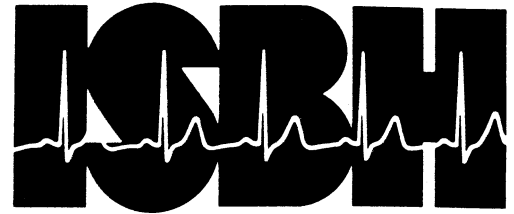


EVAN BAYH, GOVERNOR

~~WOODROW A. MYERS, JR., M.D., STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER~~  
MORRIS GREEN

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
1330 WEST MICHIGAN STREET  
P.O. BOX 1964  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206-1964



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

June 21, 1990

Mr. Richard F. Plachy, President  
SSI, Inc.  
West Peru, ME 04290

Dear Mr. Plachy:

Re: The "Equalizer"

This will acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 14, 1990, with the enclosed materials pertinent to the "Equalizer." I had not received any information on your product prior to the receipt of this submittal, although I had discussed its use with you by telephone on March 21, 1990.

The "Equalizer" is a plastic insert with a shaped slot for the distribution box outlets which, according to your literature, provides more uniform distribution of the effluent to the individual trenches of an absorption field system. It is not intended for use as a device which would permit the installation of subsurface absorption field systems where site or soil conditions prohibit the installation of such systems.

This agency sets standards by which various on-site alternatives may be applied to individual properties. As I had advised you during our telephone conversation of March 21, 1990, it does not issue general approvals for proprietary products.

Indiana State Board of Health Rule 410 IAC 6-8-6 requires equal distribution of the effluent to the trenches of an absorption field by the connection of each trench to a distribution box by an individual delivery line. The distribution box must be level in order to provide equal distribution of flow to the individual lines of the absorption field. The use of a proprietary device may not be used in lieu of the leveling of the distribution box as a means of providing equal distribution.

Richard F. Plachy

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June 21, 1990

Although it would appear from your literature that the "Equalizer" improves the distribution of flow from the distribution box, we have not seen any comments based on long term use of this device. One of the issues that must be addressed is the blockage of the slot within an "Equalizer" insert by solids which may escape the septic tank. The solids may block the flow from some ports so that flow is not, in fact, equal. This concern has been expressed by several staff members and county sanitarians that I have discussed your product with.

This office will not, as stated earlier, issue a general approval for the use of the "Equalizer" in on-site sewage disposal systems. The use of your product may be submitted as a part of the design criteria for each individual on-site sewage disposal system at the time of application for a construction permit. The local health department having jurisdiction may then determine the efficacy of your product as part of the system design.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,



ALAN M. DUNN, R.P.S., CHIEF  
RESIDENTIAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SECTION  
DIVISION OF SANITARY ENGINEERING  
AC 317/633-0173

cc: Local Health Departments  
Plan Review Section