

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
AGANA, GUAM

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 73-9

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONNECTION OF TOILET
AND SEWER FACILITIES TO PUBLIC SEWERS


WHEREAS, Subchapter R of Chapter VI of Title X, Government Code states certain requirements whereby persons may be required to connect their toilet and sewage facilities to public sewers, and

WHEREAS, Section 9500.4 of the Government Code authorizes the Director of Public Health and Social Services to issue rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement Title X, Chapter VI of the Government Code, and


WHEREAS, the Director has prescribed such rules and regulations, which are attached hereto, and the same having been subject to a public hearing and other requirements of the Administrative Adjudication Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Carlos G. Camacho, by this Executive Order approve and promulgate the attached regulations for the connection of toilet and sewage facilities to public sewers. These regulations will be effective immediately.


Dated this 28th day of February, 1973 at Agana, Guam.


CARLOS G. CAMACHO
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:


KURT S. MOYLAN
Lieutenant Governor

Date Received: _____


KURT S. MOYLAN
Lieutenant Governor
Filing Officer

*Dist
2-28*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONNECTION OF TOILET AND
SEWAGE FACILITIES TO PUBLIC SEWERS

1. AUTHORITY

- a. Section 9500.4, Title X, Chapter VI of the Government Code of Guam authorizes the Director of Public Health and Social Services to prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to implement the Health and Sanitation Law.
- b. Section 9670.3, Title X, Chapter VI of the Government Code of Guam requires connection of toilet and sewage facilities to a public sewer when available.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of these regulations is to:

- a. Define the conditions under which an existing individual sewage disposal facility is considered to have become defective or inadequate,
- b. Define the conditions under which public sewer is considered to be available,
- c. Prescribe the manner in which connection to the public sewer is to be made,
- d. Prescribe safety measures which must be applied to individual sewage disposal systems which are to be abandoned.

3. DEFINITIONS

- a. Individual Sewage Disposal System: A system designed and installed to dispose of sewage from a single building or group of buildings

- located on one lot. Such a system may consist of a cesspool, or a septic tank, or other treatment unit, together with a leaching field, or seepage pit.
- b. Cesspool: An excavation which receives, or is intended to receive, raw liquid sewage and from which liquid seeps or leaches into the surrounding porous soil.
 - c. Septic Tank: A water tight receptacle which receives the discharge of a sewage system or part thereof, designed and constructed so as to retain solids, digest organic matter through a period of detention, and allows the liquids to discharge into subsoll outside of the tank through a buried system of open-jointed piping or seepage pit.
 - d. Leaching Field: A buried system of open-jointed or perforated pipe, bedded in crushed rock or coral, through which treated or partially treated sewage effluent may seep or leach into the surrounding porous soil.
 - e. Seepage Pit: A covered pit with open-jointed lining through which treated or partially treated sewage effluent may seep or leach into the surrounding porous soil.
 - f. Sewage: Untreated or insufficiently treated human excreta, food wastes disposed of through sewers, wash water, liquid wastes from residences, commercial buildings and industrial establishments or other places of assembly, and such diluting water as may have entered the waste disposal system.
 - g. Public Sewer: A common sewage collection system serving more than one lot, directly controlled by public authority.
 - h. Waters of the Territory: all shore waters surrounding Guam, streams, lakes, wells, springs, irrigation systems, marshes, water-courses,

waterways, drainage systems and other bodies of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, publicly or privately owned.

1. **Abutting Property:** Abutting property is defined as that property, belonging to same owner(s) which lies next to any road, street or other way or easement in which a public sewer is located. The boundary of the private property abutting the sewer need not physically touch the sewer easement so long as that piece of land separating the sewer easement from the abutting property consists of a public right of way, easement, road, street or any other way not owned or controlled by another private owner, so that the abutting owner would be required to obtain a private easement in order to connect his property with that of the sewer.

4. DEFECTIVE EXISTING SEWAGE FACILITIES

Section 9670.3 of Title X, Chapter VI of the Government Code of Guam requires connection to a public sewer, when available, of any building served by defective or inadequate individual sewage disposal facilities (Type II). Individual sewage disposal facilities are considered to have failed or become defective when:

- a. Sewage will not enter the individual sewage disposal system, but instead backs up into the building through such openings as floor drains, sinks, toilets or plumbing vents, and there is no stoppage in the service pipe from the building to the sewage disposal system.
- b. Sewage discharged to the individual sewage disposal system appears on the surface of the ground or in areas where people may come in contact with the untreated or partially treated wastes. Such surfacing of the untreated or partially treated sewage may occur in any of the following manners, but shall not be limited thereto:

- (1). Through a broken pipeline.
- (2). Through openings in the top or sides of the cesspool, septic tank or seepage pit.
- (3). Through the ground surface above the leaching field or seepage pit.
- (4). Through the ground surface where a slope exists below the cesspool septic tank, seepage pit or leaching field.

5. INADEQUATE EXISTING SEWAGE FACILITIES

Existing individual sewage disposal facilities shall be considered inadequate when any of the following conditions exist:

- a. Any part of the system is located within fifty (50) feet of any river, creek, pond, reservoir, stream, well, spring or body of fresh water.
- b. Pollution of any waters of the territory of Guam is shown, by dye studies or laboratory analysis, to originate from such system.
- c. Any part of the system is located within ten (10) feet of any dwelling, school, public building, or a building used for commercial or industrial purposes or as a place of assembly.
- d. Any part of the system is located within five (5) feet of the boundary line of the lot.
- e. The system is located or constructed in such a manner that it is not accessible for inspection, emptying or cleaning.
- f. The cesspool, septic tank or seepage pit does not have a substantial cover to prevent anyone walking over the tank or pit from falling in. Wooden or corrugated steel sheet covers, which are subject to rotting or corrosion, are not considered to be a suitable, safe covering.

- g. The sides of the cesspool, septic tank or seepage pit are caving in due to lack of an adequate lining.
- h. A drinking water supply line exists within the following distances from the sewage disposal system:

- septic tank - 10 feet
- leaching field - 25 feet
- seepage pit - 50 feet
- cesspool - 50 feet

6. AVAILABILITY OF PUBLIC SEWER

- a. Horizontal Alignment - Public sewer shall be considered available to a particular building when the public sewer has been constructed in a roadway, street or easement abutting the lot on which the building is located.
- b. Vertical Alignment - Public sewer shall be considered available to a particular building when the sewer is located; (1) not more than twenty (20)* feet above the lowest floor level of a building containing a maximum of ten (10) dwelling units - (2) not more than fifty (50)* feet above the lowest floor level of a building containing more than ten (10) dwelling units.

* This will permit the use of small sewage pumping units to connect to the public sewer in those cases where a gravity connection is not possible. The practice of constructing buildings without first grading the site results in many buildings being located below the level of the road in which the public sewer is constructed. It is not always economically possible to construct the public sewer deep enough to provide gravity sewage flow from every building and in such cases it will be the responsibility of the owner of the building to construct and maintain the necessary pumping facilities.

CONNECTIONS TO PUBLIC SEWER

During construction of the public sewage collection system, stubouts, or wye branches, have been installed so as to serve most existing buildings. Wherever possible, these outlets shall be used when connecting to the public sewer. Where no outlet has been provided, or where the outlet location is such that it cannot be utilized, permission shall be obtained from the agency having jurisdiction over operation of the sewer system to cut the line and make the necessary connection.

When it becomes necessary to cut the sewer line to make a connection, one of the following procedures shall be used:

- a. A short section of the sewer line shall be removed and a wye branch fitting installed with rubber gasketed couplings or clamps.
- b. A hole, equal in size to the service line, shall be carefully cut in the upper portion of the sewer line and the service line installed therein. Some means, such as a tapping saddle or other approved device, shall be used to prevent the service line extending into the main sewer where it will interfere with flow or prevent the use of sewer cleaning tools. After installation of the service connection, the entire joint shall be encased with a minimum of six (6) inches thickness of concrete for a distance of twelve (12) inches on each side of the connection. Concrete encasement shall extend completely around the main sewer line.

Service connections shall not be made to manholes unless no other method of connection is feasible. Prior to making connection of a service line to a sewer manhole, the approval of both the agency having jurisdiction over the operation of the sewer and the Director of Public Health and Social Services must be obtained.

CONSTRUCTION OF PUMPING FACILITIES

When sewage pumping facilities must be constructed in order to connect to the public sewer, the design of the pump installation shall be approved by the Director of Public Health and Social Services and a permit issued therefor prior to the start of any construction.

Concurrent approval should also be obtained from the agency having jurisdiction over the operation of the sewer. Pumping facilities shall meet the following general requirements:

- a. Pump types - For installations serving not more than ten (10) dwelling units, pumps may be of the submersible type provided the installation is designed so as to allow ready removal of these units for servicing. Installations serving more than ten (10) units shall be of the dry pit type or of the vertical wet pit type with motor mounted on the floor above the wet pit. All pumps shall be of non-clog design for pumping of untreated sewage.
- b. Number of Pumps - Installations serving a single dwelling unit occupied by the owner, may use a single pump. Larger installations, and those serving rental units, shall be provided with at least two pumps, of such size that peak flows may be handled with any one pump out of service. Automatic controls shall be provided to start additional pumps in the event that one pump is unable to handle the flow or fails to operate.
- c. Valves - Suitable shut-off valves and couplings shall be installed so that a pump may be removed for service without shutting down the entire installation or draining the discharge line.
- d. Ventilation - Where the pump pit is below the ground surface, and personnel must enter regularly to service the equipment; adequate mechanical ventilation must be provided. Ventilation equipment

should be capable of providing at least thirty (30) complete air changes per hour.

- e. Emergency Operation - For larger installations, consideration should be given to the installation of a standby power supply. Where standby power supply is not practical, provision shall be made to store at least four (4) hours flow, at average daily flow rate, in the event of power failure. This may be accomplished either by providing a separate holding tank, or by allowing additional capacity in the pump pit above the normal operating high water level of the pumps. In any event, provision must be made to discharge the contents of the holding tank on resumption of normal power. Overflows which will cause the discharge of untreated sewage, either onto the ground or into the waters of the Territory, will not be permitted.
- f. Storm drainage - The pump installation shall not be subject to flooding and all storm drainage shall be excluded from any part of the sewage system.
- g. Maintenance - Owners responsibility.

9. ABANDONMENT OF EXISTING SEWAGE SYSTEMS

Whenever any septic tank, cesspool, seepage pit or other portion of an individual sewage disposal system is abandoned or its use discontinued, the owner, of the property on which the system is located shall render such system, or part thereof, safe by pumping out the contents and filling it completely with earth, sand, gravel or other similar material as approved by the Director of Public Health and Social Services.

10. NECESSITY

These regulations are deemed necessary, by the Director of Public Health and Social Services, for the proper implementation of those parts of the

"Health and Sanitation Law" requiring the connection of toilet and sewage facilities to the public sewer.

II. SEPARABILITY

If any section, paragraph, sentence, phrase, word or other provision or portion of these regulations is found to be invalid or inoperative for any reason, the remainder of these regulations shall nevertheless continue in full force and effect.