

MEMORANDUM

TO: Environmental Health Managers
District Health Directors
Office of Environmental Health Services staff
AOSE/PEs and other stakeholders

FROM: Karen Remley, M.D., M.B.A.
State Health Commissioner

DATE: April 9, 2008

RE: Experimental approval for the Eco-pure system
Guidance Memoranda and Policies (GMP) #145

The Eco-pure system uses a peat moss for treatment and is manufactured by Eco-pure Waste Water Systems, a company located in Fort Myers, Florida. Eco-pure Waste Water Systems requested experimental approval for their wastewater treatment system so it could demonstrate the system's efficacy when designed and installed with certain waivers and variances from the 2000 *Sewage Handling and Disposal Regulations*.¹

The Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Services (DOSWS) completed a detailed review of the manufacturer's product, its claims, and the probable efficacy of its product when designed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. DOSWS recommended that I grant an experimental approval for the system and this policy approves the system for experimental use and also establishes the protocol for the experimental testing procedure.

While every attempt has been made to eliminate possible elements of confusion about the waivers and variances granted to this proprietary product, new questions or concerns may arise over time. Stakeholders are advised to contact, Donald J. Alexander, Director, Division of Onsite Sewage and Water Services (DOSWS) at 109 Governor Street, 5th Floor, Richmond Virginia 23219, (804) 864-7452 to discuss any additional points of confusion about this product's experimental approval.

¹ See Section 441 et. seq. of the 2000 *Regulations* for a detailed explanation of experimental approval, the testing requirements, and the methodologies used to evaluate new technologies in Virginia.