

EOEEA Regulation Summary

257 CMR 2.00: Board of Registration of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Facilities

MassDEP has finalized these regulations that describe the requirements set by the Board of Registration of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Facilities for operators at wastewater treatment facilities. **No changes were made to this final regulation following the public hearing.** The regulations are promulgated by the Board, a unit established within MassDEP. The changes are a part of MassDEP's regulatory reform initiative, and were put out for public comment together with wastewater treatment related changes to 314 CMR 7.00, the Sewer Extension and Connection Permit Program, and 314 CMR 12.00, Operation, Maintenance and Pretreatment Standards for Wastewater Treatment Works and Indirect Dischargers. The change will expand a current exemption to the certified operator requirements for small scale treatment.

The existing certified operator exemption provides that a certified operator is not required for the operation of a neutralization treatment system that neutralizes less than 100 gallons per day in batches of 2 liters or less. The change will eliminate the requirement in 257 CMR 2.04(b) that such treatment be conducted in batches of two liters or less. Small laboratories, schools, universities, businesses in the biotechnology sector, and water treatment operations will benefit from these changes, as they will not be required to hire a certified operator when their process involves treating 100 gallons or less per day.

In developing these regulatory changes, MassDEP met with representatives from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) and the Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association (MWPCA). The Board of Registration of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Facilities has representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, consulting firms, publicly owned treatment works and wastewater treatment operators.

The draft regulations were published for public comment on March 1, 2013, and the comment period closed at the end of May 2103. There were no significant comments received during the public comment period, and no changes to the proposed draft regulations have been made. The Board of Registration has formally approved the change.