



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Rachel Carson State Office Building

P.O. Box 8774

Harrisburg, PA 17105-8774

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Bureau of Water Quality Protection

717-787-8184

To All Sewage Enforcement Officers:

This is to notify you that some stockpiles of fine aggregate (sand) that are certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PADOT) as meeting the Type B (Bituminous Concrete Sand) requirements specified in Chapter 73, Section 73.55(c) may, in fact, not meet these specifications. Sample results obtained by the Department at several locations documented that the sand supplies did not meet the PTM #100 wash test requirements and, therefore, had a much higher percentage of deleterious materials (fines and clay particles) than the certification specified. The higher-than-specified percentage of deleterious material could contribute to clogging of the sand/soil interface, which could result in system failure.

The Department recommends that SEOs and local officials advise prospective homebuilders, contractors and installers of this potential problem. SEOs are encouraged to request analysis of any questionable sand delivery and to reject any sand that does not meet the PADOT Type B specifications. Alternatively, sand bearing the PADOT Type A (Cement Concrete Sand) certification may be used as an alternate material in sand mound construction. Any sand proposed for use in sand mound construction must be shown to meet the grading and quality requirements of one of the three categories in the enclosed table (adapted from PADOT Specification Section 703.1(c), Table A) to be acceptable.

If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at the above number or address.

Sincerely,

Milton K. Lauch
Chief

Division of Wastewater Management

Enclosure



FINE AGGREGATE			
Grading and Quality Requirements			
Mass Material Percent Passing Sieve	Cement Concrete Sand Type A	Bituminous Concrete Sand Type B	
		#1	#3
3/8"	100	100	100
No. 4	95 - 100	95 - 100	80 - 100
No. 8	70 - 100	70 - 100	65 - 100
No. 16	45 - 80	40 - 80	40 - 80
No. 30	30 - 65	20 - 65	20 - 65
No. 50	10 - 30	7 - 40	7 - 40
No. 100	2 - 10	2 - 20	2 - 20
No. 200	-	0 - 10	0 - 10
Material Finer than No. 200 Sieve Max. % Passing	3	-	-
Strength Ratio Min. %	95	-	-
Soundness Test Max. Loss %	10	15	15
Fineness Modulus	2.30 - 3.15	-	-