



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING



DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

January 11, 2013

Michael Slater, Director
Grand Traverse County Department of Public Works
Public Service Building
2650 LaFranier Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49686-8972

Dear Mr. Slater:

SUBJECT: Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan Amendment
Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA) is in receipt of the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility's (GTCSTF) septage waste documentation summarizing the amendment to its operating plan. The documentation and amended plan will be posted on the Septage Waste Program website as required under Section 11715b.(10)(a)(b) of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Be advised that the receiving facility must operate in accordance with the approved plan. If a change in operations or conditions is anticipated, please file an amendment to the plan at least thirty (30) days prior to the proposed date for implementation.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 517-335-4178; campbellm4@michigan.gov; or at DEQ, ODWMA, Environmental Health Section, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741.

Sincerely,

Matthew Campbell
Environmental Quality Specialist
Septage Waste Program
Environmental Health Programs Unit
Environmental Health Section
Office of Drinking Water
and Municipal Assistance

mc:/cfl

cc: Mr. Thomas Buss, Environmental Health Director,
Grand Traverse County Health Department



**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING
2650 LAFRANIER ROAD
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49686-8972
(231) 995-6039 • FAX (231) 929-7226

Matthew Campbell
Septage Waste Program Coordinator
On Site Wastewater Unit
Water Bureau, MDEQ
P.O. Box 30473
Lansing, MI. 48909-7973

December 14, 2012

Re: Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility
Operating Plan Amendment

Dear Matt:

At the December 13, 2012 meeting of the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works passed Resolution 2012-10 effectively raising the rates on septic waste to \$0.18 per gallon, and on holding tank waste to \$0.05 per gallon effective February 1, 2013. These rates effect waste brought to the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, MI.

I am enclosing a signed copy of Resolution 2012-10 and an amended Operating Plan for your review and use. The rate increase will be posted twice in the local newspaper prior to the rates going into effect. If you have any questions, or concerns, regarding the action taken by the board please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Slater
DPW Director

RECEIVED
DEC 17 2012
DEQ-RMD

RESOLUTION 2012-10
RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH RAISING THE RATES TO PROCESS SEPTIC AND HOLDING TANK WASTE
AT THE GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY

At a regular meeting of the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works held on December 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, the Grand Traverse County Board of Public Works, on a Motion made by JACK KELLY, and seconded by Michael Gillman, by a vote of 7 in favor (Zollinger, Gillman, Kelly, Wright, Manigold, Korn and Lile) to 3 against (Thomas, McElyea, and Radtke), and 1 excused (Elashkar) passed the following resolution changing the rates to accept septic and holding tank waste at the Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, Michigan.

Recitals

- A. The Board of Public Works (BPW) seeks a reliable source of funding for the operations, maintenance, and improvements at the Septage Treatment Facility (STF).
- B. The STF was built to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County, and also the protection of the groundwater and surface waters by processing human waste that was being land applied on fields throughout the county.
- C. Studies and reports conducted by independent auditing and engineering firms, and citizen focus groups, have concluded that the STF is important to the area and needs to attain long term financial sustainability.
- D. Operational, administrative, electrical and long term debt costs have all been evaluated and reduced as identified and recommended.
- E. The STF was built predicated on the understanding that user fees would cover the costs of operation, maintenance, and debt service.
- F. A Septage Treatment Facility Business Plan was developed and approved by the BPW on October 27, 2010 that recommended rate increases for processing waste be implemented on or before the year 2013. The rates recommended by the STF Business Plan being: \$0.18 per gallon for septic tank waste; \$0.05 per gallon for holding tank waste.
- G. A rate analysis was performed to identify and quantify the average costs to process the various types of waste brought to the Septage Treatment Facility that concurs with the costs recommended in the Business Plan.

Resolution

Therefore, it is resolved that:

The Board of Public Works hereby sets the rates for septic waste at \$0.18 per gallon and holding tank waste at \$0.05 per gallon effective on February 1, 2013.

The Board of Public Works further directs staff to make proper notification of these new rates to the State of Michigan, Department of Environmental Quality and to publish at least two notifications of these rate increases in the local newspaper prior to the rates going into effect.

Dated: December 13, 2012


By: Rob Manigold, Vice-Chairman, BPW

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that effective Friday February 1, 2013 the rate for processing septic tank waste will be \$0.18 per gallon and the rate for processing holding tank waste will be \$0.05 per gallon. These rates effect waste brought to the County Septage Treatment Facility located at 1717 Ahlberg Road, Traverse City, MI.

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December 17, 2012, January 7, 2013-2T

**GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY
OPERATING PLAN
September 13, 2006
Amended May 27, 2007
Amended February 22, 2010
Amended July 1, 2012
Amended February 1, 2013**

Facility Name & Address:

Grand Traverse County
Septage Treatment Facility
1717 Ahlberg Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

Facility Owner & Address:

Grand Traverse County
Dept. of Public Works
2650 LaFranier Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

Facility Operator & Mailing Address:

OMI
606 Franklin Street
Traverse City, Michigan 49686

Regulatory Authority:

This plan has been developed in response to the regulatory requirements of Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451. The Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility has accepted septage and holding tank waste since 2005 and plans to continue to receive septage, holding tank and grease trap wastes. Special waste may be delivered to GTCSTF on a case by case basis. Subsequently, this Septage Treatment Facility Operating Plan has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 324.11715b.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Grand Traverse County Septage Treatment Facility (GTCSTF) is to serve the residents of participating townships by addressing difficulties associated with proper disposal of septage waste material including holding tanks and grease traps. The facility will eliminate the problems associated with land application of septage waste including frozen soil conditions in winter months, loss of required isolation

areas due to continued development of neighboring properties, loss of disposal properties due to increased public pressure.

The treatment facility will utilize membrane bioreactor (MBR) for flow treatment along with an autothermophilic aerobic digester (ATAD) for biosolids treatment. Effluent from the MBR will be discharged into the Garfield Township wastewater collection system for final treatment at the Traverse City Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility. The ATAD will produce a Class A biosolids.

Location and Surrounding Area:

The GTCSTF is located next to the Grand Traverse County Road Commission facility and the Grand Traverse County Humane Society. The parcel is zoned Agriculture with Industrial zoned property to the east and Agriculture zoned property on three sides. The facility is located on a ridge above the Boardman River valley.

Categories of Acceptable Material:

In general, the GTCSTF will accept domestic household septage waste, holding tank waste, grease trap material, portable toilet material and special waste. The facility may accept special waste such as industrial type waste material, landfill leachate or other material as long as that material in its delivered state is not disruptive to the plant operations as determined by Grand Traverse County. Waste that is disruptive to plant operations will not be accepted. All waste is subject to testing upon delivery and may be rejected if disruptive to plant operations.

Service Area:

The service area for the GTCSTF is defined as all Townships within Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County. Material from other Townships will be accepted provided the following:

1. There is available treatment capacity AND
2. After the 2010 state fiscal year, beginning on October 1, 2010, the geographic service area of the GTCSTF shall not extend more than 25 radial miles from the GTCSTF.

Fee Structure:

The GTCSTF will provide treatment on delivered material under the following fee structure:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Septage: | 18 cents per gallon |
| 2. Holding Tank: | 5 cents per gallon |
| 3. Grease: | 19 cents per gallon |

Fees are based on facility operation costs, maintenance costs, replacement costs and capital costs. Special waste fees will be determined on a case by case basis. GTCSTF may adjust the fee structure in the future.

Hours of Operation:

The GTCSTF will initially be open to receive material seven days per week, 24 hours per day. GTCSTF may adjust the operating hours in the future.

Hauler Licensing:

Material will be received by the GTCSTF from those septage-servicing agents licensed by the State of Michigan and Grand Traverse County (GTC). County licensing process will require each service agent to enter into a contract with GTC and received the required training for use of the facility.

Delivery and Treatment Process:

The GTCSTF will receive material from septage waste vehicles licensed and authorized to use the facility. Loads will be discharged from the vehicles and into the facility through one of two truck bays. The truck bays are drive thru bays with automatic doors operated such that the bay is completely enclosed during the unload process.

Unloading of the vehicles uses a quick connect couple hose attached directly to the vehicle. The material is processed through a rock trap, meter, multiple sensors for detecting "hot" loads and finally through a ¼" screen. Subsequent to passing through the screen the material leaves the unload building through underground piping and is sent to a 100,000 gallon equalization tank.

The equalization tank provides volume of material storage to provide a measured feed into the bioreactor vessel. Material is pumped from the equalization tank through a 0.7-millimeter screen and into an on-site pump station. The pump station then pumps the screened material to the bioreactor at a controlled rate.

The material in the bioreactor is aerated and biologically treated while a portion is passed through a membrane canister; that portion of the material that passes through the membrane as permeate/effluent is sent to a post equalization tank. If desired, the effluent can be stored in the post equalization tank for discharge into the sewer collection system during off-peak hours.

As the concentration of solids accumulates in the bioreactor a portion is drawn off, dewatered and sent to the ATAD for biosolids processing. Through aeration and detention time the ATAD unit produces a Class A biosolid.

Odor Control

The GTCSTF utilizes a biofilter for odor control. Each component in the receiving and treatment process is covered and enclosed. The head space within each vessel as well as the space within the receiving building is ducted to the odor control system. The air is processed through the ATAD unit for conditioning and sent on to the biofilter. The air enters the filter through a set of distribution piping located under a stock of root material. Bacteria growth on the root material provides the air treatment and removes the odor. Once passing through the root media the cleaned air is discharged into the environment.