



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

August 8, 2007

Mr. Christopher L Holmes, P.E.  
U.P. Engineers and Architects, Inc.  
100 Portage Street  
Houghton, Michigan 49931

Dear Mr. Holmes:

SUBJECT: Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan Approval for North Houghton County  
Water and Sewage Authority Septage Receiving Facility

Review of the North Houghton County Water and Sewage Authority (NHCWSA) septage waste receiving facility (SWRF) operating plan is complete. The operating plan is conditionally approved provided the following language is added to the operating plan:

1. The septage waste may be directed to the lagoon or equalization basins.
2. Septage waste will not be routed directly into the infiltration basins.
3. Septage waste will not be discharged into the lagoon within 2 weeks of lagoon discharge of the treated effluent to waters of the state.

The septage waste 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 to this office at least thirty days prior to the proposed date for implementation.

Thank you for your service to those with on-site septic systems in and around your community and the licensed septage firms using the NHHWSA SWRF. We will be posting the operating plan on the septage program website at [www.michigan.gov/deqseptage](http://www.michigan.gov/deqseptage). Please note that a directory of licensed septage haulers is also available on the site so you can check to see if the firms using the facility are properly licensed. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Matthew Campbell  
Septage Program Coordinator  
On-Site Wastewater Unit  
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section  
Water Bureau  
517-335-4178

mcc:ckp

cc: Mr. Ken Hyrkas, NHHWSA SWRF  
Ms. Lynne Tarbutton, Western Upper Peninsula District Health Department,  
Houghton County  
Mr. Steve Casey, DEQ



**U.P. ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS, Inc.**

ENGINEERING ARCHITECTURE PLANNING SURVEYING ENVIRONMENTAL

[N04-24514]  
Reply: Houghton

May 12, 2006

RECEIVED  
MICH DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

MAY 17 2006

Brett Wiseley  
Septage Waste Program  
Water Bureau - Department of Environmental Quality  
Constitution Hall, Second Floor - North  
525 West Allegan Street  
P.O. Box 30273  
Lansing, MI 48909

Water Division  
Groundwater Section  
WELL CONSTRUCTION UNIT

**RE: SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN  
NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

Mr. Wiseley:

On behalf of North Houghton County Water and Sewage Authority (NHCWSA), please find enclosed their proposed Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan. The operating plan was developed per the requirements outlined in the MDEQ letter dated June 9, 2005.

In addition, please find enclosed an affidavit of publication for the public notice, and an example letter sent to the Western Upper Peninsula District Health Department (WUPDHD) and the legislative body of each city, village, and township located in the proposed septage receiving service area. A copy of page two of the MDEQ letter dated June 9, 2005 with filled in information pertaining to the facility name and operator is also included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Holmes, P.E.  
Civil Engineer

CLH:akw  
Enclosure

Cc: Ken Hyrkas - NHCWSA Maintenance Supervisor (w/encl.)  
File (w/encl.)

## **NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN**

The North Houghton County Water and Sewage Authority (NHCWSA) has been and will continue to receive domestic septage waste to serve the residents of its service area as defined herein.

### **Receiving Facility Location**

The NHCWSA will accept septage at their wastewater treatment facility located at 23749 Hwy. M-203, Calumet, MI 49913. Septage will be accepted for treatment into Equalization Basin #2. Contingency locations for septage discharge are Equalization Basin #1 and manhole # L.I. 3 (which is located in front of the NHCWSA treatment facility office building).

### **Hours of Operation**

NHCWSA will accept septage Monday through Friday from the hours of 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. In case of an emergency, arrangements may be made by calling (906)-337-0591.

### **Acceptable Categories of Septage**

The NHCWSA will accept the following categories of septage waste:

Domestic Septage – the septage pumped from home septic tanks, recreational vehicles (RV), cesspool, portable toilet, type III marine sanitation device, or similar storage or treatment works that receives only domestic sewage.

Food Establishment Septage – material pumped from a grease interceptor, grease trap, or other appurtenance used to retain grease or other fatty substances contained in restaurant wastes and that is blended into a uniform mixture, consisting of not more than 1 part of that restaurant-derived material per 3 parts of domestic septage, prior to disposal at the receiving facility.

### **Fee Structure**

The fee structure for septage discharge into the NHCWSA treatment facility is as follows:

- \$ 40.00 per 1,000 gallons or less of septage in a single load, charges for amounts in excess of the minimum 1,000 gallons per single load will be prorated per each additional hundred gallons at the rate of \$40.00 per thousand gallons.

### **Loading Capacity**

The NHCWSA has adequate hydraulic and treatment capacity to accept septage. The design receiving capacity of wastewater at the NHCWSA treatment facility is 2.4 MGD, with an average daily flow of approximately 1.5 MGD. Currently the average weekly flow of septage received is 750 gallons. Peak septage volume accepted is approximately 6,000 gallons per day.

### **Service Area**

The service area of the NHCWSA is defined on the attached map. The service area is described as:

- To the north: the Houghton County – Keweenaw County line;
- To the east: a five (5) mile radius from the Treatment Facility;
- To the south: the line between T55N and T56N and;
- To the west: Lake Superior and the Portage Canal.

The NHCWSA may accept septage from areas, outside the service area as defined above, north of the line between T55N and T56N on a case by case basis.

### **Other**

Any hauler found disposing of any substance other than domestic septage or food establishment septage may lose their right to dispose of septage at the NHCWSA receiving facility.

All haulers shall submit to random testing of their septage loads as requested by the NHCWSA. Any problems encountered as a result of said sampling may result in the hauler losing their right to dispose of septage at the receiving facility.

The NHCWSA reserves the right to limit the amount of gallons of septage accepted by the receiving facility for treatment and disposal by the NHCWSA.

# SERVICE AREA MAP NHCWSA SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY

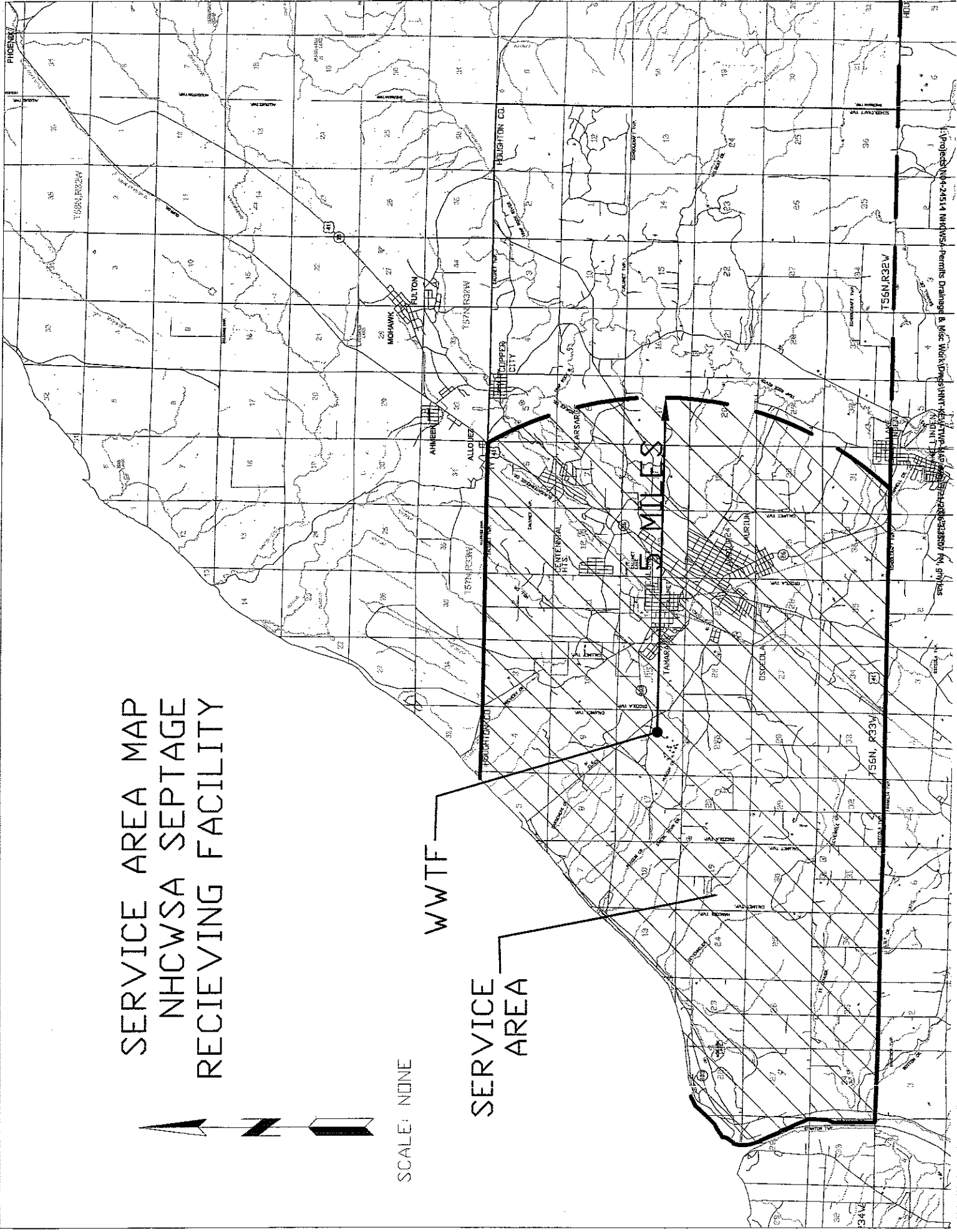


SCALE: NONE

WWTF

SERVICE  
AREA

5 MILES



Project No. 24514 Interests-Permit Drainage & Use Work Permit for the NHCWSA Septage Receiving Facility

**NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER AND SEWAGE AUTHORITY  
25880 RED JACKET ROAD  
CALUMET, MI 49913**

**(906) 337-0591**

March 27, 2006

Wayne Jarvi, Supervisor  
Allouez Township  
PO Box 64  
102 Second Street  
Mohawk, MI 49950-0064

RE: NHCWSA SEPTAGE PLAN

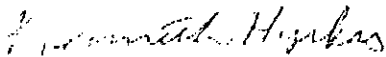
Dear Mr. Jarvi:

The NHCWSA has adopted a formal Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan per MDEQ requirements. This plan sets policies and procedures for the NHCWSA to accept pumped septage from the haulers who pump out septic tanks in our area. A copy of the plan and a service area map is enclosed for your information.

The plan defines the service area for receiving septage. This area is generally the current NHCWSA service area. Septage from outside this area, primarily from Keweenaw County, will be accepted on a case by case basis.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Hyrkas  
NHCWSA Maintenance Supervisor

Septage Receiving Facility  
Operating Plan

June 9, 2005

- any other conditions for receiving septage waste established by the receiving facility

Conditions regarding septage acceptance at your wastewater treatment plant may include receiving facility capacity (hydraulic and organic), volume of septage received, odor control, and other information required under Part 41, Sewerage Systems, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451.

We must also advise you of the requirement to provide public notification before you submit your operating plan to the DEQ for review and approval, pursuant to section 11715b of Part 117. For more details on this requirement, please see item 1 on pages 2 and 3.

We hope that you decide to continue to accept septage waste for treatment. If so, please fill out and submit the attached information to the address listed below. This is the basic information that must be contained in your Operating Plan as mandated by Part 117. The DEQ will review your Operating Plan, and when we determine that it is complete, we will approve your receiving facility for continued septage acceptance and treatment.

We request that your Operating Plan be submitted by September 1, 2005, so we may have time to review and approve it by the October 12, 2005, deadline. Doing this will ensure that you may continue the acceptance of septage at your receiving facility. The DEQ will post the approved operating plans on the DEQ Septage Program website.

North Houghton County Water and Sewage Authority

Name of receiving facility (wastewater treatment plant)

Ken Hyrkas

5/1/06

Name of Superintendent/Chief Operator of receiving facility

Date

Check this box if domestic septage is not accepted at your receiving facility (WWTP) and mail back to the address listed below.

1. If you plan to continue receiving septage waste for treatment at your receiving facility you are required to do the following (see Sec. 11715b. of Part 117) before submitting your proposed operating plan to the DEQ for review and approval:

(a) Publish notice of the proposed operating plan in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the receiving facility is located.

(b) If the person maintains a website, post notice of the proposed operating plan on its website.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

IN THE MATTER OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN  
NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER & SEWAGE AUTHORITY

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF HOUGHTON SS

YVONNE ROBILLARD

Being first duly sworn, says that he/she is the agent of the Publisher of The Daily Mining Gazette, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper in which the order was published on the following dates:

MARCH 24, 2006

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEPTAGE RECEIVING FACILITY OPERATING PLAN NORTH HOUGHTON COUNTY WATER & SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

The North Houghton County Water and Sewage Authority (NHCWSA) has received, and will continue to receive, domestic septage waste on a limited basis in accordance with the developed operating plan.

The operating plan includes and describes: the location, hours of operation, types of septage waste accepted, fee structure, service area, and other conditions applicable to the receipt and acceptance of septage waste.

Copies of the proposed septage receiving facility operating plan have been submitted to all communities served by the NHCWSA, and are available for review and written comments at the NHCWSA treatment facility office located at 23749 Hwy. M-203, Calumet, MI 49913, between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Written comments concerning this plan should be submitted by April 24, 2006, to attention of:

Mr. Kenneth Hyrkas  
North Houghton County Water & Sewage Authority  
25880 Red Jacket Road  
Calumet, MI 49913

Yvonne Robillard  
Agent of the Publisher of the Daily Mining Gazette

Subscribed and sworn before me this 28<sup>th</sup>

Day of MARCH A.D., 2006

Catherine O'Connell Ricci  
Notary Public, Houghton County, Michigan

Acting in and for the County of Houghton Michigan

**CATHERINE O'CONNELL RICCI**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC HOUGHTON CO., MI**  
**MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Aug 16, 2006**



DEQ Septage Receiving Facility Checklist  
 Name of Septage Receiving Facility:  
**North Houghton County Water & Sewage Auth.**

DEQ Reviewer: Matt Campbell

Review Date: June 20, 2006 *BRETT WISEZET*

Address of Septage Receiving Facility:  
**23749 Hwy. M-203**  
**Calumet, MI 49913**

Facility Contact: Ken Hyrkas, Superintendent  
 Telephone Number: 906-337-0591

The following information must be submitted in the Operation Plan  
 in order to receive DEQ approval:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. Location of septage RF.	X		
2. Hours of operation.	X		7 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday - Friday
3. Categories of septage waste the RF will receive.	X		Domestic and food establishment septage (FES).
4. If food establishment septage is accepted, has the RF described how they are ensuring that the FES meets the 1:3 ratio mandated by law? (Not OP req't.)		X	This is not a requirement. DEQ recommends some way to verify to ensure FOG is not going to cause problems at the plant.
5. *Fee structure charged to hauler.	X		\$40.00 per 1,000 gallons.
6. *Service area (septage acceptance) description of RF defined in detail.	X		See operating plan for details.
7. Notice of proposed operation plan: a) Was it mailed to county HD and legislative body of each city, village and township located in whole or in part of the service area?	X		Allouez Township listed and WUPDHD referenced.

# Septage Receiving Facility Checklist

Name of Septage Receiving Facility: **North Houghton County Water & Sewage Auth.**

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
7. Notice of proposed op. plan, continued:			
b) Was it public noticed in the local newspaper?	X		Copy of notice provided.
c) Was it posted on the facility website?		X	No mention if a website exists or not. 6/20/06 - I SPOKE W/ KEN HYRUMS NHCWSA SUPERV. W/ITD (CONFIRMED) THEY DO NOT HAVE A WEBSITE
8. Did the notice contain the following?			
a. Statement that the RF proposed to or is currently receiving and will continue to receive septage waste for treatment.	X		
b. Statement in the notice that the proposed operating plan is available for review during normal work hours.	X		Cholmes @ ypera.com - let them know exactly what is needed.
c. A request for written comments on the proposed operation of the RF and the deadline for receipt of such comments, which shall not be less than 30 days after publication, posting, or mailing of the notice.	X		
d. Receiving facility capacity.			
I) Hydraulic capacity:	2.4 mgd		1.5 mgd average flow.
II) Organic capacity:		X	Not listed. Currently accepting 750 gallons of septage weekly. Peak volume limit is <u>6,000 gallons/day.</u> <i>OK</i>
*III) Wet weather operation considerations (CSO & SSO)		X	
9. Other conditions established for the RF.	X		See plan for details.

## Septage Receiving Facility Checklist

Page 3

Name of Septage Receiving Facility: **North Houghton County Water & Sewage Auth.**

- \*5. Fee structure - must be justified and reasonable in accordance with standard accounting practices.
- \*6. This should be both written and illustrated on a map of the area. The service area information should include whether or not there is a county ordinance that also defines what they can or can't accept. It should also include whether or not they accept septage pumped outside of the service area.
- \*8.d.(III). CSO-Combined Sewer Overflow and SSO-Sanitary Sewer Overflow.



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

February 7, 2006

Mr. Ken Hykras  
North Houghton County Sewer Authority  
25880 Red Jacket Road  
Calumet, MI 49913

Dear Mr. Hykras:

**SUBJECT: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Septage Receiving Facility  
Past Due Operating Plan Submittal Requirements**

Your wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) has been identified as one that accepts and treats septage waste (see the "Septage Receiving Facility Directory" at [www.michigan.gov/deqseptage](http://www.michigan.gov/deqseptage) under "Online Services"). Your facility was required to submit an operating plan to the DEQ for review no later than October 12, 2005. This directive is mandated in Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as Amended (Act 451).

If your treatment facility accepts portable toilet, domestic septic tank, domestic holding tank, or restaurant grease trap waste from one or many septage haulers licensed under Part 117, you must submit a completed septage operating plan as described in the enclosed memo dated June 9, 2005. If you are not receiving septage waste, please mail a signed and dated note back to the DEQ at the address below stating that you do not receive septage waste for treatment at your facility. This information is due no later than April 7, 2006.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Matthew Campbell  
Septage Waste Program Coordinator  
On-Site Wastewater Unit  
Drinking Water and Environmental  
Health Section  
Water Bureau  
517-335-4178

MC:DLR  
Enclosure