

✓ 9-19-06

VARIANCE REQUEST

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Date: December 7, 1999 2. Review Engineer: Bill Graham 3. Date Received: November 16, 1999 4. Facility Name: Douds-Leando WWTF 5. County Number: 89, Van Buren 6. Program Area: CP (wastewater) 7. Facility Type : C02 8. Subject Area : 327 (valve pit) 9. Rule Reference: 567-64.2(9)a 10. Design Stds Ref: 13.10.4 11. Consulting Engr: McClure Engineering, Ankeny, IA 12. Variance Rule: 567-64.2(9)c | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Decision: <i>Approved</i>
Date: <i>12/10/99</i> 14. Appeal:
Date: |
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15. Description of Variance Request:

The cities of Douds and Leando and the Rathbun Regional Water Association are requesting a variance from the design standard which requires that valves for submersible pumps be located in a separate valve chamber. RRWA is proposing using buried valves with ten feet of DIP on either side of the valve.

16. Consulting Engineer's Justifications

Douds-Leando is a participant in the Iowa Rural Water Association Small Community Wastewater Pilot Project. The project was the result of several meetings that included USDA Rural Development, the Iowa Rural Water Association, and IDNR. At these meetings affordable ways of providing wastewater treatment for small unsewered communities were discussed. The goals of the project were:

1. **Improve Environmental Conditions.** Centralized systems would be constructed to eliminate environmental and public health problems caused by failing septic tanks and lateral systems in tight soils.
2. **Long Term Compliance.** The collection and treatment systems will have a 20 year design life.
3. **New Design Concepts.** The program is intended to encourage new design concepts. Several variances from the design standards have been allowed based on program participation. None of these have involved new treatment concepts or processes.
4. **Immediate Response to Problems:** The financial and managerial ability to remedy operation and maintenance problems will be robust since these projects will be owned and operated by rural water associations.
5. **Savings and Risks Are Balanced:** A group of design engineers and rural water association representatives met with department engineers to "value-engineer" proposed cost saving designs and balance capital savings against increased operation and maintenance costs.
6. **Better Management:** This goal is to be met through Rural Water Association ownership and management of the wastewater utilities.

