



Regulatory Reform at MassDEP: Approving Final Regulations

Water r Resources Commission
November 14, 2013

Purpose and Principles

The purpose of the Regulatory Reform Initiative is to streamline the permitting process and maintain MassDEP's high standards of environmental Protection in a constrained budgetary environment.

Changes were proposed in ten water related programs.



Themes in BRP reforms

- ▶ Eliminate duplicative approvals, consolidate others
- ▶ Retain public process & appeal opportunities
- ▶ Create incentives for better environmental outcomes
- ▶ Provide alternative oversight methods and tools with third party involvement
- ▶ Streamline permitting mechanisms



Ready for Promulgation



Land Application of Wastewater Residuals

- Added presumptive renewal provision for highest quality material (Type I)
- Extended maximum term from 3 years to 5.

No significant public comments received. No significant changes made.



Surface Water Quality Standards

- Site specific water quality criteria for copper and zinc in 12 stream segments.
- New criteria based on local conditions and water quality (not default national standard).

No significant public comments received. No significant changes made..

Also Ready for Promulgation

Certified Operator Regulations (257 CMR 2.00)

- Exempt required certified operators where neutralization is the only treatment;
- Eliminate the requirement that neutralization take place in batches of 2 liters or less.

No significant public comments received. No significant changes made.



Approval Required from the Water Resources Commission



Final Rules Under Review at EEA



Title 5 (septic systems)

- Eliminate duplicative approvals
- Allow MassDEP to engage a third party to evaluate innovative and alternative on – site technologies
- Change will allow publicly owned seasonal tight tanks



Permitting Procedures: Surface, Ground, Sewer, and Reclaimed Water Permits

- Conform state and federal notice proceedings for surface water
- Eliminate newspaper publication of surface water draft permits
- Provide public notice on EPA and MassDEP websites
- Draft groundwater, sewer, reclaimed water permits available in Environmental Monitor
- Online access to all supporting documents for draft permits

Additional Packages to Expect Soon

For Your Approval:

- ▶ Sewer Connection & Extension Permitting (314 CMR 7)
- ▶ Operation & Maintenance & Pretreatment Standards for Wastewater Treatment Works & Indirect Dischargers (314 CMR 12)
- ▶ Water Quality Certification (314 CMR9)

For Your Information:

- ▶ Chapter 91 (FYI)
- ▶ Wetlands (FYI)



Thank you

