

COMMERCE/WOWRA POWTS PROGRAM TELECONFERENCE
Monday December 04, 2006 2:00 – 2:40 p.m.

Participants:

Commerce – Brad Johnson, Harold Stanlick, Roman Kaminski
WOWRA – Sherri Guyse, Todd Stair

Discussion Items:

- Todd reviewed an e-mail message that was sent to the group by Bill Baudhuin who was unable to attend this teleconference.
 - o There is concern about Dane County not allowing use of certain approved products. Sherri confirmed that they have had this issue come up. There was agreement that no one has pursued the matter because of time constraints. Roman indicated that the POWTS advisory code council is scheduled to discuss this type of concern.
 - o Todd mentioned that on 12/11/06 WOWRA and WCCA representatives will meet to discuss the conflict of interest issue.
 - o The group agreed that greater participation by Commerce POWTS program staff at WOWRA conferences would be beneficial to both parties. Todd indicated that it would be possible to waive registration fees for Commerce POWTS program staff that attend. Brad will follow-up on this matter with Todd.

- Sherri asked whether water meters are required by code for all holding tank installations. Roman responded that the 2004 code revision gives the department and governmental units (counties) the option to require the installation of a water meter. The holding tank component manual specifications for water meters refer back to s. Comm 83.54(2), Wis. Adm. Code, which describes this process.

- Sherri also mentioned there is some confusion regarding use of stone aggregate substitutes in at-grade components. Roman indicated this issue will be discussed by the POWTS TAC later this week.

- Todd mentioned that some WOWRA members are concerned about how interpretive determination submittals are approved. Specifically, that soil areas identified as suitable are too small and that too much design work and product requirements are included with certain submittals. Sherri stated that sometimes the suitable area truly is very small and specific and must be identified as such. Roman mentioned that if a soil tester feels a larger area is suitable – the area should clearly be identified. With regard to the design question, Roman mentioned that this issue was discussed at the last Wastewater Specialist teleconference and there was consensus that the approval process should focus on the soil interpretation portion of the report. Design recommendations and/or product specifications should not be part of the approval. Roman cautioned that this policy may cause concern for other members of WOWRA.

- Todd also mentioned that another WOWRA member expressed concern about non-uniformity regarding how plan revisions are handled by counties. Roman gave the historical background on how counties were given some latitude to process certain

revisions. They may, but are not obligated to process certain revisions for plan approved by the department. This issue is also scheduled for discussion by the POWTS advisory code council. Todd is to work with WOWRA members to develop a list of revision items that members feel could be handled by counties.

- Brad mentioned that DNR has recently sent a reminder of closure notices to owners of motor vehicle service facilities that may have floor drains and catch basins connected to a POWTS. Designers and installers may get calls regarding replacement POWTS for these facilities.
- Roman mentioned that WCCA members are communicating amongst themselves regarding the list of issues for the Comm 83 code revision. Todd indicated that the WOWRA Executive Board will be meeting soon and that some members have started to react to the list of issues. He expects to have information ready for the next code council meeting on January 18, 2007.
- The next joint teleconference will be held in approximately three months.