

Department: Public Works & Engineering	Section: Utilities
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UT-03 Communal Wastewater Treatment Systems Pilot Project Management

Policy statement

Leduc County supports environmentally and financially viable communal wastewater treatment systems as an alternative wastewater servicing option for rural applications. Leduc County defines the pilot project process and establishes consistent practice regarding the role of Leduc County as applied to the design, installation, testing, operation, maintenance and ownership of communal wastewater treatment systems within the jurisdictional boundaries of Leduc County.

Definitions

Applicant means

- for a new development, the developer of the lands until such time as ownership and responsibility for the communal wastewater treatment system is transferred to the rural utility association created to serve the development,
- for the retrofit/upgrade of an existing development, the rural utility association serving the existing development, or
- such other party as may be approved by Alberta Environment and Parks and Leduc County to own, operate and maintain a communal wastewater treatment system.

Communal Wastewater Treatment System means a wastewater treatment system that falls under the approval jurisdiction of Alberta Environment and Parks that incorporates mechanical treatment which may include, but not limited to; Suspended Growth Wastewater Systems, Sequencing Batch Reactors (SBR), Fixed Film Wastewater Systems, and Membrane Bioreactors (MBR) and includes an on-site disposal component.

Communal Wastewater Treatment Systems Pilot Project Procedure is a procedure based on the policy which provides measures for the director to implement for communal wastewater treatment systems.

Pilot Project agreement means an agreement between Leduc County and the applicant to establish the terms, conditions and timelines prior to the transfer agreement or written agreement for the evaluation of the feasibility of the communal wastewater system.

Transfer agreement means an agreement between Leduc County and the applicant to establish the terms, conditions and timelines for the transfer of ownership, operation and maintenance and control of the communal wastewater treatment system to Leduc County.

Written agreement means an agreement between Leduc County and the applicant to allow private ownership and operation of a communal wastewater treatment system within the jurisdictional boundaries of Leduc County which meets the requirements of Leduc County wastewater bylaws and policies.

Approved Date:	Motion No:	Page No.
May 12, 2020	109-20	1 of 3

Department: Public Works & Engineering	Section: Utilities
---	-------------------------------------

Policy standards

1. The capital and operating costs of the system design, infrastructure, construction, operation and maintenance of a communal wastewater treatment system shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant throughout the pilot project until final acceptance by Leduc County.
2. It is the applicant's responsibility through the pilot project to:
 - prove the technology, design and installation works properly;
 - prove the financial and environmental viability of the communal wastewater treatment system.
3. Leduc County will own, operate and maintain all communal wastewater treatment systems within their jurisdictional boundaries through a transfer agreement; or grant permission for applicants to retain ownership and accept all operational and maintenance responsibilities through a written agreement.
4. In situations where the homeowners association requests to own and operate the communal wastewater treatment system through a written agreement, they must demonstrate they are fully prepared to operate and maintain the communal wastewater treatment system indefinitely.
5. Under a written agreement or transfer agreement the communal wastewater treatment system utility shall be operated financially as defined in the utility fiscal policy.

Policy authority

1. Legislative implications:
 - (a) Utility Fiscal Policy

Policy responsibilities

1. Council Responsibilities

Council will:

- Approve the Communal Wastewater Treatment Systems Pilot Project Management Policy.

2. Director Responsibilities

The director will:

develop and enact a communal wastewater treatment systems pilot project procedure which will address:

- viability of the proposed system
- application process and requirements
- regulatory stakeholder collaboration, roles, and responsibilities for the approval process
- design and installation
- reporting and evaluation
- failure and corrective actions
- bonding requirements

Approved Date:	Motion No:	Page No.
May 12, 2020	109-20	2 of 3

Department: Public Works & Engineering	Section: Utilities
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- pilot project agreement requirements
- transfer agreement requirements
- written agreement requirements
- third party involvement
- applicable fees

3. Administration Responsibilities

Department manager will:

- Manage the application program.
- Maintain, update and adhere to this policy.

Monitoring & updating

1. This policy will be posted on Leduc County's website.
2. This policy will be reviewed at least once every (4) years.

Approved Date:	Motion No:	Page No.
May 12, 2020	109-20	3 of 3