

# **A Guidance Document for Locating Wastewater Treatment Facilities**

## **Technical Publication WTS-21**

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
Technical Services Branch**



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## **Implementation of NAC 445.285 - Locating a Treatment Works**

Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.285 states that:

When locating the site for a wastewater treatment works, the designer shall attempt to select a site that is not:

- a) Within 984.3 feet (300 meters) of an occupied dwelling or other building; and/or
- b) Within the limits of a 100-year floodplain unless protected from the flood to the satisfaction of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control (BWPC); and
- c) No site may be approved by BWPC without having first been approved by local government.

The following BWPC policy will be used to implement NAC 445A.285:

1. In locating all structures which are designed to contain sewage, screening, grit, sludge or chemicals at a wastewater treatment facility, the designer shall conform to the following thresholds:
  - a) The structures must be located at least 1,000 feet away from a major highway, dwelling, or other building whose use is not compatible with wastewater treatment. If this is not practical, then;
  - b) The structures may be located within 1,000 feet but at least 200 feet away from a major highway, dwelling, or other building whose use is not compatible with wastewater treatment provided that:
    - i) There is 100% capture and treatment as approved by BWPC of odors from all raw sewage/influent facilities and all solids handling facilities (including drying beds) that are less than 1,000 feet from a major highway, dwelling or other building;
    - ii) If the treatment works is a wastewater lagoon then only a complete mix aerated lagoon (as per WTS-5) is acceptable.
  - c) The structures may be located within 200 feet but not less than 25 feet away from a major highway, dwelling, or other building whose use is not compatible with wastewater treatment provided that:
    - i) The odors from all structures which are designed to contain sewage, screening, grit, sludge or chemicals at the wastewater treatment facility is captured and fully treated as approved by BWPC.

2. All wastewater treatment designs submitted to BWPC must address corrosion and odors. The design also must address how the buffer zones indicated herein will be maintained. .
3. This policy applies to all new structures at wastewater treatment facilities constructed after the date of this memorandum. All existing treatment plants in non-compliance with this policy are encouraged to be renovated accordingly. If odors become a public issue with an existing treatment plant, the BWPC reserves the right to require compliance with the 1(b) or 1(c) above.