

# STANDATA bulletin 23-PSB-001

## Private Sewage

### Permit required for sewage tanks

Date Issued: August 2023

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### Purpose

This bulletin clarifies the requirement for a private sewage permit for the replacement of existing sewage holding tanks, septic tanks, or any other prescribed tank that requires certification.

### Discussion

Clause 16(1) of the Permit Regulation states that a permit in the private sewage discipline is required for a private sewage disposal system undertaking. The defined term “undertaking” means the construction of a thing or the control or operation of a thing, process, or activity to which the *Safety Codes Act* applies. Subsection (2) of Clause 16 states that despite subsection (1), a permit is not required for the replacement of any equipment of a private sewage system with units of a similar type if the replacement is made for the purpose of maintaining the system and does not modify the design of the system. The word “equipment” is not a defined term.

In the scope of a private sewage undertaking, components such as pumps, floats, controls, etc. would be considered equipment. Sewage tanks referred to in the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice (SOP) and certified would **not** be considered “equipment” in reference to the Permit Regulation.

The installation of a sewage tank is deemed to be an undertaking to which the permit regulation and the requirement of a private sewage permit apply.

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2021

Issued by the Provincial Private Sewage Administrator

*[Original Signed]*

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## Code References

### Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2021

#### 4.2.3.1. General

- 1) A septic tank shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks and Sewage Holding Tanks as amended or replaced from time to time.

## Permit Regulation

### Interpretation

**1(1)** In this Regulation,

(v) “undertaking” means the construction of a thing or the control or operation of a thing, process or activity to which the Act applies.

### Private sewage disposal permit

**16(1)** A permit in the private sewage discipline is required for a private sewage disposal system undertaking.