

Frank O'Bannon, Governor

Richard D. Feldman, M.D., State Health Commissioner

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Indiana State Department of Health

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**DATE:** April 29, 1997

**TO:** Local Health Departments

**FROM:** Alan M. Dunn, Supervisor *AMD*  
Residential Sewage Disposal  
Sanitary Engineering  
AC (317) 233-7177

**SUBJECT:** Residential On-Site Sewage Disposal  
Use of Infiltrator System Technology

By memorandum of November 27, 1996, I notified you of our position on the use of chamber systems for residential on-site sewage disposal. By memorandum of December 4, 1996, I advised you of the agreement that the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), and Infiltrator Systems, Inc., had reached concerning the use of Infiltrator's technology in Indiana.

Because of questions that have arisen concerning my memorandum of December 4, 1996, I would like to reiterate the following points:

1. This agreement applies only to the "Sidewinder" and "Equalizer 36" chambers manufactured by Infiltrator Systems, Inc.
2. That ISDH be notified by a representative of Infiltrator Systems, Inc., the local health department, or the property owner, whenever application is made for the installation of a system according to the manufacturer's criteria for sizing the system. **This notification must be provided for every installation proposed to use the manufacturer's criteria for sizing, not just those which are provided with monitoring wells and flow measuring devices.** This notification must be made at the time of application. Sending a copy of the permit when it is issued may then provide the additional information desired by this agency on each installation.
3. That a five year guarantee against failure, **as defined by ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-8** be provided by Infiltrator Systems, Inc., for each system, assuming installation in accordance with the applicable provisions of Indiana Code and manufacturer's instructions.

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4. That installations for new construction include a set aside area of sufficient size and soil conditions to allow installation of a system as currently described in Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1.
5. That a water meter or flow measuring device be installed on at least one installation in ten, to monitor hydraulic loading of the system. The connection of the residence or facility to a public water supply that provides monthly water usage records will meet this requirement. Each of these systems must also be provided with monitoring wells or access ports in each trench so that system performance may be monitored. It is understood that ISDH will waive this requirement once ISDH determines that sufficient systems have been installed to provide information about system performance in various soils.
6. That local health departments notify ISDH of any alteration or repair of any downsized Infiltrator system. [Pursuant to ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-33(a), a permit must be obtained from the local health department prior to any alteration or repair of the system.]

Finally, local health departments are under no obligation to permit installation according to the manufacturer's criteria for sizing these systems. Local health departments have the authority to require that all such systems be sized in full accordance with the provisions of ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1, or local ordinance, whichever is greater.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Attachment

cc: Plan Review staff  
Residential Sewage Disposal staff