

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Virginia Department of Health
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	12 VAC 5-640
VAC Chapter title(s)	Alternative Discharging Sewage Treatment Regulations for Individual Single-Family Dwellings
Action title	Periodic Review
Date this document prepared	November 13, 2023
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Periodic Review

Impact on Local Partners

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	As this regulation is only applicable to residential dwellings, it does not appear that there are direct or indirect monetized costs or benefits to local partners.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) N/A	(b) N/A
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	As this regulation is only applicable to residential dwellings, it does not appear that there are direct or indirect non-monetized costs or benefits to local partners.	
(4) Assistance	N/A	
(5) Information Sources	N/A	

Impacts on Families

Table 3: Impact on Families

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Monetized Costs: The regulations contain construction, monitoring, operation, and design requirements for all alternative discharging sewage treatment systems (ADSTs) constructed and operated at individual single-family dwellings with flows less than or
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	<p>equal to 1,000 gallons per day. Application fees range from \$225 to \$425.</p> <p>For owners of a nonconforming alternative discharging sewage treatment system, there is a one-time cost for an operation and maintenance manual estimated at \$1,394.</p> <p>For owners of a conforming alternative discharge sewage treatment system, the cost is approximately \$1,115. Systems which demonstrate compliance after a period of quarterly monitoring revert to a generally approved sampling schedule which will save owners approximately \$400 annually.</p> <p>In addition, the Virginia Department of Health is required to conduct an annual site visit. This visit costs \$75.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indirect Monetized Costs: There are no indirect monetized costs expected for families associated with retaining this regulation. • Direct Monetized Benefits: There are no direct monetized benefits to families associated with this regulatory action. • Indirect Monetized Benefits: There are no indirect monetized benefits expected for families associated with retaining this regulation. 	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a) \$225 - \$1,394 (depends on system type i.e., conforming vs non-conforming)	(b) \$0
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Monetized Costs: There are no non-monetized costs to families associated with this regulatory action. • Non-Monetized Benefits: ADSTs allow for the construction of residential homes where it is not possible to install conventional or alternative onsite sewage systems or municipal services are not available. These regulations are most advantageous to rural residential construction for the reasons stated above. In addition, families would benefit from the environmental protections to surface water, ground water, and natural resources afforded by the regulations. 	
(4) Information Sources	N/A	

Impacts on Small Businesses

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

<p>(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)</p>	<p>Direct Monetized Costs: Small businesses governed by the regulations include alternative onsite sewage system installers, operators which perform maintenance, professional engineers, alternative onsite soil evaluators, and general contractors. It does not appear small businesses governed by these regulations incur any direct monetized costs. Cost associated with the installation, design, and operation & maintenance of ADSTs are borne by homeowners.</p> <p>Indirect Monetized Costs: There are no indirect monetized costs to small businesses associated with this regulation.</p> <p>Direct Monetized Benefits: There are no direct monetized benefits to small businesses associated with this regulation.</p> <p>Indirect Monetized Benefits: There are no indirect monetized benefits to small businesses associated with this regulation.</p>	
<p>(2) Present Monetized Values</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Costs</p>	<p>Direct & Indirect Benefits</p>
	<p>(a) \$0</p>	<p>(b) \$0</p>
<p>(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Monetized Costs: There are no non-monetized costs to small businesses associated with retaining this regulation as-is. • Non-Monetized Benefits: There are no non-monetized benefits expected to small businesses associated with retaining this regulation; however, small businesses have generally benefited from environmental protections to surface water, ground water, and natural resources afforded by the regulations. 	
<p>(4) Alternatives</p>	<p>These regulations are mandated under 32.1- 164 of the Code of Virginia. One alternative is to amend the regulations where sampling and operation/maintenance requirements may increase adding an additional layer of public health protection at an additional cost to the system owner.</p> <p>The regulations, in their current form, sufficiently protect public health and the environment in the least burdensome and cost-effective manner.</p>	
<p>(5) Information Sources</p>		