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Governor

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Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
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SludgeHammer Group, Ltd.
4772 US-131 South Building D.
Petoskey, MI 49770

Attention: Ryan Zaremba, Director of operations

Subject: Product Registration, SludgeHammer S-400 and S-600 models

Dear Mr. Zaremba:

The Division of Environmental Health has completed a review of a registration application for the subject products. This information was submitted pursuant to Section 7(HH) of the Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules for registration for use in Maine.

The SludgeHammer Models S-400 and S-600 wastewater treatment system utilizes an extended aeration, fixed-film process with bacterial inoculation to achieve treatment. In the fixed-film process, the microorganisms remove soluble contaminants from the wastewater before settling in the chamber for later physical removal.

The S-400 model can manage 400 gallons per day. The SludgeHammer Model S-400 system is to be installed into a 1500-gallon double-compartment septic tank.

The S-600 model can manage 600 gallons per day. The SludgeHammer Model S-600 system is to be installed into a 2000-gallon double-compartment septic tank.

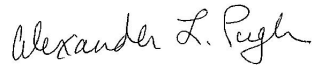
Pursuant to Section 6.HH.3 of the Rules, a product must be based upon sound engineering principles and can be expected to provide the same level of protection to public health and the environment as offered by the authorized products presently authorized by the Department for use in these Rules. Sound engineering principles may be demonstrated by submitting a letter to the Department from a) a certifying organization, such as the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA), or other suitable organization stating their approval of the product, or b) the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) indicating the subject product (used as indicated in the request) meets the ASTM standard as specifically listed in the appropriate section of any nationally recognized code, such as BOCA or equal. According to the information you provided, the SludgeHammer S-400 and S-600 models received National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) Standard 40 approval in March of 2023. The National Sanitation Foundation uses CBOD5 instead of BOD5 for its assessment of effluent biological Oxygen Demand, which makes it impossible to calculate the effluent wastewater strength used in the 10-144 Chapter 241 Rules. The Division can therefore not determine the reduction of a disposal area size according to Table 5B.

On the basis of the information submitted, the Division has determined that the SludgeHammer S-400 and S-600 models are acceptable for use in the State of Maine, provided that it is installed, operated, and maintained in conformance with the manufacturer's directions.

Because installation and owner maintenance has a significant effect on the working order of onsite sewage disposal systems, including their components, the Division makes no representation or guarantee as to the efficiency and/or operation (product). Further, registration of this product for use in the State of Maine does not represent Division preference or recommendation for this product over similar or competing products.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (207) 287-5695 by phone or at alex.l.pugh@maine.gov by e-mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexander L. Pugh".

Alexander L. Pugh
Senior Environmental Hydrogeologist
Division of Environmental and Community Health
Drinking Water Program