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BULLETIN NO.

79-7

Date: **August 1, 1979**
Revised: **May 1995**

Subject: **Septic Systems**

Reference: **N.J.A.C. 5:23-1.4, 2,15, 2.24,
3.15**

INSTALLATION:

Municipal or county boards of health have the responsibility for enforcing requirements for individual on-site sewage disposal systems.

Prior to issuing a construction permit for a building using an on-site septic system, the construction official shall require, as a prior approval, proof of certification or approval of the septic system plan from the health department having jurisdiction. The approval shall indicate the number of bedrooms in the case of residential buildings or the design flow rate and the basis for the flow rate for nonresidential buildings.

The construction official should carefully compare the septic system approval with the building it serves to ensure that the septic system is the proper size. There have been instances where an approved septic system has been installed only to discover after the building was completed that the septic system was not designed for that particular building.

Prior to issuing a Certificate of Occupancy for a building using an on-site septic system, the construction official shall require, as a prior approval, a Certificate of Compliance for the septic system, including a statement from the health department having jurisdiction that the system conforms to the construction plans. This ensures that what was actually constructed is also compatible with the building served.

ABANDONMENT:

Plumbing subcode officials are responsible for ensuring that septic systems are properly abandoned when connections to public sewer systems are made. Section 16.1.7 of the National Standard Plumbing Code, as amended at N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.15, gives guidance on proper abandonment of such systems. Septic systems that are abandoned without an associated hookup to a public sewer system are to be inspected by the health department having jurisdiction.

BULLETIN