

Cesspool Conversion Implementation Working Group (CCIWG)  
Meeting  
Revisions to Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 62 (HAR 11-62)  
May 19, 2026, 8:00 – 11:00 AM  
Hawai'i State Department of Health  
2827 Waimano Home Rd., Pearl City, HI 96782  
EMD Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hale Ola Building  
Microsoft Teams meeting

Meeting #4 Minutes

1. Assembly
2. Roll Call Invitees, New Members, Designated Speaker:
  - a. Facilitator: Sacramento State University EFC: Maureen Kerner
  - b. Director of Health or designee (DOH):
    - i. EMD:
      1. Kevin Ihu
      2. ~~Joanna Seto (not present)~~
    - ii. SWPB:
      1. Scott Miyashiro
      2. Rebecca Candilasa
    - iii. WWB:
      1. Shawn Sakoda
      2. Christopher Hakoda
      3. Mark Tomomitsu
      4. Jonathan Nagato
  - c. Government:
    - i. State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) Administrator or designee:  
~~Jessica Puff (not present)~~
    - ii. Department of Hawaiian Home Lands or designee (DHHL) Chair or designee:
      1. Nancy McPherson
      2. Kelbert Yoshida
    - iii. University of Hawaii Professor with State and national wastewater knowledge and experience (UH):
      1. UH, Water Resources Research Center (WRRC): Dr. Tao Yan
    - iv. County Government Officials in wastewater, County of Hawai'i:
      1. Kelly Hartman
      2. ~~Craig Kawaguchi (not present)~~
    - v. County Government Officials in wastewater, County of Kaua'i:
      1. Donald Fujimoto
      2. Donn Kakuda
    - vi. County Government Officials in wastewater, County of Maui:
      1. Eric Nakagawa
    - vii. County Government Officials in wastewater, City and County of Honolulu:
      1. ~~Dr. Roger Babcock (not present)~~
    - viii. Members of the House of Representatives or designee: (Vacant)
    - ix. Members of the Senate or designee: (Vacant)
  - d. Licensed IWS Consulting Engineers

- i. Hawai'i Island:
      - 1. EcoSolutions: David Whitney
      - 2. Foresight Engineering: Palani Greenwell
      - 3. Green Aina Engineering:
        - a. Terin Gloor
        - b. Jesse Yarvis
    - ii. Kaua'i:
      - 1. Sumu Engineering: Micah Kagimoto
    - iii. Maui/Moloka'i/Lana'i:
      - 1. CDF Engineering:
        - a. Mael Cary
        - b. Jake Freeman
        - c. Brandon Murr
      - 2. Scott Engineering: Alana Scott
    - iv. O'ahu:
      - 1. ACSI Engineering: Dennis Poma
      - 2. Kokoro Engineering: Staci Taniguchi
  - e. Licensed IWS Contractors:
    - i. Hawai'i Island: (Vacant)
    - ii. Licensed IWS Contractors Kaua'i:
      - ~~1. Kaua'i Wastewater Solutions: Wendell Bandmann (not present)~~
    - iii. Licensed IWS Contractors Maui: (Vacant)
    - iv. Licensed IWS Contractors O'ahu: (Vacant)
  - f. Non-Government:
    - i. Wastewater Industry professional with knowledge and experience in wastewater systems and individual wastewater technologies:
      - ~~1. Carollo Engineering: Cari Ishida (not present)~~
      - 2. WAI Home: James Roberts
    - ii. Researcher who helped develop the Hawai'i Cesspool Prioritization Tool (HCPT):
      - ~~1. UH, WPRC: Dr. Chris Shuler (not present)~~
    - iii. Individual from non-profit with knowledge of State wastewater issues:
      - 1. Capacity Collaborative Hawai'i & Pacific Islands: Carmen Guzman-Simpliciano
      - ~~2. Coral Reef Alliance: Erica Perez (not present)~~
      - ~~3. Hawaii Coral Reef Rights: Ted Bohten (not present)~~
      - 4. Kingdom Pathways: Kalei Hoyle-Kamakahi
      - 5. The Nature Conservancy: Kim Falinski
    - iv. Individual with knowledge of alternative wastewater technology:
      - 1. Wastewater Alternatives and Innovations:
        - a. Stuart Coleman
        - b. Jessica Paisley
        - c. Jacob Roberts
    - v. Individuals:
      - ~~1. The Kalaimoku Group: John Aeto (not present)~~
      - ~~2. Seaton Consulting: Rich Wilson (not present)~~
3. Overall Goal & Roles: (Jon)
- a. Cesspool Conversions

- b. CCIWG
  - c. HAR 11-62 Revisions
  - d. Recommendation/SWOT form
- 4. HAR 11-62 Revisions – How to Accomplish:
  - a. Use Recommendation/SWOT form:
    - i. 1 form/recommendation
  - b. Meeting #2 and beyond:
    - i. Primarily virtual meeting
    - ii. Start with Recommendation/SWOT form #1
    - iii. Have open discussion
    - iv. Take notes
    - v. Add key takeaways to a chart/report
    - vi. Repeat from Item ii with next Recommendation/SWOT form
- 5. Explanation and Values of Recommendation/SWOT form
  - a. Identify and record recommendations submitted
  - b. Identify strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/threats
  - c. Encourages objective analysis before stakeholder discussions
  - d. Facilitates productive stakeholder discussions by providing facts, context, citation, research, data, etc.
- 6. Next Steps
  - a. Collection of Recommendation/SWOT forms:
    - i. 1 form/recommendation
    - ii. Email forms to: [DOH.WWB.cesspool@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:DOH.WWB.cesspool@doh.hawaii.gov)
    - iii. Order by date received
    - iv. Manufacturer organizations need to have engineer or contractor submit Recommendation/SWOT form on their behalf
  - b. Meeting #2 and beyond
    - i. Balance time to complete updates and amount of time to discuss each
      - 1. Should a time limit per form be established?
    - ii. Review each Recommendation/SWOT form
    - iii. Champion can speak to it if desired
    - iv. Offer participants to speak on SWOT
    - v. Only one (1) designated speaker from each organization
    - vi. Manufacturer organizations can only observe
    - vii. DOH to speak to each
- 7. Old Business:
  - a. Meeting #3 Minutes
  - b. No changes to Meeting #2 Minutes
  - c. Circle back to Recommendation #11 after all the cesspool recommendations
- 8. New Business:
  - a. Start from Recommendation/SWOT form #18. This was not completed during Meeting #3.
  - b. Continue with next Recommendation/SWOT forms in order.
- 9. Recommendation #18:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Create new professional license class for “IWS Designer” to eliminate requirement for IWS to be designed solely by civil engineers

- c. State of Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Professional and Vocational Licensing (PVL) regulates licenses in Hawaii.
  - d. DCCA-PVL does not require licensed civil engineers to show proof of any type of insurance policy coverage.
  - e. Suffolk County as an example
  - f. NOWRA might provide information
  - g. Who will be responsible for the safety, damage, and financial liability of the wastewater design?
  - h. Typical IWS designs may be straightforward, but related permitting (e.g., SMA permit, etc.) are complex.
  - i. Action:
    - i. This is a topic for longer, separate discussion after the HAR 11-62 revisions are completed.
    - ii. No further action and recommendation is closed.
10. Recommendation #19:
- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Incentivize advanced treatment with disposal area sizing credits.
    - ii. This was discussed in Recommendation #12.
  - c. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
11. Recommendation #20:
- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Reevaluate and update design flow assumptions.
    - ii. This was discussed in Recommendation #13.
  - c. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
12. Recommendation #21:
- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Clarify and reconsider reserve area requirements for advanced treatment.
  - c. This relates to HAR 11-62 Subchapter 2 for wastewater treatment works (WWTW) and not HAR 11-62 Subchapter 3 individual wastewater systems (IWS).
  - d. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
13. Recommendation #22:
- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Standardize disposal system adjustments for approved technologies.
    - ii. This was discussed in Recommendation #10.
  - c. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
14. Recommendation #23:
- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Maintain a public-facing approved systems list.

- ii. This was discussed in Recommendation #2.
  - c. Action:
    - i. DOH-WWB clarified approved IWS technologies on the DOH-WWB website.
    - ii. DOH-WWB created a CCIWG webpage on the DOH-WWB website.
    - iii. No further action and recommendation is closed.
- 15. Recommendation #24:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Align treatment requirements with priority and sensitivity areas.
  - c. Kim Falinski offered further discussion.
  - d. DOH may support direct criteria, but does not support using the Hawaii Cesspool Prioritization Tool (HCPT), to determine treatment type.
  - e. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
- 16. Recommendation #25:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Incorporate clustered/decentralized systems as a defined pathway.
  - c. The wastewater direct responsible charge (DRC), certified wastewater operator, or in-development wastewater responsible managing entity are important.
  - d. DOH-WWB is supportive of clustered, decentralized, and/or septic tank effluent pump (STEP) systems.
  - e. Clustered, decentralized, and/or STEP systems comply with HAR 11-62.
  - f. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
- 17. Recommendation #26:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Develop structured approval pathways for innovative technologies.
    - ii. This was discussed in Recommendation #2.
  - c. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
- 18. Recommendation #27:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:
    - i. Create expedited permitting for pre-approved high-performing systems.
  - c. Each IWS application does not require any review of the treatment technology. The treatment technology is required to be:
    - i. IAPMO-certified for septic tanks.
    - ii. NSF/ANSI Standard No. 40 and/or 245 for aerobic treatment units (ATU).
  - d. Each IWS application does require review of the site-specific design (i.e., layout) of the treatment unit, piping, and disposal system.
  - e. Action:
    - i. No further action and recommendation is closed.
- 19. Recommendation #29:
  - a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
  - b. Topic:

- i. Reduce daily flow rates.
- c. Doing a study using City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply data as proposed. Funding and study specification need to be determined.
- d. Water-efficient fixtures were discussed.
- e. Rationale was still required.
- f. Action:
  - i. DOH-WWB will internally discuss.

20. Recommendation #29:

- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
- b. Topic:
  - i. Allow for disposal system sizing based solely on soil hydraulic conductivity when an ATU is implemented.
- c. DOH-WWB should review only the soil aquifer treatment (SAT) section.
- d. DOH-WWB did not have enough time to fully review referenced document.
- e. Action:

- i. DOH-WWB to review.

21. Recommendation #30:

- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
- b. Topic:
  - i. Allow gravel backfill as substitute for a structural lining when converting a cesspool to seepage pit.
- c. DOH-WWB did not have enough time to fully review referenced document.
- d. Action:

- i. DOH-WWB to review.

22. Recommendation #31:

- a. Recommendation/SWOT form was shown on screen.
- b. Topic:
  - i. Allow reduction in absorption bed area when gray water is diverted and otherwise disposed.
- c. DOH-WWB did not have enough time to fully review referenced document.
- d. Action:

- i. DOH-WWB to review.

23. Scheduled next meeting for June 24, 2026, 8:00 – 11:00 AM.