BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) is proposing significant revisions to 18 AAC 72 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Regulations. The wastewater regulations were reorganized, including a major expansion in permit-by-rule processes which allows more wastewater systems to be installed without prior approval from the department.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 18, Chapter 72 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with wastewater treatment and disposal. The organization of the articles and sections within 18 AAC 72 are revised to provide better clarity of regulatory requirements by system type. The following provides a summary of the proposed changes.

This supplemental public notice adding to the NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD that was issued on January 6, 2022 and extended to close March 20, 2022. The public comment period will be further extended and will now end March 31, 2022.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice and using the “comment” link on the department’s Smart Comment web page for this regulation project at https://water.alaskadec.commentinput.com/?id=rtFfi. Written comments may also be submitted to Tonya Bear, DEC Division of Water at 610 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709. Additionally, DEC will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 451-2188 and by electronic mail at tonya.bear@alaska.gov. The comments must be received no later than 11:59 pm on March 31, 2022.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation to participate in this process, please contact Claire Fishwick at (907) 465-5066 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973 /TTY or dial 711 no later than March 24, 2022 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided. A copy of the proposed regulation changes are available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and by contacting Tonya Bear, tonya.bear@alaska.gov or (907) 451-2177. A copy of material proposed for adoption may be viewed at the agency’s office locations in Fairbanks, Wasilla, Anchorage, Soldotna, and Juneau.

After the public comment period ends, DEC will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected. Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory Authority: AS 37.10.052; AS 44.46.020; AS 44.46.025; AS 46.03.020; AS 46.03.050; AS 46.03.060; AS 46.03.070; AS 46.03.080; AS 46.03.100; AS 46.03.110; AS 46.03.120; AS 46.03.365; AS 46.03.710; AS 46.03.720; AS 46.30.040
Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 46.03.010; AS 46.03.060; AS 46.03.100; AS 46.03.110; AS 46.03.120; AS 46.03.365; AS 46.03.710; AS 46.03.720; AS 46.30.040

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

March 21, 2022

Jason W. Brune, Commissioner