

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control

**General Permit to Operate and Discharge
GU9201
Large-Capacity Septic Systems**

In compliance with the provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Underground Injection Control Regulations, NAC 445A.810 through 445A.925, eligible dischargers that have been included in this permit are authorized to discharge:

**Effluent from large-capacity septic system
To groundwater of the State of Nevada via leach or drain field(s)**

in accordance with the conditions set forth in Parts A, B, C and D hereof.

A **Large-Capacity Septic System** (pursuant to NAC 444.8302) is defined as a system having the capacity to discharge equal to or greater than 5,000 gallons per day (gpd). For coverage under this permit, the system may not exceed 15,000 gallons per day. These systems can be one large standard tank or a group of smaller standard tanks under one ownership that serves commercial and/or multiple-dwelling structure(s) on a common lot or property. This permit does not cover denitrifying tank systems.

Pursuant to this general permit, a discharge may begin as soon as the conditions of the general permit have been met. The septic system(s) must begin operation within two years of the authorization date, or the system(s) and discharge(s) will no longer be covered.

This permit shall become effective on XXXXXXXX xx, 2004

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, XXXXXXXX xx, 2009

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Russ Land, Supervisor, Groundwater Protection Branch
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Part A. - Permit Conditions

1. All existing large-capacity septic system dischargers eligible for coverage by this permit that do not already hold a discharge permit must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) and appropriate filing fee with the Division of Environmental Protection (Division) upon issuance of this permit. The contents of the notice must include at a minimum the following information:
 - a. Name and address of discharger,
 - b. Exact location of discharge,
 - c. Type of facilities served by the septic system(s),
 - d. Flow estimate or number of people served, and
 - e. All available plans, specifications and documentation on the system(s).
2. For all new systems, the Notice of Intent for General Permit GU9201 must be submitted to NDEP - Carson City prior to installation. Technical/engineering plans and specifications (see **WTS-23**) shall be submitted to the following offices, and may be submitted with the NOI:
 - a. NDEP – Las Vegas office for Clark County, and
 - b. NDEP - Carson City for the other counties.

After plan approval and certification of installation has been received by the Carson City office, the authorization letter shall be issued if the discharger is determined to be eligible for the permit. The authorization letter will give the authorization date, and may also contain special conditions.

3. The Permittee is authorized to discharge treated domestic wastewater from a septic tank(s) to groundwater of the State of Nevada via leach field(s) from the Division's authorization date.
4. For coverage under this permit, the system capacity cannot exceed 15,000 gallons. Existing systems greater than 15,000 gallons covered by this permit on the issue date may continue to be covered until there is reason for the system to be covered by an individual permit. The size of any one septic tank must not exceed 10,000 gallons without approval by the Division.
5. Influent to the septic tank(s) shall be limited to domestic wastewater or other wastewater as approved by the Division. It is a violation of the Nevada regulations and the Uniform Plumbing Code to discharge hazardous waste and other toxic chemicals into a septic system.
6. Vehicular traffic and/or heavy equipment shall be kept off of the septic tank(s) and leach field(s), unless system components are engineered for traffic weight. Posting signs, fencing, and/or permanent barriers shall be used to clearly identify septic tank(s) and leach field(s) areas.
7. The tank(s) shall be pumped:
 - a. When the combined depth of sludge and scum equals or exceeds 50% of the total liquid depth, or
 - b. At least once every four (4) years if tanks are not checked, or
 - c. More frequently as necessary to protect the leach field(s) and maintain efficient solids removal.
8. New septic system(s), or modifications to existing systems, shall be constructed in conformance with plans and specifications submitted and approved by the Division prior to any work commencing.

9. Commercial, industrial and institutional kitchens shall properly use and maintain grease removal devices.
10. Commercial, industrial, and institutional laundries shall properly use and maintain lint removal devices.
11. There shall be no discharge from the septic system(s) of substances that would cause a violation of water quality standards of the State of Nevada.
12. The septic system(s) shall not cause objectionable odors.
13. Alternative means of sewage disposal shall be provided in the event of system failure.
14. Permittees may be required to install inspection pipes, monitor flow, install and maintain monitoring wells, or analyze the septic tank contents and/or effluent for the presence of priority pollutants or other parameters. Any such requirements, including those for related construction, equipment, monitoring, and reporting, will be given by written notice to the Permittee. The Permittee must obtain approval of groundwater monitoring well locations(s) and construction from the Division of Environmental Protection and the Division of Water Resources prior to installation.
15. The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the discharge limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions of this permit upon the start of authorized discharge.
16. Abandonment requirements – any large-capacity septic system deemed abandoned must be closed pursuant to State regulations and Uniform Plumbing Code. Please refer to WTS-23 document at our website (www.ndep.nv.gov) for requirements specific to large-capacity septic systems, and leach field removal, if necessary.

Part B. - Report Requirements

1. **Biennial Septic Evaluation Report and On-site Maintenance Log – Due May 31 of every odd-numbered year** – The Permittee **will** receive a form, along with their annual invoice, to be completed and returned to the Division. The report **must** include the following information:
 - a. The type of facility, number of units served, and flow estimate based on units served by the septic system, or if the numbers have changed since last report, provide a certified description of the details of the change(s);
 - b. The depth of scum, sludge, and total liquid in the septic tank(s) shall be measured and recorded every 12 months or as directed by the Division. See Part I.A.6;
 - c. The Permittee shall record the following additional information for each instance of septage disposal (**must be by licensed pumper**):
 - Volume of septage pumped,
 - Disposal method and site, and
 - Names of all pumping, transporting, and disposal companies and facilities used.
 - d. Attach the **On-site Maintenance Log** with a narrative describing inspection and maintenance activities.

Septage disposal shall comply with local and state applicable regulations. All receipts for pumping, transporting, and disposing of septage shall be kept in accordance with the records

retention requirements of this permit (**Part C: 2d**). **If sludge is removed and characterized for disposal**, submit these results with the narrative under c. and d. above.

The depth of effluent for leach/drain lines with monitoring pipes shall be observed and recorded on a quarterly basis.

Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the nature, volume and capacity of the monitored discharge and system components. If required, all sampling analysis shall be performed by a State of Nevada certified laboratory. Results from this lab must accompany all monitoring reports required by the Division.

Monitoring results obtained during the previous monitoring and reporting period shall be summarized on the **Biennial Septic Evaluation Report Form**. An original signed copy of these, and all other reports required herein, shall be submitted to the State at the following address:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
Attn: UIC Compliance Coordinator
333 W. Nye Lane
Carson City, NV 89706-0851

2. System Failures

All system failures must be reported to the Division within one working day pursuant to Part **C: 4** of this permit, and must be addressed by contacting a Nevada registered engineer. Failures include, but not limited to:

- a. Surfacing of effluent;
- b. Backup in any part of plumbing system;
- c. Strong odors;
- d. Known discharge of illegal/toxic substance into septic system

3. Signatures required on Notice of Intent and Reporting Forms.

- a. The owner of the property or operator of the facility must sign the Notice of Intent and all reporting forms submitted to the division.
- b. Each application must contain a certification by the person signing the application that he is familiar with the information provided, that to the best of his knowledge and belief the information is complete and accurate and that he has the authority to sign and execute the application.
- c. **Changes to Authorization.** If an authorization under paragraph b. of this section is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of paragraph b. of this section must be submitted to the Division prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

Part C. - General Management Requirements

1. Annual Fee

Permittees shall remit an annual fee in accordance with NAC 445A.872 to the Division on or before July 1 of each year that the Permittee is authorized to discharge under this permit.

2. Test Procedures, Additional Monitoring and Records Retention

- a. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and/or nature of the subject of interest. Test Procedures for the analyses of required constituents shall comply with applicable analytical methods cited and described in tables IA - IE of 40 CFR part 136 or in appendix III of 40 CFR part 261, under which such procedures may be required, unless the Administrator approves other procedures. All laboratory analyses conducted in accordance with this permit must have detection at or below the permit limits.
- b. For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this permit or as required by the Division, the Permittee shall record the following information:
 - the exact place, date, and time of sampling;
 - the dates the analyses were performed;
 - the person(s) who performed the analyses;
 - the analytical techniques or methods used;
 - the results of all required analyses; and
 - the precision and accuracy of the analytical data.
- c. If the Permittee performs any monitoring in addition to what is required by this permit, using approved analytical methods and laboratories as specified above, the results of that monitoring shall be included in next report submitted to the Division.
- d. All records and information resulting from the monitoring activities required by this permit, including all records of analyses performed and calibration and maintenance of instrumentation and recordings from continuous monitoring instrumentation, **shall be retained by the Permittee for a minimum of three years, or longer if required by the Administrator.**

3. Facilities Operation

The Permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible all treatment or control facilities, collection systems or pump stations installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.

4. Noncompliance, Reporting, Unauthorized Discharge, and Bypassing

The Permittee shall notify the Division within twenty-four (24) hours of any diversion, bypass, spill, upset, overflow or release of treated or untreated discharge other than that which is authorized by the permit. A written report shall be submitted to the Administrator within five (5) days of diversion, bypass, spill, overflow, upset or discharge, detailing the entire incident including:

- time and date of discharge;
- exact location and estimated amount of discharge;
- flow path and any bodies of water which the discharge reached;
- the specific cause of the discharge; and
- the preventive and/or corrective actions taken.

Part D. - Permittee Responsibilities

1. Right of Entry

The Permittee shall allow the Administrator and/or his authorized representatives, upon the presentation of credentials: 1) To enter upon the Permittee's premises where an effluent source is located or in which any records are required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit; and 2) At reasonable times, to have access to and copy any records required to be kept under the terms and conditions of this permit; to inspect any monitoring equipment or monitoring method required in this permit; and to perform any necessary sampling to determine compliance with this permit or to sample any discharge.

2. Transfer of Ownership or Control

In the event of any change in ownership or control, the Permittee shall notify the succeeding owner of the existence of this permit, in writing, at the earliest possible date. The letter shall include the date agreed upon by both parties for the transfer of ownership. A copy of the letter shall be forwarded to the Administrator. The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection shall approve all transfers of permits.

3. Availability of Reports

Except for data determined to be confidential under NRS 445A.665, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Division.

4. Furnishing False Information and Tampering with Monitoring Devices

Any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained by the provisions of NRS 445A.300 to 445.730, inclusive, or by any permit, rule, regulation or order issued pursuant thereto, or who falsifies, tampers with or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the provisions of NRS 445A.300 to 445A.730, inclusive, or by any permit, rule, regulation or order issued pursuant thereto, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment. This penalty is in addition to any other penalties, civil or criminal, provided pursuant to NRS 445A.300 to 445A.730, inclusive.

5. Penalty for Violation of Permit Conditions

Nevada Revised Statutes NRS 445A.675 provides that any person who violates a permit condition is subject to administrative and judicial sanctions as outlined in NRS 445A.690 through 445A.705.

6. Permit Modification, Suspension or Revocation

After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;
- b. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
- c. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.

7. Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable Federal, State or local laws, regulations, or ordinances.

8. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights, in either real or personal property, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

9. Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provisions of this permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

10. Permit Reissuance

This permit is a temporary permit as noted in NAC 444.784(5) and is valid until: (1) the system fails or (2) a community sewage system is available (Part D: 11). The Permittee will be included in the reissued permit after this permit expires, and/or will be informed of other permitting requirements. The Permittee will receive public notice if the Division determines to reissue the permit. The Permittee will be responsible for compliance with all the conditions and requirements of the reissued permit.

11. Connection to sewer, when available

Pursuant to NAC 444.784(5), if a community sewerage system becomes available within 400 feet of your property, you are required to connect, and abandon your septic system.