

ABANDONMENT OF A WASTEWATER TREATMENT LAGOON FACILITY

If the facility site is likely to be used for the construction of building or other structures (now or in the future) which would involve excavation/trenching/tunneling etc., the wastewater treatment facility structures should be removed in their entirety, the holes filled with suitable backfill, the area landscaped and a groundcover established to prevent erosion and growth of noxious weeds. Small amounts of sludge (approximately one foot or less wet depth) can be incorporated into the backfill and need not be removed. Larger amounts of sludge will need to be removed and properly disposed of in compliance with the EPA 503 sludge regulations.

Procedure: The procedure described below assumes that the structures can be pushed into the lagoon cell(s). If not, follow these same procedures except remove the structures.

- A. Remove the wastewater from the existing cell(s).

The wastewater should normally be pumped to the new wastewater treatment facility, allowed to evaporate, used for irrigation or with KDHE approval, routed to a receiving stream.

- B. If the sludge is to be removed, the sludge is to be hauled to a suitable disposal site – another treatment facility, municipal landfill or used as part of the top cover for the productive re-use. THE SLUDGE IS NOT TO BE PUMPED TO AN AREA WHERE IT CAN ENTER A DITCH OR STREAM. NOR IS IT TO BE STOCKPILED IN A TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT LAGOON OR PONDING AREA.
- C. The outfall structure, if any, is to be removed. If appropriate, it can be placed in one of the cells for disposal. The outfall pipe is to be removed three feet back into the ground and plugged with a non-shrinking grout.
- D. Any structure inlet or outlet lines which will not be removed as a result of the demolition must be plugged with a non-shrinking grout to prevent the conductance of water from adjacent areas into the structure demolition area.
- E. All manholes must be removed or properly abandoned. To properly abandon a manhole, the top portion (to 4 ft. below ground level) of the manhole must be removed to allow proper landscaping. The inlet and outlet must be closed with non-shrinking grout and then the rest of the manhole can be filled with sand or dirt followed by a top layer of dirt to allow establishment of a ground cover.
- F. All portions of any other metal or cement structures associated with the lagoon and to be abandoned are to be “pushed in” such that no part of the structure is within 2 feet of the final top ground level. (NO RUBBLE EXCEPT WHAT RESULTS FROM THE DEMOLITION OF THIS FACILITY IS TO BE PLACED IN THE EMPTY STRUCTURES WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT.)
- G. The dikes are to be pushed in and the area is to be landscaped at a slope not less than 1% nor greater than 10% to assure that water neither stands over the area nor runs off so fast as to create an erosion problem.

- H. The area is to be covered with suitable quality dirt to establish a groundcover to prevent erosion. The groundcover must be of a type that will establish quickly and continue to maintain a suitable cover with minimal to no additional care after establishment.
- I. Fences must be removed if the area is to be abandoned. Other above ground utilities, if any, must be removed and properly terminated.
- J. If significant rubble is buried at the site, a statement must be placed in the deed for this land parcel showing the area where the buried structure/rubble is located.

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