

To All Sewage Enforcement Officers:

The Department sent out an *All SEO Letter* on August 25, 2017 informing you, in part, of a change to Act 537. That part of the letter read as follows:

“On July 20, 2017, Act 26 was signed into law as an amendment to the *Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act* (35 P.S. §750) (Act 537). It is attached. Act 26 amends Act 537 to allow alternate onlot sewage disposal systems to be proposed during the sewage facilities planning process for new land development. Act 26 also requires the Department to develop a review methodology for alternate systems and to apply that methodology to all the existing alternate systems on the web listing in consultation with the Sewage Advisory Committee. Act 26 takes effect on September 18, 2017. The Department must have the review methodology in place within 180 days from the effective date, or by March 16, 2018.

The Department is currently working on these responsibilities and will inform you via another All SEO Letter once everything has been finalized.”

The Department has developed two draft Technical Guidance Documents pursuant to Act 26 requirements. We will be accepting comments on these draft documents upon their publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* on March 10, 2018. It is a 30-day comment period. These two draft Technical Guidance Documents are:

1. Draft Act 537 Program Guidance; Site Suitability and Alternatives Analysis Guidelines for New Land Development Proposing Onlot Sewage Disposal (Document Number: 385-2207-001)
2. Draft Onlot Wastewater Technology Verification Protocol (TVP) (Document Number: 385-2208-003)

You can view the draft Technical Guidance Documents on DEP’s eComment webpage, www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/eComment. At this location you can also submit comments and view other people’s comments concerning the documents.

For your convenience, I have attached a copy of Act 26.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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