



NORTH CAROLINA BOARD FOR LICENSING OF SOIL SCIENTISTS

May 12, 2021

Mr. Russ Davis, Chair
NCOWCICB
PO Box 132
Lawsonville, NC 27022

Reference: Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator

Mr. Davis,

At our last meeting in March, the NC Board for Licensing of Soil Scientists discussed and reviewed the proposed rules associated with the Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator.

One specific section that was discussed at length was .0801(s). This section limits employees of a local health department or DHHS from performing the duties of an Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator, Contractor or Inspector. Members of our board had received concerns from our membership with regard to the limitations placed on local health departments and/or DHHS employees.

The attorney for our board, Anne Brown, suggested that I speak with Kathleen Edwards with the NC Ethics Commission. After speaking with Ms. Edwards, it is clear that if a local health department or DHHS employee acts as an AOWE there is a significant potential for a conflict of interest.

While we want any NC licensed soil scientist to be able to practice in the private sector, we realize that rule .0801 (s) as written is appropriate.

At this time the NC Board for Licensing of Soil Scientists has no objections to the proposed rules associated with the Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator.

We look forward to working together in the future as the AOWE moves forward.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter D. Giese".

Walter Giese, Chairman
NCBLSS

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