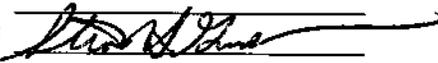


**WATER QUALITY
PERMITS**

Policy No: WQP-28
Initiated By: Kenan Diker
Approved By: 
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Policies & Procedures

Blending of Septage from an Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) with Biosolids

The Water Quality Control Division (Division) has adopted this policy in response to questions raised about the blending of septage from an Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) with biosolids that are used for beneficial land application. The Division is authorized to administer a biosolids program under section 25-8-509, C.R.S., of the WQCA. In the WQCA, the term "biosolids" is defined as:

[T]he accumulated residual product resulting from a domestic wastewater treatment works or other domestic sources. "Biosolids" does not include grit or screenings from a domestic wastewater treatment works or commercial and industrial septage *or individual sewage disposal systems* as regulated by article 10 of this title.

It is the Division's interpretation that the term *individual sewage disposal systems* includes domestic septage generated from those systems. Given that no separate authority has been granted to the Division under the WQCA to regulate septage, the Division has no authority to regulate the beneficial use of septage.

The definition of "Biosolids" found in the implementing regulation 5 CCR 1002-64 (Regulation 64), explicitly excludes domestic septage as follows:

[T]he accumulated treated residual product resulting from a domestic wastewater treatment works or other domestic sources. Biosolids does not include grit or screenings from a wastewater treatment works, commercial or industrial sludges regardless of whether the sludges are combined with domestic sewage, sludge generated during treatment of drinking water, or domestic or industrial septage.

One consequence of this is that septage from an ISDS cannot be blended with materials that currently meet the definition of biosolids, since the Division must regulate the beneficial use of biosolids, but is prohibited from regulating septage from an ISDS. ISDS septage can be land applied as long as all federal and county regulatory requirements are met. Also, ISDS septage can be composted in accordance with the Solid Waste Regulations.