

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs**

**Ministre des  
Affaires municipales**



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**Record of Meeting  
Building Code Technical Committee, Part 8, Division B**

10:00 am to 5:00 pm, February 13, 2017  
Holiday Inn Toronto Downtown Centre,  
Yorkville Room  
30 Carlton St., Toronto.

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**Chair:** Ray Hachigian

**Members:**

Mark Brosowski ..... Ontario Association of Sewage Industry Services (OASIS)  
Eric Kohlsmith ..... Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre  
Fritz R. Enzlin ..... Ontario Building Officials Association (OBOA)  
Rick Esselment ..... Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association (OOWA)  
David Turner ..... Concrete Precasters Association of Ontario (CPAO)  
Vince Pileggi ..... Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)  
Anne Egan ..... Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association (OOWA)

**Secretary:** Ralph Di Gaetano

**Ministry Staff:** Nancy P. Smith  
Danny Hui  
Glenn Middlebrook  
Mike Mihajlovic  
Robert Kikulis  
Chris Thompson  
James Ross  
Zorica Aleksovska  
Josh Bautista

Meeting commenced at 10:00 am

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*The following is a record of committee advice and is not indicative of the final technical change.*

## Record of Meeting

- 1.0 Ministry Remarks – James Ross
- 2.0 Opening Remarks from the Chair
- 3.0 Introductions
- 4.0 Review of Proposed Changes

**A-01-04-14**                      **Div. A / 1.4.1.2.(1)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modification to definition of leaching chamber as follows:**

*Leaching chamber* means a pre-formed thermoplastic structure with an open bottom and permeable sidewalls that distribute effluent in lieu of *distribution pipe* and stone in *sewage systems* specified in Article 8.7.9.2. of Division B.

**Reason:** To clarify that these structures are manufactured off-site and may be made of materials other than thermoplastic.

Committee requested Ministry staff verify if bottom flange is required as part of leaching chamber structure to prevent sinking into soil under IAMPO PS 63 standard.

**CC-B-07-02-01**                      **Div. B / 7.2.4.3.(3)**

**Committee Decision: Support as proposed.**

**CC-B-07-02-02**                      **Div. B / 7.2.7.4.(4)**

**Committee Decision: Support as proposed.**

**CC-B-07-06-02**                      **Div. B / 7.6.3.4.(7)**

**Committee Decision: Support as proposed.**

**CC-B-07-08-01**                      **Div. B / 7.8.**

**Committee Decision: Do not support for the following reasons:**

- Problematic for buildings with low crawl spaces to accommodate DWHR unit and 1.5 m stack.
- Crawl space heights would need to be increased thereby a) increasing cost of construction for higher foundations, b) requiring a sewage ejector which would negate DWHR energy savings or require lowering of the septic tank which could result in its collapse from additional soil cover.
- Detrimental effects from reduced temperature of effluent entering the septic tank are unknown at this time.

**B-08-02-02**

**Div. B / 8.2.1.6.(2)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modification as follows:**

(2) Except as provided in Sentences 8.2.1.4.(1) and (2), a *distribution pipe*, ~~and leaching chamber or~~ leaching chamber with distribution pipe shall not be located closer than the minimum horizontal distances set out in Table 8.2.1.6.B. and these distances shall be increased when required by Sentence 8.7.4.2.(11).

(2.1) The horizontal distance shall be taken from the object to the centreline of the *distribution pipe* or to the outside edge of the *leaching chamber* exclusive of its flange.

**Reason:** To clarify provisions. A leaching chamber may not necessarily contain a distribution pipe. The wording as originally proposed would suggest a combination of these could be used in a septic system which is not intended.

The Committee requested the Ministry clarify where measurements are taken from with respect to distribution pipes and leaching chambers. The committee recognized that although the contact area extends to the outside of the trench, measurements are currently taken from the centreline of a distribution pipe, from the outside edge of the leaching chamber exclusive of its bottom flange or from the centreline of a distribution pipe that is contained in a leaching chamber.

The Committee also suggested that the Ministry consult on measuring horizontal distances from edge of stone in Phase 2 Consultation. This approach would provide increased protection of wells.

**B-08-06-01 Div. B / 8.6.1.3.(1.1) and (5)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modification as follows:**

(1.1) Where the total length of the *absorption trench* constructed using *leaching chambers* is 150 m or more, a *distribution pipe* shall be installed ~~at not less than 100 mm above~~ at not less than 100 mm above the bottom of the trench and extended to its total length to allow for dosing the effluent as prescribed in this Article.

(5) Where a pump or siphon is ~~required~~ installed, the pump or siphon shall be equipped with a device that shall produce an audible and visual alarm signal to alert ~~the property owner~~ of a high water level in the pump or siphon chamber.

**Reason:** New Sentence (1.1) revised to require distribution pipe be installed not less than 100 mm above the bottom of the trench to alleviate concerns that distribution pipe installed directly on bottom of the trench would result in scouring of material, poor distribution and possible submerging of pipe in effluent. Sentence (5) amended to replace the word “required” with “installed” and to remove reference to “the property owner” since building occupant could also be a tenant.

**B-08-07-02 Div. B / 8.7.2.3.(1) to (3)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modification to Sentence (1) and Table 8.7.2.3. as follows:**

(1) *Leaching chambers* are permitted for use in conjunction with *absorption trench, shallow buried trench and filter bed* and ~~*Type A dispersal bed*~~ systems.

**Table 8.7.2.3. Leaching Chamber**  
Forming Part of Sentence 8.7.2.3.(2)

Leaching Chamber	Minimum Width, (mm)	Minimum Height,(mm)	Minimum Volume, (L/m)
<del>Type A</del> Type 1	380	279	62.1
<del>Type B</del> Type 2	570	300	93.1

**Reason:** In Sentence (1), remove applicability to Type A dispersal beds as it has not been tested and more study is needed. Type A dispersal beds are not included in any relevant BMEC Authorizations. Ministry staff should conduct further study and consult again on proposed changes in Phase 2 Consultation. In Table 8.7.2.3. and elsewhere, rename leaching chamber names “Type A” and “Type B” to “Type 1” and “Type 2” or a different name to avoid confusion with Type A and Type B dispersal beds.

**B-08-07-03 Div. B / 8.7.3.2.(1) to (3)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modification to Sentence (3) as follows:**

(3) When a *treatment unit* described in Article 8.6.2.2., is used in conjunction with the *absorption trench* system utilizing *leaching chamber* the length of the *leaching chamber* shall not be less than the value determined from the formula  $L = QT/300$  for Type 1 leaching chamber and  $L = QT/400$  for Type 2 leaching chamber...

**Reason:** Type 2 leaching chambers used in conjunction with treatment units under Article 8.6.2.2. provide tertiary effluent and should be provided with a 1/3 credit reduction in total length.

- Ministry staff to review validity of reducing leaching chamber length ( $L = QT/300$  for Type B leaching chamber in proposed new Sentence 8.7.3.2.(2) when wider leaching chambers are used to distribute septic tank effluent as per public comment and attached report on page 328 of Part 8 TAC package.
- Ministry staff to find consistency with terminology for “leaching chamber” vs “leaching chambers” in new provisions.
- Rename leaching chamber classification of “Type A” and “Type B” to “Type 1” and “Type 2” or a different name to avoid confusion with Type A and Type B dispersal beds.

**B-08-07-04 Div. B / 8.7.3.2. and 8.7.3.3.**

**Committee Decision: Support with modifications to Clause 8.7.3.3.(1)(d) and adding new Clause (1)(e) as follows:**

- (d) centred not less than 1600 mm apart, for *distribution pipe* and ~~Type A~~ Type 1 leaching chambers, and 2400 mm for Type B *leaching chambers*,
- (e) centred not less than 1600 mm apart, for *distribution pipe* and Type 1 or Type 2 leaching chambers in fill-based *absorption trenches*.

**Reason:** For consistency with BMEC Authorizations for leaching chamber systems.

**B-08-07-06 Div. B / 8.7.5.3.(2) and (7)**

**Committee Decision: Support with modifications to Sentence 8.7.5.3.(2) as follows:**

- (2) The lines of *distribution pipe* or *leaching chamber* shall be evenly spaced over the surface of the filter medium to which the *sanitary sewage* is applied and the maximum spacing shall not exceed ~~1.2 m~~.
  - (a) 900 mm for Type 1 leaching chambers, or
  - (b) 1000 mm for Type 2 leaching chambers.

**Reason:** 1.2 m spacing is excessive and does not provide even distribution of effluent over the filter bed.

**B-08-07-07 Div. B / 8.7.7.1.**

**Committee Decision: Do not support for the following reasons:**

**Reason:** Do not permit leaching chambers in a Type A dispersal beds as it has not been tested and more study is needed. Type A dispersal beds are not included in any relevant BMEC Authorizations. Ministry staff should conduct further study and consult again on proposed changes in Phase 2 Consultation.

## **5.0 Other Business**

### **5.1. Additional Comments**

The Part 8 TAC requested the Ministry address the following:

- a) Revise proposed code changes for the application of leaching chambers in a Type A dispersal bed system in Phase 2 Public Consultation.
- b) Review the permitted reduction in total length of leaching chamber based on maintaining the same contact area using wider trenches. The committee is seeking information to justify change rather than applying similar relaxations in relevant BMEC Authorizations.
- c) Allow for the reduction in the total length of distribution pipe similar to relaxation given to Type 2 leaching chambers.

- d) Review and assess impact of lower temperature effluent in sewage systems resulting from DWHR units.

## **5.2. Future Potential Changes**

OOWA comments dated February 10, 2017 regarding potential future building code amendments did not allow sufficient time for committee members to review it thoroughly. These comments will be reviewed at the next Part 8 TAC meeting.

## **6.0 Closing Remarks**

The next Part 8 TAC meeting(s) will be held in April/May of this year with a start time of 9:00 am. The Ministry will endeavour to provide TAC members with more time to review material prior to the next meeting.

## **7.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.