

Wastewater Branch Standard Comments

August 24, 2015

1. Oahu:

- The subject project is located in the Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Oahu Wastewater Advisory Committee where no new cesspools will be allowed. It is also located in the Pass Zone.
- The subject project is located in the Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Oahu Wastewater Advisory Committee where no new cesspools will be allowed. It is also located in the No Pass Zone where subdivisions are not approved unless connection to the County sewer system is possible.

2. Maui:

- The subject project is located in the Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Maui County Wastewater Advisory Committee where no new cesspools will be allowed.
- The subject project is located in the Non-Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Maui County Wastewater Advisory Committee where new cesspools may be allowed with specific criteria.
- The subject project is located in the One – Acre Lot Exception Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Maui County Wastewater Advisory Committee where new cesspools may be allowed, provided there is at least one-acre of land.

3. Kauai:

- The subject project is located in the Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Kauai County Wastewater Advisory Committee where no new cesspools will be allowed.

4. Hawaii:

- The subject project is located in the Non-Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Hawaii County Wastewater Advisory Committee where new cesspools may be allowed with specific criteria.
- The subject project is located in the One – Acre Lot Exception Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Hawaii County Wastewater Advisory Committee where new cesspools may be allowed, provided there is at least one-acre of land.
- The subject project is located in the Five – Acre Lot Exception Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Hawaii County Wastewater Advisory Committee where new cesspools may be allowed, provided there is at least five-acres of land.
- The subject project is located in the Critical Wastewater Disposal Area (CWDA) as determined by the Hawaii County Wastewater Advisory Committee where no new cesspools will be allowed.

5. Statewide:

- As the project will be served by the City & County of Honolulu/ County/ Private sewer system, we have no objections to the development. If available, we highly encourage the developer to work with the City/ County/ Private Wastewater Reuse Facility to utilize recycled water for irrigation and other non-potable water purposes. The use of recycled wastewater should be encouraged and utilized in major common areas such as parks, golf courses and other open spaces or landscaping areas.
- Wastewater treatment and disposal have not been adequately addressed in the subject document; therefore, we can not offer any substantial comments. If a City/County/Private sewer connection is not available, domestic wastewater generated by the project shall be handled by wastewater systems that comply with our chapter 11-62, Hawaii Administrative Rules.
- As connection to a City/County/Private sewer system may not possible, we highly recommend the construction and use of individual wastewater treatment systems (IWSs) for each unit/lot serving no more than five (5) bedrooms or bedroom like rooms.
- At this time, the use of an onsite wastewater system is allowable on this property. However, it should be located outside of 1,000 feet radius from a potable public drinking water well before we shall concur with the subdivision request.
- Based on the information provided in the subject document, a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) will be provided for the proposed development. We have no objections to the proposal as long as the WWTP is designed and constructed in accordance with applicable provisions of our chapter 11-62, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), “Wastewater Systems”.

- We have a cesspool survey card for the subject project and have attached a copy. The existing cesspool is considered to be “grandfathered” and approved for use. Should a significant modification to the existing dwelling be proposed in the future, the existing cesspool will be required to be upgraded to an individual wastewater system (IWS) such as a septic tank system.
- We have a cesspool survey card for the subject project and have attached a copy. The existing cesspool is considered to be “grandfathered-in”. The Department currently does not have any complaints or enforcement case that involves the subject cesspool.
- The use of individual wastewater systems is allowed. The type and number of individual wastewater systems to be used on each lot will be determined by the wastewater rules in effect at the time of building permit application.
- Domestic wastewater will not be generated by the subject project; therefore, we have no comments to provide at this time.
- We do not have any records of a treatment system for the subject property; therefore, we cannot offer any substantial comments at this time.

6. Subdivision Requests:

- The Wastewater Branch does not concur with the subdivision request because a minimum lot size of 10,000 square feet is required in order to utilize individual wastewater systems.
- The properties to be subdivided are less than 10,000 square feet; therefore, we will have to deny this subdivision request.
- The subdivision consists of 50 lots/dwelling units or more with lot sizes that are greater than an acre. The use of individual wastewater systems are allowed under the provisions of Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Chapter 11-62.
- The subdivision is located within 1000’ radius of a public drinking water source. The WWB cannot concur with the proposed subdivision unless connection to a public sewer system is available.
- The source of potable water is not shown. Please provide this office with the source of potable water such that we can further review the subdivision request.
- The subdivision consists of less than 50 lots/dwelling units. The use of individual wastewater systems are allowed under the provisions of Hawaii Administrative Rule Chapter 11-62. The type and number of individual wastewater treatment systems to be used on each lot will be determined by the wastewater rules in effect at the time of the building permit.
- The subdivision consists of 50 lots/dwelling units or more. The use of individual wastewater systems are not allowed under the provisions of Hawaii Administrative Rule Chapter 11-62. Please have your engineer submit plans for a wastewater treatment works to the Wastewater Branch.
- Show all proposed existing structures and wastewater disposal systems on the final plot map including setback distances to the newly adjusted property lines and buildings.
- In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes 343, an environmental assessment is required for any proposed wastewater treatment unit except for individual wastewater systems or a wastewater treatment system unit serving fewer than fifty single-family dwellings or the equivalent.

7. Other:

- The installation of individual wastewater systems will not be allowed if the design flow for the project exceeds 15,000 gallons per day. Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Chapter 11-62, Wastewater Systems, section 11-62-31.1(2)(B) states that for developments involving buildings other than dwellings, the total wastewater flow of the development shall not exceed 15,000 gallons per day. A wastewater treatment plant will be required to be designed and constructed in accordance with our chapter 11-62, HAR if design flows for the project exceeds 15,000 gallons per day.
- The Wastewater Branch has records for the existing wastewater system(s) that are located on the subject property. Please have your engineer or contractor submit completed cesspool information card(s) identifying the location of all wastewater system(s) and their locations to the existing and proposed adjusted property lines.
- In 1999, EPA promulgated regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act’s Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program required closure of all existing large capacity cesspools (LCC) by April 5, 2005. Under federal regulations, a large capacity cesspool is a cesspool which serves multiple dwellings, or for nonresidential facilities has the capacity to serve 20 or more persons per day. Operation of a large capacity cesspool after this date is a violation of federal regulations and subject to enforcement and fines. If you have any questions about LCC, please contact Kate Rao of EPA at (415) 972-3538, or by email at rao.kate@epamail.epa.gov.
- All wastewater plans must conform to applicable provisions of the Department of Health's Administrative Rules, Chapter 11-62, "Wastewater Systems." We do reserve the right to review the detailed wastewater plans for conformance to applicable rules. Should you have any questions, please contact the Planning & Design Section of the Wastewater Branch at telephone 586-4294.