COLORADO
Department of Public Health & Environment

Water Quality Control Division
Engineering Section
On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems

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Local Regulation Revision Submittal Form

A. General Information				
Type of Submittal	2025 Regulation Update	☒	Submittal Date:	
	Modification	☐	Portions Modified*:	
Local Public Health Agency Name	Rio Blanco County Board of Public Health			
Submittal Title	Rio Blanco County Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Regulation			
County/Counties Included	Rio Blanco County			
B:Local Public Health Agency (LPHA) Contact Information				
Main Contact Name	Matt Franks			
Title	Building Official			
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Title				
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C. Report Submittal Requirements		
An electronic copy (PDF). Send PDF to **CDPHE.WQEngReview@state.co.us**		☐
Local Regulation Format (Select appropriate description.)	CDPHE template used for Regulation	☒
	Regulation format consistent with Regulation 43 sections.	☐
	Regulation follows a different section format. Note: If format is different, the "cross-walk" must be completed. (See pages 6-7.)	☐

* Use this area if additional space is needed for regulation submission explanation or comments:

Public Health Agency:	Rio Blanco County Board of Public Health		OPT-IN CHOICES	
D. Decision Points Summary – Local On-site Wastewater Treatment System Regulations				
SUBJECT MATTER	**ALTERNATIVES** **Select Check Box for Decision Chosen.** **(Only one selection per item. Decisions must also be identified either within the local regulation or Appendix A to the regulation)**		**Citation Reg #43**	**Citation Local Reg**
Licensing Systems Contractors, Systems Cleaners, Systems Maintenance Providers, and Transfer of Title Inspectors	None *(Do not license any OWTS practitioners)*	☒	43.4.K	
	Systems Contractors are licensed	☐	43.4.K.1	
	Systems Cleaners are licensed	☐	43.4.K.1	
	Systems Maintenance Providers are licensed	☐	43.4.K.1	
	Transfer of Title Inspectors are licensed	☐	43.4.K.1	
Variances	Variances Allowed *(Must have a variance procedure prescribed within the local regulation.)*	☒	43.4.N.	
	Variances not allowed	☐	43.4.N	
Occupancy – Residential	Bedrooms 1 through 3: 2 people per bedroom All additional Bedrooms: 1 person per bedroom	☒	43.6.A.2.d & e	
	All bedrooms: 2 persons per bedroom	☐	43.6.A.2.f	
How the number of bedrooms in a home will be defined for flow requirements	Bedrooms: flow estimates will be determined from the number of bedrooms originally finished	☒	Table 6-1	
	If unfinished area is present in house, OWTS must also be sized for 1 or 2 more bedrooms based on an assumption that 150 square feet of unfinished space can be converted into a bedroom, if the space can meet applicable code requirements for a bedroom	☐	43.6.A.2.h	
Board of Health allows the LPHA to permit property line reductions lesser than 10 feet	Allow LPHA determination for certain property line setback reductions	☒	43.7.D.1	
	Prohibit LPHA determination; Board of Health determination only	☐	43.7.D	
Length of distribution laterals (e.g., trenches or beds)	100 feet maximum length for any OWTS system	☐	43.10.E.2.d	
	100 feet maximum for gravity fed from one end, and up to 150 feet if pressure dosed or effluent applied at center of lateral or chamber	☒	43.10.E.2.b & c	
Inspection ports at header (front) end of trench; piping or chamber	Not required	☒		
	Required	☐	43.10.F.6.d	

Public Health Agency:	Rio Blanco County Board of Public Health		**OPT-IN CHOICES**	
	ALTERNATIVES **Select Check Box for Decision Chosen.** **(Only one selection per item.)**		**Citation Reg #43**	**Citation Local Reg**
Vault Privies - new	Allow new vault privies	☒	43.12.D.1.a	
	Prohibit new vault privies	☐	43.12.D.1.a	
Vault Privies - existing	Allow continued use of existing vault privies	☒	43.12.D.1.b	
	Require abandonment of existing vault privies	☐	43.12.D.1.b	
Pit Privies - new	Allow new pit privies	☒	43.12.D.2.a	
	Prohibit new pit privies	☐	43.12.D.2.a	
Pit Privies - existing	Allow continued use of existing pit privies	☒	43.12.D.2.c	
	Require abandonment of existing pit privies	☐	43.12.D.2.b	
Allow for the reduction in the size of the STA where a composting or incinerating toilet is installed	Allow a reduction in the size of the soil treatment area with the use of a composting or incinerating toilet. (To allow this reduction, the LPHA must implement both a Transfer of Title program and a Use Permit program)	☐	43.12.E.2.a	
	The use of a composting or incinerating toilet will not reduce the required size of the OWTS	☒	43.12.E.2	
Optional Programs/Permits				
Transfer of Title inspections	Required *(If transfer of title inspections are required, the criteria for your local program as noted in 43.L must be specified in local regulation.)*	☐	43.4.L.1	
	Not required	☒	43.4.L.1	
Permits for the Continued Use of an OWTS; Define these items on Pg. 5 that are more stringent than Regulation 43.	Used in local regulation *(Specify purpose within local regulation.)*	☐	43.4.M.1	
	Not used in local regulation	☒		
Reductions in soil treatment area (STA) size or separation distances with the use of higher level treatment systems and the implementation of a mandatory maintenance oversight program	Allow reductions for higher level treatment. *(To allow reductions, local regulation must require mandatory inspections and maintenance, and the local public health agency must implement an O/M oversight program)*	☐	43.14.D.2	
	Reductions in area and separation distances not allowed for higher level treatment systems	☒	43.14.D.3	
For CDPHE Tracking Purposes				
Require that all Soil Evaluations be submitted and stamped by a licensed professional engineer	All soil evaluations must be submitted by a licensed professional engineer	☒	N/A	
	A licensed professional engineer or "Competent Technician" may submit soil evaluations	☐	N/A	
Require that all OWTS designs be submitted and stamped by a licensed professional engineer	All OWTS plans must be stamped by a licensed professional engineer	☐	N/A	
	We do not require an engineer's stamp for sites where an engineer's stamp is not required by section 43.10.B of Regulation 43	☒	N/A	

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Summary of Items More Stringent than Regulation 43
(To Be Completed for All Local Regulations Where More Stringent.)

Regulation 43 Requirement (e.g., section, topic)	**Local Requirement** (attach additional information as needed)	**Citation in Local Regulation**

Please supplement the Summary of Items More Stringent than Regulation 43 on additional sheets as necessary.

Local Public Health Agency:	Rio Blanco County Board of Public Health

Local Regulation Cross-Walk to Regulation 43
(For Local Regulations That Do NOT Follow Regulation 43 Section Outline.)

Regulation 43 Citation	Requirement	Citation in Local Regulation
43.1	Authority; WQCD	
43.2	Scope and Purpose	
43.3	Definitions; Abbreviations and Acronyms	
43.4	Applicability	
43.4.A	Regulations Adopted by Local Boards of Health	
43.4.B	Permit Application Requirements and Procedures	
43.4.C	Determination	
43.4.D	Access to Site	
43.4.E	Inspection Stages	
43.4.F	Final approval of the permit by the local public health agency	
43.4.G	WQCD (Division Authority to Administer and Enforce)	
43.4.H	Primary Enforcement Responsibility	
43.4.I	Product Development Permit	
43.4.J	Prohibition of OWTS in Unsuitable Areas	
43.4.K	Licensing of Systems Contractors, Systems Cleaners, Systems Maintenance Providers, and Transfer of Title Inspectors	
43.4.L	Transfer of Title Inspections	
43.4.M	Permits for the Continued Use of an OWTS	
43.4.N	Variance Procedure	
43.4.O	General Prohibitions	
43.4.P	Cease and Desist Orders	
43.4.Q	Penalties	
43.5	Site and Soil Evaluation	
43.5.A	Site and Soil Evaluation Requirements	
43.5.B	Preliminary Investigation	
43.5.C	Reconnaissance Visit	
43.5.D	Detailed Soil Investigation	
43.5.E	Evaluation and Marking of Soil Profile Test Pits Excavations and Percolation Holes	
43.5.F	Soils Report and Site Plan	
43.5.G	Design Document	
43.5.H	Site Protection	
43.5.I	Qualifications for a Competent Technician	
43.6	Wastewater Flow and Strength	
43.6.A	Wastewater Flows	
43.6.B	Wastewater Strength	
43.7	Minimum Distances Between Components of an On-site Wastewater Treatment System and Physical Features	
43.7.A	Horizontal Distances, general	
43.7.B	Reductions in Separation Distances [If higher level treatment and provisions for operation and maintenance in accordance with 43.14.D.]	
43.7.C	Dry Gulches, Cut Banks and Fill Areas	
43.7.D	Minimum or Increased Distance Requirements	
43.7.E	Separation Distances to Specific Features	
43.8	Design Criteria – General	
43.8.A	Design Criteria; Separated Flows	
43.8.B	Design Criteria; Treatment Levels	
43.8.C	Design Criteria; Reliability	
43.8.D	Accessibility for Inspection, Maintenance, and Servicing	
43.8.E	Plumbing Codes	
43.8.F	Electrical Equipment	
43.8.G	Indicators of Failure or Malfunctioning for Systems Utilizing Mechanical Apparatus	
43.8.H	Sampling Access	
43.8.I	Component Operating Instructions	
43.8.J	Surface Activity	
43.8.K	Floodplains	
43.8.L	Business, Commercial, Industrial, Institutional or Multi-Family Dwelling Wastewater Systems	

Local Public Health Agency:	Rio Blanco County Board of Public Health

Local Regulation Cross-Walk to Regulation 43
(For Local Regulations That Do NOT Follow Regulation 43 Section Outline.)

Regulation 43 Citation	Requirement	Citation in Local Regulation
43.9	Design Criteria – Components	
43.9.A	Tanks and Vaults	
43.9.B	Septic Tanks	
43.9.C	Abandonment of Tank	
43.9.D	Pipe Standards and Bedding Requirements	
43.9.E	Cleanouts	
43.9.F	Distribution Box	
43.9.G	Drop Box	
43.9.H	Stepdown/Relief Line	
43.9.I	Wastewater Pumping and Dosing Siphon Systems	
43.9.J	Effluent Filters	
43.9.K	Grease Interceptor Tanks	
43.10	Design Criteria – Soil Treatment Area	
43.10.A	Size and Design	
43.10.B	Conditions Requiring Professional Engineer	
43.10.C	Calculation of Infiltrative Surface of Soil Treatment Area	
43.10.D	Allowable Soil Treatment Area Sizing Adjustments	
43.10.E	Design of Distribution Systems	
43.10.F	Soil Treatment Area Requirements	
43.10.G	Storage/Distribution Media	
43.10.H	Soil Replacement Systems	
43.10.I	Repairs	
43.11	Design Criteria – Higher Level Treatment Systems	
43.11.A	General	
43.11.B	Treatment Levels [Adequate maintenance required and documented in accordance with 43.14.D.]	
43.11.C	Sand Filters	
43.11.D	Mound Systems	
43.11.E	Rock Plant Filter (Constructed Wetland) Treatment Before a Soil Treatment Area	
43.12	Design Criteria – Other Facilities	
43.12.A	Evapotranspiration and Evapotranspiration/Absorption Systems	
43.12.B	Seepage Pits	
43.12.C	Vaults Other Than Vault Privies	
43.12.D	Privies	
43.12E	Incinerating, Composting, and Chemical Toilets	
43.12.F	Disinfection Systems	
43.12.G	Slit Trench Latrine	
43.12.H	Treatment Systems Other Than Those Discharging Through a Soil Treatment Area or Sand Filter System	
43.13	WQCD (Technology Review and Acceptance)	
43.13.A	Alternative Technologies; Public Domain, Proprietary Products	
43.13.B	Division Review	
43.13.C	Product Acceptance Requirements; General	
43.13.D	Proprietary Treatment Product Acceptance Requirements	
43.13E	Proprietary Distribution Product Acceptance Requirements	
43.13.F	Septic Tank Acceptance Requirements	
43.13.G	Other Products; Acceptance	
43.14	Operation and Maintenance; WQCD role	
43.14.A	Responsibility	
43.14.B	Service Label	
43.14.C	Local Regulations for maintenance, performance, submittals	
43.14.D	Permitting and Oversight of Maintenance for Soil Treatment Area Reductions and Vertical and Horizontal Separation Distance Reductions Based on Use of Higher Level Treatment	
43.14.E	Monitoring and Sampling	
43.15	Severability	
43.16	Materials Incorporated by Reference	

Please supplement the Cross-Walk on additional sheets as necessary (e.g., if smaller portions of sections are separated).