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Governor

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State Health Commissioner



# Indiana State Department of Health

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**DATE:** February 9, 2004

**TO:** Local Health Departments

**FROM:** Alan M. Dunn, Supervisor *AMD*  
Residential Sewage Disposal  
Sanitary Engineering  
AC (317) 233-7177

**SUBJECT:** Residential On-Site Sewage Disposal  
Use of Infiltrator System Technology

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), in cooperation with Infiltrator Systems, Inc. (ISI), has updated the approval of the use of ISI chamber technology in Indiana. By memorandum of December 4, 1996 to local health departments, ISDH approved the use of ISI *Sidewinder and Equalizer 36* chambers in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the six stipulations outlined in that memo. We had already approved the use of ISI chamber technology on a one-to-one equivalent to aggregate systems, and for repairs, by ISDH memorandum of November 27, 1996 to all local health departments.

This memorandum replaces the ISDH memorandum of December 4, 1996 to local health departments. The ISDH memorandum of November 27, 1996 to all local health departments is still valid.

Concerning the use of their technology as proposed by ISI, ISDH will permit the installation of the *Standard Sidewinder, Equalizer 36, Standard and Quick 4 Standard* chambers per manufacturer's instructions, including sizing, with the following stipulations:

1. That ISDH be notified by a representative of ISI, the local health department, or the property owner, whenever application is made for the installation of a system. ISDH is requesting local health departments to inform this agency when application is made. ISDH will notify ISI if there are counties in which the local health department will not notify ISDH when application is made.
2. That a five year guarantee against failure, as defined by ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-8, be provided by ISI for each system, assuming installation in accordance with the applicable provisions of Indiana Code and manufacturer's instructions.
3. That system size will be in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, except that sizing will be at least 60 percent of what would be required for a subsurface trench system using

aggregate, based on the ISDH soil loading rate and the design daily flow. System size for this technology, as for all subsurface trench systems, is the total square footage of the trench bottoms.

4. That original installations include a set aside area of sufficient size to allow for installation of a system as currently described in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1.
5. That local health departments agree to notify ISDH of any alteration or repair of any ISI system sized in accordance with manufacturer's recommended sizing. [Pursuant to ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-33(a), a permit must be obtained from the local health department prior to any alteration or repair of any system.]

These systems must meet all other applicable provisions of Indiana Code. They may not be used on sites where subsurface trench systems would be prohibited due to insufficient area, excessive slope, inappropriate landscape position, excessive permeability, insufficient depth to bedrock or other limiting layer, or a shallow seasonal high water table which cannot be lowered (See ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-49).

The use of these systems shall meet all other applicable Indiana State Department of Health rules as well as all other standards set by local ordinance. The acceptance of this type of system by the Indiana State Department of Health does not relieve the builder, homeowner, or system installer of the responsibility for compliance with state rule and local ordinances.

Please note that a part of this understanding is that ISDH be notified whenever an application is made for the installation of a system. We have agreed that we would request that the local health departments provide that notification. **If you are unwilling to provide that notification, please let me know, in writing, so that I may so advise ISI.** After notification of ISDH upon the receipt of an application, and upon verification by the local health department that the system will comply with applicable standards outlined in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1 and this memorandum, the system may be approved by the local health department without individual review by ISDH.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

cc: Environmental Health staff  
Plan Review staff  
Residential Onsite staff  
Carl Thompson, ISI, Inc.  
Robert Paulus, ISI, Inc.  
Jeff Iverson, ISI, Inc.