

Organized Justifications for More Stringent Requirements Section 10 of OSSF Order and Ordinances

(A) County of Goliad to provide greater public health and safety protection, shall require an application, permit and inspection for construction, alteration, extension, or repair to a residential or commercial on-site sewage facility, regardless of the size of the tract of land.

(1) Justification:

- a. The County of Goliad will require the permitting of all OSSF systems within County Limits to protect the health and welfare of all Citizens equally. We will manage, inspect, and ensure all effluent discharge is properly managed per TCEQ Guidelines.
- b. We find the following passage necessary in order to provide consistent coverage within our jurisdiction regardless of lot size.

(B) In order to provide greater public health and safety protection, County of Goliad shall require the maintenance for all OSSF's identified in 285-91(12) to be performed by a TCEQ registered maintenance provider unless:

- (1) The homeowner/property owner is a TCEQ registered/licensed maintenance provider, or
- (2) The homeowner/property owner was trained by an installer or takes a basic homeowner maintenance course approved by County of Goliad, or
- (3) The homeowner/property owner holds a valid Class C or higher wastewater treatment license, and is certificated by the manufacturer for the brand of OSSF that they own.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that OSSF is Maintained by individuals that poses the

knowledge needed to safely maintain such systems.

- b. We believe this is necessary as unqualified individuals may overlook situations of illicit discharge through failed OSSF systems and some of these issues may not be readily addressed before potential damage to potable sources.

(C) Maintenance Inspections and Reports:

- (1) Inspections at a minimum must meet all inspection requirements asset by the Rules, County of Goliad, as well as, the inspection requirements outlined by the manufacturer for the brand being inspected.
- (2) Inspection reports shall address all inspection and testing requirements as set by the Rules, County of Goliad, as well as, the testing requirements outlined by the manufacturer for the brand being inspected.
- (3) A homeowner of a single family residence conducting his/her own maintenance must comply with all inspection, testing and reporting requirements identified in 285.91(12).
- (4) Failure to provide and submit to County of Goliad inspection and testing reports for at least eight consecutive months shall result in forfeiting homeowner maintenance and shall require a maintenance contract with a registered maintenance provider.
- (5) County of Goliad shall require the reporting of the sludge levels in the pump tank and the condition of the spray area to be included on each required testing report specified by the Rules.
 - (1) Justification:
 - a. By having adopted maintenance and reporting requirements County of Goliad ensures the proper operation of OSSF systems within county limits.
 - b. County of Goliad will need to be able to track and monitor the general health of septic

systems to protect against illicit discharge and water contamination.

(D) All construction, alteration, extension or repair to any type of on-site sewage facility shall be by a licensed Installer. There shall be no property owner/homeowner installations unless the property owner/homeowner is also a licensed Installer

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that OSSF is Installed by individuals that poses the knowledge needed to safely install such systems.
- b. We believe this is necessary as unqualified individuals may create situations of illicit discharge through failed installations of OSSF systems and some of these issues may not be readily visibly apparent to AHJ inspection.

(E) Planning materials for all OSSFs in County of Goliad shall be submitted by a professional sanitarian or a professional engineer to the County of Goliad Department of Environmental Quality for its review and approval.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that OSSF is designed by individuals that poses the knowledge needed to safely install such systems.
- b. We believe this is necessary as potential for improper installs and overlooking aspects of required site conditions might result in damage to potable water sources.

(F) All platted or created subdivisions of single family dwellings using individual on-site sewage facilities for sewage disposal shall have lots of at least one (1) acre.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that OSSF is installed in a way that provides adequate clearance for OSSF equipment, appurtenances and drain fields.
- b. We believe this is necessary given our soil conditions and installation methods reduced clearance lots may not safely be contained against lot to lot run off.

(G) All habitable structures, upon their completion, must be connected to either a central wastewater treatment sanitary sewer system or an approved sewage disposal system.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that no structures within county limits utilize prohibited methods of waste disposal such as out houses, bore injection, cesspools, and other banned waste methods do not occur.
- b. We believe this is necessary as there are notated areas of Texas without basic services. We will codify this ordinance to provide the county legal means to enforce basic health and sanitation.

(H) A permit shall be obtained from County of Goliad Department of Environmental Quality for all structures using on-site sewage facilities for sewage disposal prior to its construction.

(1) Justification:

- a. The County of Goliad requires permits to ensure all construction activities within the county limits meet all health and safety regulations within its jurisdictional boundaries. This also ensures we meet all required documentation and record retention requirements.
- b. We believe this is necessary as we will need

affirmative jurisdiction to enforce all TCEQ and related State, Federal, and Local laws.

(I) Site evaluations shall only be performed by a registered professional engineer or registered professional sanitarian holding a valid TCEQ site evaluator license.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that the proper OSSF systems are installed according to professional design and our soil conditions as a Class IV area.
- b. We believe this is necessary as there are inherent challenges with OSSF construction in areas that require the use of non-conventional OSSF systems.

(J) Any building/structure other than single family dwelling using an on-site sewage facility and receiving secondary treatment of the effluent with water usage of no more than 500 G.P.D. and/or a B.O.D. level of no more than 65 shall be required to have a maintenance contract performed by a TCEQ licensed maintenance provider, Testing and reporting frequency shall be once every four months. One BOD and TSS Grab sample will be required once each year. Test results of each testing shall be sent to the County of Goliad Department of Environmental Quality within 14 days after the test is performed. Annual water bill shall be provided upon request.

The OSSF system does not require any additional treatment components.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that the OSSF Testing systems and procedures align with State required means and methods.
- b. We believe this is necessary due to commercial and similar uses present greater treatment challenges that would exceed the maintenance knowledge of non qualified specialists.

(K) Any building/structure other than single family dwelling using an on-site sewage facility and receiving secondary treatment of the effluent with water usage of 501 G.P.D. or more and/or a B.O.D. level of 66 or more shall be checked and maintained monthly by a contracted TCEQ licensed maintenance provider. A chlorine residual or fecal coliform test shall be made at each site visit where disinfection is required. One BOD and TSS Grab Sample test shall be conducted per year. The test results shall be sent to the Department of Environmental Quality within 14 days after the test is performed.

(1) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that the OSSF Testing systems and procedures align with State required means and methods.
- b. We believe this is necessary due to commercial and similar uses present greater treatment challenges that would exceed the maintenance knowledge of non qualified specialists. The additional testing methods are consistent with TCEQ regulation.

(L) All surface spray systems shall have timers to be set to go off between 1:00a.m. and 4:00 a.m.

(2) Justification:

- a. County of Goliad wants to ensure that the public or private occupants of a structure have the least potential exposure to OSSF treated discharge.
- b. We believe this is necessary as there might be cases of exposure to unsafe discharge during periods of higher traffic. On surface discharge systems the likelihood is greatly reduced for contact.