summary**

The New Jersey Pinelands Commission (Commission) proposes to amend subchapter 5, Minimum Standards for Land Uses and Intensities; subchapter 6, Management Programs and Minimum Standards; and subchapter 10, Pilot Programs, of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP). The CMP has been guiding land use and development activities in the Pinelands since it took effect on January 14, 1981. The CMP has been amended many times, most recently in October 2018 through a set of amendments related to the Pilot Program for Alternate Design Wastewater Treatment Systems (see 50 N.J.R. 2327(b)).

Amendments related to the Pilot Program for Alternate Design Wastewater Treatment Systems ("Pilot Program" or "Program") are again being proposed to extend the Program, authorize a piloted technology for permanent use, remove two piloted technologies from the Program, revise manufacturer reporting and certification requirements, and clarify certain requirements. Amendments are also being proposed to eliminate inconsistencies among certain sections of subchapters 5, 6 and 10 and to modify reporting requirements in subchapter 6. A more detailed description of the Pilot Program and proposed amendments follows.

The Commission created the Pilot Program in 2002 to test advanced septic system technologies for residential development. An ad hoc committee convened earlier by the Commission had concluded that advanced technologies could be more effective at meeting the water quality standards of the CMP than conventional septic systems for residential development on lots smaller than 3.2 acres. This finding was significant, as there are many lots in the Pinelands zoned for residential use, but which do not meet the CMP's 3.2 acre minimum lot size requirement for residential development served by conventional septic systems. This left many landowners unable to build houses on these smaller lots.

Based on the committee's recommendations, the Commission formally established the Pilot Program by amending the CMP to allow five specific alternate waste water treatment technologies to be installed for residential development in the Pinelands. (see 34 N.J.R. 2804(b); N.J.A.C. 7:50-10, Part IV). The Pilot Program was designed to test whether the alternate treatment systems could be maintained and operated to meet the water quality standards of the CMP in a manner that a homeowner could reasonably be expected to follow.

The CMP water quality standards, N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII, control the amount of nitrogen that can enter the environment, as nitrogen is a significant pollutant that often serves as an indicator of changes in overall water quality. Unlike conventional septic systems, which control nitrogen by diluting the waste water on larger parcels of land, as is required in the Pinelands Area, alternate technologies treat the waste water to reduce nitrogen levels rather than relying solely on the dilution of nitrogen. This allows for more effective waste water treatment on smaller parcels in the Pinelands Area that are zoned for residential development. All the technologies accepted into the Pilot Program utilize proven biological nutrient removal processes to reduce nitrogen levels in treated wastewater.

The first Pilot Program treatment system was installed in 2004. As of May 1, 2020, a total of 346 Pilot Program systems have been installed to service single-family residential development in 28 Pinelands municipalities. The Pilot Program has given landowners the opportunity to build houses on smaller parcels of land that are zoned for residential development, but which do not meet the 3.2 acre minimum lot size for conventional septic systems.

The Pilot Program has evolved over the last 18 years in response to the continuous evaluation and assessment of technologies. Based on the recommendations of the Executive Director in program implementation reports issued in 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2017 (updated 2018), the Commission has periodically amended rules related to the Pilot Program. Links to all reports may be found on the Commission's website at <a href="https://www.nj.gov/pinelands">www.nj.gov/pinelands</a>.

Of the original five technologies piloted, three were deemed successful and permanently approved by the Commission (Amphidrome and Bioclere for use on parcels of at least one acre; Fast for use on parcels of at least 1.4 acres) and two were removed from the program based on lack of sales or not meeting water quality standards (Ashco RSF III and Cromaglass). (see 42 N.J.R. 2422(a); 50 N.J.R. 969(a); 39 N.J.R. 5077(b); and 46 N.J.R. 1877(b)).

In addition to the actions taken on each of the five original piloted technologies, the Commission has also amended the CMP to expand and enhance the Program, including:

- Authorizing the Commission to accept additional prescreened technologies into the Program;
- Removing fixed deadlines for the installation of piloted technologies;
- Authorizing the Executive Director to impose an immediate suspension on all new installations of a Pilot Program technology that is not adhering to the requirements of the program or meeting CMP water quality standards;

- Allowing piloted technologies in all Pinelands municipalities;
- Removing limits on the amount of installed systems for a technology in the same residential development.

Amendments to the Pilot Program, including those discussed above, were adopted by the Commission in 2006, 2007, 2010, 2014, 2017 and 2018 and can be found at 38 N.J.R. 1829(b), 39 N.J.R. 5077(b), 42 N.J.R. 2422(a), 46 N.J.R. 1877(b), 50 N.J.R. 969(a) and 50 N.J.R. 2327(b).

The Executive Director issued the fifth implementation report in November 2019

(https://www.nj.gov/pinelands/landuse/current/altseptic/2019%20Pilot\_Septic\_Imlem\_Rpt%20
%20FINAL.pdf), concluding that the continued use of advanced onsite treatment technologies is essential to the efficient use and orderly development of designated growth areas of the Pinelands as well as other areas in which residential development is permitted on lots smaller than 3.2 acres. The report addresses, among other things, the evaluation of four technologies added to the Pilot Program in 2011 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(b), and the continuation of the Program. The Executive Director made the following recommendations:

- Advance one of the four technologies that entered the Pilot Program in 2011,
   SeptiTech, beyond the piloting stage and authorize it for permanent use subject to
   N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(3);
- Remove the Busse GT and Hoot ANR technologies and Hoot ANR from the Pilot
   Program as neither technology has been installed in the Pinelands Area since being accepted into the Program in 2011;

- Remove the BioBarrier system from the Pilot Program as it has not been successful in meeting CMP water quality standards since being accepted into the Pilot Program in 2011;
- Invoke the Commission's authority in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(b) to add additional technologies to the Pilot Program by recruiting new NSF Standard 245 and/or USEPA ETV certified technologies to participate in the Pilot Program beginning in 2020, as adding new technologies to the program should lead to increased competition among the system vendors and may lead to continued price stability and potential cost reductions; and
- Extend the Pilot Program to 2025 by amending N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(c) and (d) to
  require the Executive Director's next report on newly piloted technologies to be due
  in 2025, with a possible extension to 2027 if necessary.

The Commission is proposing amendments to the CMP in response to the findings and recommendations set forth in the 2019 Implementation Report, with the exception of the recommendation to remove the Hoot ANR technology. As this proposal was being prepared, the Commission received notice of the pending installation of the first Hoot ANR system in the Pinelands Area. The Commission is therefore retaining the Hoot ANR technology in the Pilot Program to give it more time for testing. The proposed amendments also update, correct, and clarify various provisions of the rules.

The proposed amendments and the 2019 Implementation Report on which they are based were discussed and reviewed at multiple public meetings of the Commission and the Commission's CMP Policy & Implementation Committee in 2019 and 2020. When feasible, Commission staff will also provide a presentation on the proposed amendments at a public

meeting of the Pinelands Municipal Council (PMC). The PMC, created by the Pinelands

Protection Act (N.J.S.A. 13:18A-1 et seq.), is made up of the mayors of the 53 municipalities in
the Pinelands Area or their designees. The Council is empowered to review and comment upon
changes proposed by the Commission in the New Jersey Pinelands Comprehensive Management
Plan and advises the Commission on matters of interest regarding the Pinelands.

A more detailed description of the proposed amendments follows.

## **Subchapter 5**

The Commission is proposing to update subchapter 5 to clarify minimum lot sizes for certain nonresidential development in certain Pinelands areas. This is necessary to correct inconsistencies resulting from recent amendments to subchapter 6. In 2018, the Commission amended N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2) to authorize the use of advanced wastewater treatment systems for preexisting nonresidential development in the Rural Development Area, Forest Area, Agricultural Production Area, and Preservation Area District. The 2018 amendments allow advanced wastewater treatment systems in these areas when the proposed nonresidential development constitutes an expansion of a nonresidential use that was in existence on January 14, 1981, the effective date of the CMP, or constitutes a change of an existing use to another permitted nonresidential use. (See: 50 N.J.R. 969(a); N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2)). This change provided an opportunity to improve water quality while at the same time, allowing for potential expansion of pre-existing commercial uses. There are some provisions in subchapter 5, however, that are inconsistent with the amended N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2) and the Commission is proposing to update those provisions.

The provisions to be amended, N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.22(d), 5.23(d), 5.24(d), 5.26(d), and 5.27(d), prohibit non-residential structures on parcels less than one acre in the Rural Development Area, Forest Area, Agricultural Production Area, and Preservation Area District, as conventional septic systems that service such structures require lots larger than one acre to meet the CMP septic dilution requirements in those areas. The 2018 amendments to N.J.A.C. 6.84(a)5iii(2), however, gave some landowners in these areas the ability to expand their existing businesses by converting to advanced waste water treatment systems. Some such businesses are located on lots smaller than one acre. It was not the Commission's intention to exclude these businesses from the opportunity to expand. To correct this inconsistency, the Commission is proposing to update N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.22(d), 5.23(d), 5.24(d), 5.26(d), and 5.27(d) to recognize that the one-acre minimum lot size requirement in those provisions will not apply to a preexisting non-residential use in the Rural Development Area, Forest Area, Agricultural Production Area, and Preservation Area District when the landowner is seeking to convert to an advanced technology treatment system from a conventional septic system in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2).

Similarly, the Commission is proposing to update N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.27 and 5.28 to make these provisions consistent with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(1), which has allowed the use of advanced wastewater treatment systems to serve nonresidential development in Pinelands Villages, Pinelands Towns, and Regional Growth Areas since 1987. N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.27 and 5.28 currently require a minimum lot size of one acre for nonresidential uses in Pinelands Villages, Pinelands Towns, and Regional Growth Areas served by any type of septic system To to recognize that Pinelands water quality standards can be met on smaller lots when advanced treatment systems are used, the Commission proposes to add new N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.27(b)3 and

5.28(b)3 to remove the one acre lot size requirements for advanced waste water treatment systems that serve new or existing nonresidential uses in Pinelands Villages and Towns and Regional Growth Areas, respectively. These three management areas represent the growth-oriented portions of the Pinelands, where new nonresidential development is encouraged. It should be noted that Pinelands municipalities will retain the ability to establish whatever area and yard requirements they deem appropriate for nonresidential uses in zoning districts within these management areas. The Commission is simply removing what has proven to be an unnecessary restriction on the use of advanced treatment systems in these areas.

The Commission is also proposing minor changes to existing N.J.A.C. 7:50- 5.27(b)2 and 5.28(b)2, which address waste water treatment systems for residential development, to more clearly distinguish them from the requirements in proposed new N.J.A.C. 7:50- 5.27(b)3 and 5.28(b)3, which address waste water treatment systems for nonresidential development.

## Subchapter 6

The Commission is proposing to remove superfluous language from N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)2ii and make a minor grammatical correction to the same provision. N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)2 sets forth the criteria under which new waste water treatment facilities are permitted to serve existing development in the Pinelands Area where a public health problem has been identified. One of the criteria is that the facility is designed to accommodate waste water only from existing residential, commercial, and industrial development. The Commission is proposing to modify this limitation as it unintentionally excluded other types of nonresidential development, such as schools, churches and other institutional uses. Rather than attempting to list all possible types of development, N.J.A.C 7:50-6.84(a)2ii will now require that facilities be designed to accommodate waste water from existing development.

The Commission is proposing an amendment to N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5 to release the SeptiTech technology from the Pilot Program and authorize its permanent use on residential development on parcels of at least one acre in the Pinelands Area. SeptiTech will join Amphidrome, Bioclere and Fast as a technology that the Commission has determined meets the CMP water quality standards and has authorized for permanent use. Installation of a SeptiTech system will be subject to a series of requirements imposed on all alternate waste water treatment technologies approved for permanent use, including: mandatory recording of deed notices, conveyance of an approved operation and maintenance manual to the homeowner, compliance with construction standards, as-built certifications, alarm requirements, system warranty requirements and renewable operation and maintenance service agreements. (see N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2)(C) through (J)).

The Commission is also proposing to amend N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2)(E) to require the manufacturer/engineer of an alternate design waste water treatment system to include the cost of the system in its certification to the Commission and local board of health. Although the systems regulated by this subchapter have "graduated" from the Pilot Program and been granted permanent status for residential use, the Commission continues to collect and monitor the cost of installing systems. Manufacturers and engineers have been routinely providing cost information for the approved systems, and the rule amendment will simply formalize that practice.

Subchapters 6 and 10 require manufacturers of waste water technologies to install warning systems and provide warranties and maintenance contracts for the treatment systems.

The specific requirements vary between the two subchapters. To eliminate any confusion and to ensure uniformity among installations of alternate waste water technology systems, the

Commission is proposing minor changes to both subchapters to make them consistent when appropriate.

## **Subchapter 10**

The Commission proposes to update and clarify N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21, which sets forth the history of the Pilot Program and the status of alternate design treatment technologies in the Program. Language chronicling the piloted technologies between 2002 and 2016 will be moved from N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(a) and more succinctly summarized in new N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(e). This provision includes a summary of the original technologies accepted into the Pilot Program, removed from the Pilot Program, and authorized for permanent use in the Pinelands Area. Language describing the Commission's decision to expand the Pilot Program in 2010 and accept four additional technologies into the Pilot Program in 2011 is proposed to be moved from N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(a) to new N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(f). The Commission is also proposing in new N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(f) to authorize the SeptiTech technology, which was one of the four technologies accepted into the Pilot Program in 2011, for permanent residential use on residential parcels of at least one acre. Proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.21(f) will also include notification that the Commission has removed two other technologies accepted into the Pilot Program in 2011 (BioBarrier and Busse GT) because the technology either failed to meet the Plan's water quality standards or because no systems were installed in the Pinelands Area since entering the Program in 2011.

The Commission is proposing to change the reporting obligations in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)4 to require the Executive Director to submit periodic reports to the Commission instead of annual reports. The Executive Director has submitted annual reports on the installation, maintenance, and performance data for each piloted technology since the Program's inception in

2002. The Commission has determined that at this advanced stage of the Program, annual reports are not as critical as they were when the Commission was initially testing new technologies. To that end, the Commission is proposing to eliminate the annual reporting requirement and require the Executive Director to submit periodic reports on installation, maintenance and performance data report when such reporting is deemed warranted. Consistent with this more focused, flexible reporting, the Commission is also proposing to eliminate the interim reporting requirement in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)4 and replace it with an ongoing obligation for the Executive Director to report to the Commission any significant issues with the installation, maintenance, or performance with any of the piloted technologies.

The Commission is proposing to eliminate the requirement in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5v that a manufacturer/engineer identify installation problems in its certification to the Commission and local board of health upon completion of an individual system. The Commission believes that the reporting obligation of N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5xi, which requires manufacturers to identify and discuss installation problems in semi-annual reports to the Executive Director, is sufficient for reporting such problems. It should be noted that there have not been any reported installation problems in many years.

The Commission is also proposing to eliminate the requirement in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5viii for manufacturers to report necessary maintenance and repairs within 10 days to the Executive Director and local board of health. The Commission no longer needs this information on an immediate basis. Requiring manufacturers to include the information in a semi-annual report, as required by N.J.A.C. 10.22(a)5xi, sufficiently informs the Commission of any maintenance and repairs.

Minor, non-substantive changes are being proposed to update cross-references in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)2ii and 3 and N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(c) as a result of amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a) in 2018. A minor, non-substantive change is being proposed to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)vi to correct the cross-reference regarding a required sample deed notice. A minor, non-substantive change is being proposed to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5ix to correct the cross-reference to the technology manufacturer's manual.

A minor change is being proposed to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5xi to clarify that a manufacturer is required to submit twice-yearly reports to the Executive Director <u>by</u> June 5 and December 5 of each year and not necessarily <u>on</u> those dates.

The Commission has extended the Pilot Program many times since its inception in 2002 and is proposing to further extend it by amending N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(c). The Program has been very successful in identifying alternate septic system technologies that better meet the water quality standards of the CMP. Identifying more advanced technologies on residential lots smaller than 3.2 acres will serve to promote better water quality in the Pinelands Area. In addition, landowners in the Pinelands Area will benefit from an extension, as additional technologies entering the Program will expand consumer choice and stabilize prices. The Commission is proposing to extend the Program to August 2025, at which time the Executive Director will conduct a review and provide a status report to the Commission. The Commission is also proposing to amend N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(d) to provide the opportunity for an additional extension of the Pilot Program to 2027 in the event there is insufficient data on the piloted technologies at the time of the required review in 2025. The criteria for reviewing the piloted technologies remain unchanged, but a minor, non-substantive change is proposed to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(c)2 to correct an incorrect cross-reference.

# **Social Impact**

No adverse social impact is anticipated from the adoption of the proposed amendments. Society as a whole benefits from the protection of the Pinelands, and the proposed amendments are designed to do just that. The Pilot Program has resulted in the identification and use of alternate waste water treatment systems that, if properly maintained, can more efficiently meet the water quality standards of the CMP than conventional septic systems for residential use. The proposed amendments authorize a piloted technology for permanent use and extend the Pilot Program for the testing of more technologies until at least 2025. These amendments will have a positive social impact by expanding consumer choice, stabilizing prices, and furthering the protection of the Pinelands.

For nonresidential uses, the amendments recognize that the use of advanced treatment systems may allow certain businesses to be developed or expanded in conformance with CMP water quality standards on lots of less than one acre in size. In the Preservation Area District, Forest, Agricultural Production, and Rural Development Areas, qualifying businesses will be those that have been in operation for decades. In the Regional Growth Area, Pinelands Towns and Pinelands Villages, the amendments will provide a greater opportunity for nonresidential development in commercial and industrial zones that have long been zoned for such uses. The result will be a continuation of existing land use patterns and fulfillment of municipal zoning plans in a manner than meets all CMP environmental standards.

The rule amendments will result in more efficient use of developable land in the Pinelands Area and not cause any significant changes in land use patterns.

# **Economic Impact**

The proposed amendments will further the positive economic impacts of the Pilot Program on landowners seeking to develop residential parcels between one and 3.2 acres in unsewered areas of the Pinelands Area. The CMP mandates a minimum residential lot size of 3.2 acres if the parcel is to be served by a conventional septic system. Some smaller parcels, however, are zoned for residential development in the CMP despite not meeting the 3.2 acre minimum for conventional septic systems, leaving landowners previously unable to develop those parcels. The Pilot Program has identified alternate design technologies that can meet the CMP's water quality standards on parcels less than 3.2 acres, opening the door for residential development of parcels that are between one and 3.2 acres, and having a positive economic impact on landowners, the construction industry, and the region.

The proposed amendments will grant permanent approval of a piloted technology and extend the Pilot Program to at least 2025 so that the Commission can pilot more technologies.

These changes will enhance consumer choice, improve competition, and potentially reduce costs to homeowners.

The elimination of the one acre minimum lot size for new nonresidential uses in the Regional Growth Area, Pinelands Towns and Pinelands Villages and the expansion of nonresidential uses in other management areas that utilize advanced treatment systems are expected to have a positive economic impact on property and business owners that can avail themselves of these changes. In addition, there could be a positive impact on municipalities who could see an increase in tax revenue from new or expanded businesses in areas zoned for commercial uses.

## **Environmental Impact**

The proposed extension of the Pilot Program is expected to have a significant environmental benefit because alternate treatment systems, when properly maintained, can result in better water quality than conventional septic systems. The Commission will have the opportunity to add alternate wastewater technologies to the Program, which will provide more data to evaluate and the potential to expand the list of permanently authorized technologies that can be utilized to improve water quality in the Pinelands.

#### **Federal Standards Statement**

Section 502 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. §471i) called upon the State of New Jersey to develop a comprehensive management plan for the Pinelands National Reserve. The original plan adopted in 1980 was subject to the approval of the United States Secretary of the Interior, as are all amendments to the plan.

The Federal Pinelands legislation sets forth rigorous goals that the plan must meet, including the protection, preservation and enhancement of the land and water resources of the Pinelands. The proposed amendments are designed to meet those goals by allowing for the continued installation and monitoring of alternate design wastewater treatment systems for residential development through a highly successful pilot program.

There are no other Federal requirements that apply to the subject matter of these amendments.

## **Jobs Impact**

The proposed extension of the Pilot Program provides a continued opportunity for new home construction on lots zoned for such use but which are too small to support conventional septic systems and are not served by public sewerage infrastructure. The proposed amendments may therefore result in the creation of jobs associated with new home construction. Likewise, the proposed amendments may result in the creation of jobs associated with new business construction because they provide a new opportunity for such development on lots less than one acre through the use of advanced treatment systems.

# **Agriculture Industry Impact**

The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.24 will provide some agricultural operations in the Agricultural Production Area the potential to expand existing nonresidential uses on lots that they would otherwise not be able to expand due to lot size restrictions, if they convert to alternate waste water treatment systems from conventional septic systems.

The remaining proposed amendments are not expected to impact the agriculture industry in the Pinelands.

#### **Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**

The proposed amendments will extend the Pilot Program, allowing for the continued installation of alternate wastewater treatment technologies in the Pinelands Area. The Commission is also proposing to authorize the permanent use of a piloted technology.

Manufacturers that install alternate design wastewater treatment systems in the Pinelands have to comply with reporting, recordkeeping and compliance requirements. It is believed that at least

some of these manufacturers may be small businesses, as defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. These businesses may continue to incur costs to ensure compliance with the maintenance and monitoring requirements of N.J.A.C. 6:84(a)5iv(2) and N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5. It is unlikely, however, that businesses will need to engage professional services to meet the requirements. Furthermore, the maintenance and monitoring requirements mostly involve providing manuals, maintenance guarantees and other documents that the manufacturers already have on hand, as well as the provision of resources for the collection and analysis of effluent sampling.

Some of the requirements may, however, involve more significant costs for the manufacturers, particularly for the five-year renewable, non-cancellable maintenance contract required by N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2), N.J.A.C. 6.85(b) and N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5viii. However, these requirements are a critical part of the Pilot Program and the Commission would not be able to extend or expand the Program without them. It is likely that the associated costs will be passed on to the homeowner by the manufacturers, and they represent a relatively small price for the opportunity to develop lots that would otherwise not be developable.

The Commission is proposing to eliminate a certification/reporting requirement and impose an additional minor reporting requirement. N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5xi requires manufacturers to identify and discuss installation problems in semi-annual reports to the Executive Director. To eliminate redundancy in reporting obligations, the Commission is proposing to eliminate an identical requirement in N.J.A.C. 7:50-10(a)5v, which mandates that manufacturers report installation problems in their certification to the Commission and local board of health upon completion of an individual system.

The Commission is also proposing to add a requirement for manufacturers and engineers to include the cost of the installation of an alternate technology system in their certification to the Commission and local board of health upon completion of the system. In practice, manufacturers and engineers have been routinely providing this information to the Commission, and the proposed amendment will merely formalize that practice. This requirement will not impose any financial burdens or have an adverse economic impact on manufacturers or engineers.

All other reporting, recordkeeping and compliance requirements for manufacturers and engineers of alternate design wastewater treatment systems participating in the Pilot Program remain unchanged. These requirements, including maintenance and monitoring, continue to be imposed on manufacturers of authorized technologies, regardless of business size. This is necessary to balance protection of Pinelands resources with the Commission's desire to provide a continued opportunity for residential development on lots less than 3.2 acres in unsewered areas of the Pinelands. In fact, the Commission has identified proper system maintenance as the primary factor in ensuring that the alternate technologies will function in a manner that is consistent with CMP water quality standards. It is therefore critical that the requirements continue to be imposed on all manufacturers or their agents.

# **Housing Affordability Impact Analysis**

The proposed amendments have the potential to reduce the cost of alternate design treatment systems for those landowners seeking to develop homes on lots between one and 3.2 acres in the unsewered portions of the Pinelands Area. By extending the Pilot Program to give the Commission the opportunity to add more technologies to the Program, and by authorizing one piloted technology for permanent use, the Commission is expanding the range of installation

options for landowners. This could lead to increased competition among the vendors, resulting in decreased costs of the systems for homeowners.

While the proposed amendments may result in a decrease in the costs of alternate design treatment systems, and therefore a decrease in the average cost of housing utilizing such systems, it is important to note that these systems are being installed in the unsewered portions of the Pinelands Area and primarily in the Regional Growth Areas, Pinelands Villages and Pinelands Towns. Permitted densities in the unsewered portions of these management areas are relatively low, ranging from one unit per acre to one unit per 3.2 acres. Housing units in the areas of the Pinelands Area where most affordable housing is targeted or anticipated would not be affected as such units are typically expected to be served by public sanitary sewer.

## **Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis**

N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4 requires that proposed amendments be evaluated to determine their impacts, if any, on housing production in Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan). Planning Areas 1 and 2 do not exist in the Pinelands Area. Likewise, the State Plan does not designate centers within the Pinelands Area. Instead, N.J.S.A. 52:18A-206.a provides that the State Plan shall rely on the Pinelands CMP for land use planning in the Pinelands. The Commission has evaluated the impact of the proposed amendments on Pinelands management areas designated by the CMP that are equivalent to Planning Areas 1 and 2 and designated centers, namely, the Regional Growth Areas, Pinelands Villages and Pinelands Towns.

The proposed amendments allow for the continued installation and monitoring of alternate design treatment systems for residential development in the Pinelands Area. These systems are used by landowners in the unsewered portions of the Pinelands Area that are zoned for residential development on lots of less than 3.2 acres in size. These areas are located primarily in Regional Growth Areas, Pinelands Villages and Pinelands Towns — management areas designated for development by the CMP that are equivalent to designated centers under the State Plan. The proposed amendments do not increase the amount of permitted residential development in these management areas; rather, they provide a continued opportunity for the development of housing in accordance with municipal zoning plans that were previously approved by the Commission. Thus, the proposed amendments are not expected to result in any changes in housing density within designated centers or in any other portions of the Pinelands Area.

There will be no effect on new construction in Planning Areas 1 and 2 as designated by the State Development and Redevelopment Plan as these State Planning Areas do not exist in the Pinelands Area.

## Racial and Ethnic Community Criminal Justice and Public Safety Impact

The Commission has evaluated this rule proposal and determined that it will not have an impact on pretrial detention, sentencing, probation, or parole policies concerning adults and juveniles in the State. Accordingly, no further analysis is required.

**Full text** of the proposal follows (additions indicated with underlines <u>thus</u>; deletions indicated in brackets and strikeouts [thus]):

#### SUBCHAPTER 5. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR LAND USES AND INTENSITIES

- 7:50-5.22 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in the Preservation Area District
- (a)-(c) (No change).
- (d) Minimum lot areas for non-residential structures shall be determined by application of the standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)4 whether or not the lot is to be served by a centralized waste water treatment or collection facility pursuant to (b)4 above provided, however, that no such structure shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre. The requirements of this section shall not apply to a nonresidential use to be served by an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2).
- 7:50-5.23 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in Forest Areas
- (a)-(c) (No change).
- (d) Minimum lot areas for non-residential structures shall be determined by application of the standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)4 whether or not the lot is to be served by a centralized waste water treatment or collection facility pursuant to (b)12 above, provided, however, that no such structure shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre. The requirements of this section shall not apply to a nonresidential use to be served by an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2).
- 7:50-5.24 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in Agricultural Production Areas
- (a)-(c) (No change).
- (d) Minimum lot areas for non-residential structures shall be determined by application of the standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)4 whether or not the lot is to be served by a centralized waste water treatment or collection facility pursuant to (b)9 above, provided, however, that no such structure shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre. The requirements of this section shall not apply to a nonresidential use to be served by an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2).

- 7:50-5.26 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in Rural Development Areas
- (a)-(c) (No change).
- (d) Minimum lot areas for non-residential structures shall be determined by application of the standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)4 whether or not the lot is to be served by a centralized waste water treatment or collection facility pursuant to (b)10 above, provided, however, that no such structure shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre. The requirements of this section shall not apply to a nonresidential use to be served by an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iii(2).
- 7:50-5.27 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in Pinelands Villages and Towns
- (a) (No change.)
- (b) No residential dwelling unit or nonresidential use shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre unless served by either:
  - 1. A centralized waste water treatment plant; [or]
  - 2. <u>For residential development, a [A] community on-site waste water treatment</u> system serving two or more [residential] dwelling units [which] that meets the standards of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5 or 10.21 through 10.23, provided that the overall residential density on the parcel does not exceed one dwelling unit per acre[-]; or
  - 3. For nonresidential development, an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system that meets the standards of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5.
- (c) (No change.)
- 7:50-5.28 Minimum standards governing the distribution and intensity of development and land use in Regional Growth Areas
- (a) (No change.)
- (b) No residential dwelling unit or nonresidential use shall be located on a parcel of less than one acre unless served by either:
  - 1. A centralized waste water treatment plant; [or]

- 2. <u>For residential development, a [A] community on-site waste water treatment</u> system serving two or more [residential] dwelling units <u>that [which]</u> meets the standards of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5 or 10.21 through 10.23, provided that the overall residential density on the parcel does not exceed one dwelling unit per acre[-]; <u>or</u>
- 3. For nonresidential development, an individual on-site septic waste water treatment system that meets the standards of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5.

## SUBCHAPTER 6. MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND MINIMUM STANDARDS

7:50-6.84 Minimum standards for point and non-point source discharges

- (a) The following point and non-point sources may be permitted in the Pinelands:
  - 1. (No change.)
  - 2. Development of new waste water treatment or collection facilities [which] that are designed to improve the level of nitrate/nitrogen attenuation of more than one existing on-site waste water treatment system where a public health problem has been identified may be exempted from the standards of (a)1ii above provided that:
    - i. (No change.)
    - ii. The facility is designed only to accommodate waste water from existing [residential, commercial, and industrial] development;

iii.-iv. (No change.)

- 3.-4. (No change.)
- 5. Individual on-site septic waste water treatment systems that are intended to reduce the level of nitrate/nitrogen in the waste water, provided that the following standards are met:
  - i.-iii. (No change.)
  - iv. The design of the system and its discharge point, and the size of the entire contiguous parcel on which the system or systems is located, will ensure that ground water exiting from the entire contiguous parcel or entering a surface body of water will not exceed two parts per million nitrate/nitrogen calculated pursuant to the Pinelands dilution model dated December 1993, as amended, (Appendix A) subject to the following assumptions and requirements. For purposes of this section, the entire

contiguous parcel may include any contiguous lands to be dedicated as open space as part of the proposed development but may not include previously dedicated road rights-of-way or any contiguous lands that have been deed restricted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-5.30 or 5.47:

- (1) (No change.)
- (2) For Amphidrome, Bioclere, <u>SeptiTech</u>, and FAST systems:
  - (A) For residential development using the Amphidrome, [or] Bioclere, or SeptiTech system, the system will be located on a parcel of at least one acre for each individual single-family dwelling unit or the system or systems for multifamily developments will be located on a parcel with an overall density equal to or greater than one residential unit per acre of land;

## (B)-(D) (No change.)

- (E) Prior to the local board of health's issuance of a certification of compliance, or similar authorization to occupy the development and utilize the treatment system, the technology manufacturer or its agent and a New Jersey licensed professional engineer shall provide written certification, in a form acceptable to the Commission and the local board of health, that installation of each system, and all components and appurtenances, including, but not limited to, pumps, switches, blowers, micro-processors, and local audio/visual and service provider notification alarms have been performed properly and the system and all its components are operating properly. The manufacturer or its agent shall include in the certification the cost of the installation;
- (F) The manufacturer or its agent shall provide to each owner an operation and maintenance manual; [and shall provide a five-year warranty consistent with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)5viii]
- (G) Each system shall be equipped with a functioning warning system which will activate audible and visual alarms which can be readily seen and heard by occupants of the building served and which also provide immediate remote alarm notification to the system service provider. Systems may be equipped with a telemetry control panel, attached to an Internet-based interface that provides continuous remote

monitoring, information management and control of the advanced wastewater pretreatment device. Systems that do not have a telemetry control panel shall use an active phone line equipped with an auto dialer to notify the authorized service provider of alarm conditions, including if power to any of the system equipment is disconnected. The alarm and its switch shall not be on the same electrical circuit as the system pump(s), blower(s) and system component control switches. The alarm system shall periodically communicate with the authorized service provider's remote monitoring system to ensure against unauthorized alarm system disconnections [and shall be covered at all times by a renewable Operation and Maintenance Agreement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50 6.85(b]);

- (H) (no change in text.)
- (I) (no change in text.)
- (J) (no change in text.)
- (K) Each system shall be covered by an initial five-year warranty and a renewable, minimum five-year maintenance contract that cannot be arbitrarily cancelled and which includes a provision requiring that the manufacturer or its agent inspect the system at least once a year and undertake any maintenance or repairs determined to be necessary during any such inspection or as a result of observations made at any other time, including when-during effluent monitoring; [occurs or that is identified based on the results of any effluent monitoring]. Said warranty and maintenance contract shall be consistent with the sample warranty and maintenance contract approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.22(a)2v.
- (3) (No change.)

v.-ix. (No change.)

- 6. (No change.)
- 7:50-6.85 Individual and non-individual onsite subsurface sewage disposal systems and petroleum tank maintenance

- (a) (no change.)
- (b) All Pinelands alternate design wastewater treatment systems in active use shall be equipped with a functioning alarm [dialing capability] system that conforms to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2)(G) and shall be covered under a renewable operation and maintenance contract [agreement] that conforms to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2)(K) for as long as the system is in active use. [The operation and maintenance agreement shall, at minimum, provide for at least once annual service calls by a qualified service technician. The operation and maintenance agreement shall also provide for periodic onsite inspection and maintenance service visits that meet the minimum operation and maintenance requirements of the Pinelands alternate design wastewater treatment system manufacturer or vendor.]

(c)-(d) (no change.)

# SUBCHAPTER 10 PILOT PROGRAMS PART IV – ALTERNATE DESIGN TREATMENT SYSTEMS PILOT PROGRAMS

7:50-10.21 Purpose

(a)-(b) (No change.)

(c) In 2000, the Commission formed a special committee to investigate alternate septic system technologies that would better meet the water quality requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII, for residential development on lots smaller than 3.2 acres where such lots are currently authorized by N.J.A.C. 7:50-5. After conducting extensive research, the Committee identified five technologies that <u>could</u> [can] be expected to meet these water quality requirements for residential development. The Committee recommended that an interim program be developed for the approval, installation and monitoring of the five technologies for use under certain conditions and safeguards. [Based on the available information, the Committee recommended that the Ashco RFS III system be allowed on residential lots of at least 1.5 acres and the other four systems be allowed on residential lots of at least one acre. In November 2006, the Commission decided to remove the Ashco RFS III system from the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program. The Commission made this decision due to the manufacturer's failure to make systems commercially available in the Pinelands during the initial five year period of the pilot program or to otherwise demonstrate the ability or intention for future participation in the program.] Residential development using any of the authorized systems would still have to conform to the lot size and density requirements contained in the municipal land use ordinances that have been certified by the Commission pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-3. [In 2010, the Commission decided to release two of the original pilot program technologies (Amphidrome and Bioclere) from the pilot program and authorize them for permanent use, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(3). The Commission also decided to provide an opportunity for expansion of the pilot program to include certain other residential nutrient reducing onsite wastewater treatment technologies that have

attained verification and/or certification through the United States Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Technology Verification (USEPA ETV) Program or the National Sanitation Foundation/ American National Standards Institute (NSF/ANSI) Standard 245 testing program. Information regarding the USEPA ETV Program is available from the United States Environmental Protection Agency website at: http://www.epa.gov/etv/vt-wqp.html#dwtt and http://www.epa.gov/etv/pubs/600s07004.pdf. Information regarding the NSF/ANSI

Standard 245 testing program is available from the National Sanitation Foundation

http://www.nsf.org/business/wastewater\_certification/standards.asp?program=WastewaterCer#245. In 2013, the Commission decided to remove the Cromaglass technology from the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program. The Commission made this decision based on the Cromaglass technology's inability to meet the water quality standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII. In 2016, the Commission decided to release the only remaining original pilot program technology (FAST) from the pilot program and authorize it for permanent use on parcels of at least 1.4 acres in size, subject to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(3).1

(d) (No change.)

website at:

- Upon adoption of the Alternate Design Treatment Systems Pilot Program in 2002, the (e) Commission authorized five technologies to be tested for residential use in the Pinelands Area: Amphidrome, Ashco RFS III, Bioclere, Cromaglass and FAST. In 2006, the Commission removed the Ashco RFS III technology from the pilot program due to the manufacturer's failure to make systems commercially available in the Pinelands Area during the initial five-year period of the pilot program or to otherwise demonstrate the ability or intention for future participation in the program. In 2013, the Commission removed the Cromaglass technology from the pilot program due to its inability to meet the water quality standards in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII. The remaining three technologies successfully demonstrated their ability to meet the water quality standards of this Plan, and were released from the pilot program and authorized for permanent use in the Pinelands Area in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv. The Amphidrome and Bioclere technologies were released in 2010 and authorized for residential development on parcels of at least 1.0 acre. The FAST technology was released in 2016 and authorized for residential development on parcels of at least 1.4 acres.
- f) In 2010, amendments to this subchapter authorized the Commission to expand the pilot program and add more residential nutrient reducing onsite wastewater treatment technologies that have attained verification and/or certification through the United States Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Technology Verification (USEPA ETV) Program or the National Sanitation Foundation/ American National Standards Institute (NSF/ANSI) Standard 245 testing program. Information regarding the USEPA ETV Program is available from the United States Environmental Protection Agency website at: http://www.epa.gov/etv/vt-wqp.html#dwtt\_and http://www.epa.gov/etv/pubs/600s07004.pdf Information regarding the NSF/ANSI

Standard 245 testing program is available from the National Sanitation Foundation website at:

http://www.nsf.org/business/wastewater\_certification/standards.asp?program=Wastewater\_Cer#245. Four technologies were evaluated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(b) and accepted into the pilot program in 2011. In 2020, the Commission released one of those technologies, SeptiTech, from the pilot program in recognition of its ability to meet the water quality standards in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII, and authorized it for residential development on parcels of at least 1.0 acre in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv. The Commission also removed two technologies from the pilot program in 2020: BioBarrier, which failed to meet the water quality standards in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII; and Busse GT, which could not be evaluated as the technology was never installed in the Pinelands Area after being accepted into the pilot program.

### 7:50-10.22 General standards

- (a) Alternate design pilot program treatment systems shall be authorized for residential use in all municipalities provided that the following standards are met:
  - 1. (No change.)
  - 2. The manufacturer of the alternate design pilot program treatment system has submitted to the Executive Director and the Executive Director has approved:
    - i. (No change.)
    - ii. A description of the automatic dialing system required in (a)5ii [(a)6ii] below, and a description of how and when that system will function;
    - iii.-v. (No change.)
    - vi. A sample deed notice that is consistent with (a)5ix [<del>(a)6viii</del>] below.
  - 3. Subject to being increased during the pilot program based on the results of a hearing conducted pursuant to (a)4 [(a)5] below, each USEPA ETV or NSF/ANSI Standard 245 technology approved by the Commission for participation in the pilot program pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:50-10.23(b) shall be located on a parcel containing sufficient land area to comply with the two parts per million nitrogen requirement and the water quality standards contained in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6, Part VIII, as calculated using the Pinelands Septic Dilution Model and the expected effluent total nitrogen value for the technology based upon the findings of the USEPA ETV and/or NSF/ANSI Standard 245 test data.
  - 4. The Executive Director shall <u>periodically</u> [submit an annual] report to the Commission on the [describing] installation, maintenance, and performance data

for each technology. The Executive Director shall also [submit an interim] report to the Commission if it is determined there is a significant installation, maintenance, or performance issue with one or more technologies that needs to be addressed [before the issuance of the next annual report]. Copies of any such [each annual and interim] report shall be provided to each manufacturer and agent of a technology that is discussed in that report. If it is determined in a report either that a manufacturer or its agent is not adhering to any of the requirements of this pilot program or that any one of the technologies, based on maintenance or installation issues or an evaluation of all the monitoring results for that technology under this pilot program, is not meeting the minimum water quality standards in N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.83 or the two parts per million total nitrogen requirement in (a)5xii [(a)5x] below on all lots smaller than 3.2 acres or on lots smaller than a particular size because the effluent existing the system is higher than was anticipated in establishing the lot sizes in (a)3 above:

- i.-ii. (No change.)
- 5. Conditions for use of alternate design pilot program treatment systems are as follows:
  - i. (No change.)
  - ii. Each system shall be equipped with [automatic dialing capability] a functioning alarm system that conforms to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:50-6.84(a)5iv(2)(G) [to the manufacturer, or its agent, in the event of a mechanical malfunction]. The manufacturer or its agent shall report to the Executive Director each such malfunction within five days of its occurrence, describing the nature of the mechanical malfunction, the measures taken to correct the malfunction and the success of those measures. [Periodic dialing or some other fail safe mechanism shall be provided to ensure against unauthorized disconnections];
  - iii-iv. (No change.)
  - v. The manufacturer or its agent and a New Jersey licensed professional engineer shall certify to the Commission and the local board of health that installation of each system has been properly completed and that the system and all of its components are operating properly. The manufacturer or its agent shall include in the certification the cost of the installation [and a description of any problem encountered during the installation];
  - vi.-vii. (No change.)
  - viii. Each system shall be covered by an initial five-year warranty and a renewable, minimum five-year maintenance contract that cannot be

arbitrarily cancelled [and is renewable] and which includes a provision requiring that the manufacturer or its agent inspect the system at least once a year and undertake any maintenance or repairs determined to be necessary during any such inspection or as a result of observations made at any other time, including [when] during effluent monitoring [occurs or that is identified based on the results of any effluent monitoring]. Said warranty and maintenance contract shall be consistent with the sample warranty and maintenance contract approved pursuant to (a)2v above. [In addition to complying with the reporting requirements of N.J.A.C. 7:9A-3.4(b) concerning system malfunctions, the manufacturer or agent shall report to the Executive Director and local board of health on all necessary maintenance and repairs within 10 days and shall report to the Executive Director and local board of health semi-annually as to the inspections conducted during the preceding six months including a description of any maintenance and repairs that were undertaken and the success of those measures and their costs];

- viii. (No change.)
- ix. The property owner shall record with the deed to the property a notice consistent with the sample deed notice approved pursuant to (a)2vi above that identifies the technology, acknowledges the owner's responsibility to operate and maintain it in accordance with the manual required in (a)2vi [(a)6vi] above, and grants access, with reasonable notice, to the local board of health, the Commission and its agents for inspection and monitoring purposes. The recorded deed shall run with the property and shall ensure that the maintenance requirements are binding on any owner of the property during the life of the system and that the monitoring requirements are binding on any owner of the property during the time period the monitoring requirements apply pursuant to this pilot program or any subsequent regulations adopted by the Commission that apply to said system;
- x. (No change.)
- xi. By June 5 and December 5 of each calendar year, until the conclusion of the pilot program, each manufacturer or its agent shall submit to the Executive Director a report which includes the number of systems installed during the previous six months and since the beginning of the pilot program, a discussion of any installation problems and what has been done to address those problems, an analysis and evaluation of the monitoring results to date and a discussion of any operational or maintenance issues, including the number of systems requiring maintenance or repairs and the nature and success of such maintenance and repairs, and the number of times the automatic dialing system was set off and the reasons for each such occurrence;

xii.-xiii. (No change.)

- (b) (No change.)
- (c) The technology manufacturer or its agent shall troubleshoot and attempt to remediate substandard performance of any system that fails to meet effluent concentration targets after two consecutive sampling events by implementing measures including, but not limited to, homeowner education, process adjustments, and equipment retrofits. The technology manufacturer or its agent shall report to the Executive Director and local board of health semi-annually on all remedial measures undertaken, pursuant to (a)5viii [(a)6viii] above.

## 7:50-10.23 Pinelands Commission approval and evaluation

(a)-(b) (No change.)

- (c) The Executive Director shall review this pilot program relative to any approved USEPA and NSF/ANSI Standard 245 treatment technologies no later than <u>August 5, 2025</u> [August 5, 2017], and shall report to the Commission within three months of that date on its implementation. The Executive Director shall determine whether this pilot program is successful in accordance with the following criteria:
  - 1. (No change.)
  - 2. The maintenance required for each alternate design pilot program treatment system technology to meet the efficiency set forth in [(b)1] (c)1 above;
  - 3.-6. (No change)
- (d) If the Executive Director finds that the number of monitoring events for any approved USEPA and NSF/ANSI Standard 245 treatment technologies is not adequate to evaluate any of those technologies under this pilot program in accordance with (c) above, the Executive Director shall so inform the Commission and, upon receiving the Commission's approval, initiate a second review to be completed no later [August 5, 2019]than August 5, 2027.
- (e)-(g) (No change.)