



DNR Proposing Significant Streaming of Chapter 8 – *Wastewater Design Guide* **April 2018**

DNR has been working on revisions to Chapter 8 for the last few years. Initially, DNR proposed to massively expand this rule, which AMCA strongly opposed, as much of the proposed changes would have been unduly burdensome to utilities. We are pleased to report that DNR has responded to stakeholder feedback and is now proposing to significantly streamline Chapter 13 and to create separate “Missouri Wastewater Design Guides.” As DNR explained in response to AMCA’s comments (emphasis added):

As a result of the Red Tape Reduction rule review and comments received by your organization and others, the Department is streamlining the design guides and the review process.

*Chapter 8’s proposed revisions will only retain the minimum design standards that directly protect human health, worker safety, or the environment. **This rule specifies minimum standards for the design and construction of wastewater systems.** The remaining design guides will be retained in a separate document that will be known as the “Missouri Wastewater Design Guides” or design guides. **The design guides is not intended to be used as a substitute for engineering experience and judgment. It is intended to provide guidance** of value to engineers who are responsible for designing wastewater treatment systems, and Department staff who are responsible for reviewing and approving the designs consistent with Missouri Water Quality Standards, 10 CSR 20-7.015, or applicable effluent limit guidelines.*

***In the past, engineers would seek a deviation and approval from the department for 10 CSR 20-8 Design Guides. With these rule amendments, there will be no need to deviate, therefore, reducing the regulatory burden to the permittees.** For upcoming stakeholder meetings, please visit the following website.*

<https://dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/cwforum/chapter8workgroup.htm>

We strongly encourage Members to review DNR’s proposed revisions (found at the link above), and alert us to any issues you see. Once DNR completes the stakeholder review process, it intends to proceed to formal rulemaking.