



Water Quality Division RULE CLARIFICATION

RC #: 008	Title: 18	Chapter: 9	Article: 3	Rule Citation: R18-9-A310(D)(4)
Date Issued: 2/21/01			Withdrawn or Superseded? No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Date:	
Topic of Rule Needing Clarification: Use of percolation testing in lieu of or in addition to ASTM soil characterization methods				
Text of Rule Needing Clarification:				
<p>R18-9-A310(D)(4): “Percolation testing as specified in subsection (C)(4) or another method of soil evaluation approved by the Department under subsection (C)(6) shall be used as the sole method of soil characterization if a soil characterization method specified in subsection (D)(2) is not required.”</p> <p>The following provisions are also referenced in the clarification provided herein:</p> <p>R18-9-A310(D)(3): Percolation testing as specified in subsection (C)(4) or another method of soil evaluation approved by the Department under subsection (C)(6) may be used to augment soil characterization specified in subsection (D)(2) if useful to locate or design an on-site wastewater treatment facility.</p> <p>R18-9-A310(D)(5): Unless testing under subsection (C)(5) is required, the Department shall accept a soil characterization method specified in subsection (D)(2) as the sole soil characterization method.</p>				
Question Needing Clarification: In situations when soil characterization by one of the ASTM methods is not required, must a percolation test be used, or may the soil be evaluated by an ASTM method, either using the ASTM method by itself or augmented with a percolation test?				
Clarification of Rule:				
<p>Consistent with ADEQ’s intent in drafting the rule, the three subsections cited above may be interpreted as follows:</p> <p>R18-9-A310(D)(3): Percolation testing always may be used to augment soil characterization by one of the referenced ASTM methods [these are referred to in subsection (D)(2), which in turn cites the three specific ASTM methods listed in subsections (C)(1) through (C)(3)].</p> <p>R18-9-A310(D)(5): Soil characterization by an ASTM method may always be used as the sole soil characterization method.</p> <p>R18-9-A310(D)(4): When an applicant is not required to use an ASTM method, the applicant has the option to submit a percolation test as the sole method of soil characterization. It should be noted that the applicant also has the option to use another method if such method has been approved by ADEQ, but in any case, either percolation testing or another ADEQ-approved method <u>must</u> be used as the sole method of soil characterization if the applicant chooses not to use an ASTM method (i.e., there are no other methods available to the applicant to use as the sole method of soil characterization if the applicant chooses not to use an ASTM method).</p>				