



ANTHONY D. CORTESE, SCAMBRIDGE, MASS.  
Commissioner

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# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## *Executive Office of Environmental Affairs*

### *Department of Environmental Quality Engineering*

#### *Division of Hazardous Waste*

*One Winter Street, Boston, Mass. 02108*

December 15, 1983

The Department of Environmental Quality Engineering is pleased to announce the promulgation of Regulations for the Land Application of Sludge and Septage, 310 CMR 32.00 (Please note that the CMR number has been changed from 310 CMR 29.00, the number used in the Public Hearing Draft). The regulations went into effect on November 15, 1983. Existing land application projects must comply with the new regulations by November 15, 1984.

Copies of the regulations, which appeared on November 10 in Massachusetts Register, No. 389 may be obtained from:

The State House Book Store  
Room 116  
State House  
Boston, Mass. 02133

The cost per issue is \$1.25 plus \$.65 for mailing.

The regulations establish a two-step process for obtaining approval plans for land application of sludge or septage. The first step, the approval of sludge or septage suitability, requires that the owner or operator of a sludge or septage facility submit an analysis of the sludge or septage for heavy metals and PCBs to DEQE for approval. Approval of Suitability may be obtained independently of a Land Application Certificate. Frequency of sampling, specific parameters, and requirements for analysis are spelled out in the regulations. Depending upon the quality of the sludge or septage and the degree of stabilization, DEQE may grant approval for one of the three following categories of uses:

- Type I - Sludge and sludge products for unrestricted public use.
- Type II - Sludge (including sludge products) and septage suitable for agricultural use, subject to DEQE approval of the site.
- Type III - Sludge (including sludge products) and septage suitable for crops, exclusive of those for direct human consumption.

Approval of Suitability is valid for two years; during this period sludge or septage monitoring must continue.

The second major step requires the person wishing to land apply Type II or III sludge or septage to obtain from DEQE a Land Application Certificate. The regulations require that information demonstrating that the site and application plans meet established standards must be submitted to the Department. Major issues of concern are soil type, drainage characteristics, and topography; depth to ground water; distance to water supply; crops grown; and application rates. DEQE approval requires local board of health concurrence. A Land Application Certificate is valid for one year.

Applications for Approval of Suitability and Land Application Certificate should be submitted to DEQE regional offices. It is recommended that those considering land application consult with the local Cooperative Extension Service and/or Soil Conservation Service whose expertise can be of great assistance in preparing a land application proposal.

For further information, contact Fifi Nessen, One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108, (617) 292-5590.



ANTHONY D. CORTESE, Sr.  
Commissioner  
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

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Comm. from the Mass. Exec. Office of Environmental Affairs, Dept. of Environmental Quality Engineering Re: the promulgation of regulations for the land application of sludge & septage, effective November 15, 1983.

In City Council,

January 9, 1984

1/9/84

Referred to the

City Manager

Copy sent to the City Manager  
1/11/84 mh