



## The alternative technology review process is for new or nonconforming technologies

These technologies are not represented in the current wastewater design criteria in the Water Quality Control Division's *Design Criteria for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Works, Policy WPC-DR-1* (wastewater design criteria). The design criteria were updated in 2012 and a number of technologies can be reviewed under the current design criteria without requiring alternative technology acceptance.

It is recognized that sometimes it may not be clear if a substantial reconfiguration of existing treatment technologies constitutes an 'alternative technology' and the division will make such determinations. If you have a technology that you are unclear if it can be reviewed under the wastewater design criteria without an alternative technology review, please contact the division.

The alternative technology term refers to an established or innovative technology with a compliance record that is in use in other states or countries but is alternative in the sense that Colorado design criteria have not been developed for the technology and thus the technology is not currently accepted for use in Colorado. The alternative technology review process is not intended for emerging treatment techniques that are still being developed and are without an existing compliance history; however, pilot testing can be proposed for technologies needing additional data as noted below.

When a proposed design includes alternative or nonconforming technologies not covered by the criteria, then, upon request by the owner, design engineer, or division staff, the division shall review the design. The division will review the history of successful operations, evaluate the efficacy of the technology in providing reliable wastewater treatment under a range of operating conditions, and, if accepted for use in Colorado, develop appropriate design criteria. Site location approval and design approval are required for each location where use of an accepted alternative technology is proposed.

To prevent significant delays in the design review process, a request for alternative technology acceptance should be submitted as soon as practical before, but no later than at the same time as the site location application.

## Note for emerging technologies

If full-scale operating experience is not available for inclusion in an alternative technology submittal (e.g., emerging technology), then pilot test data may be considered for an alternative technology review. The division's Policy WPC-SA-1, *Guidance Document for the Site Location and Design Approval Regulations for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Works 5 CCR 1002-22* provides additional information regarding pilot testing requirements.

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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