

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF WATER SUPPLY**

*Review effectiveness of expanded eligibility to encompass commercial septic systems and provide recommendations to EPA/NYSDOH as to (i) whether to continue, discontinue, or modify such expansion of eligibility during the Second Five Year Period, and (ii) the level of additional funding, if any, to be provided to CWC for remediation/replacement of commercial septic systems during the Second Five Year Period.*

June 30, 2011

*Prepared in accordance with Section 3.1 (concerning the **Septic Rehabilitation and Replacement Program**) of the July 2007 United States Environmental Protection Agency Filtration Avoidance Determination*

Prepared by: Thomas F. Stalter  
West of Hudson Community Planning  
Bureau of Water Supply

### **3.1 Septic Remediation and Replacement Program - Milestone/Reporting Requirements**

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The 2007 FAD required the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to execute program changes with CWC in support of the Septic Remediation and Replacement Program, so as to expand eligibility to encompass commercial septic systems operated by small businesses and to provide \$4 million in funding to CWC over the period 2007 to 2012 to remediate/replace such systems.

DEP and CWC developed program rules for the administration of the expanded program which were adopted by the CWC Board on December 2, 2008. The Small Business Septic Repair Program helps pay for the repair or replacement of failed septic systems serving small businesses (100 employees or less) in the West of Hudson Watershed. The Small Business Septic Repair Program reimburses eligible business owners 75% of the cost of septic repairs, up to a maximum of \$40,000.

Initially, in order to be eligible for the Small Business Septic Repair Program, failed septic systems serving small businesses need to have been constructed on or before November 2, 1995 and located within 100 feet of a watercourse, 500 feet of a reservoir or within the 60-day travel time priority area. In March 2011, the program rules were amended to expand eligibility to failed septic systems serving small businesses located up to 250 feet from a watercourse.

Through May 2011, a total of six septic failures were identified as eligible for Small Business Septic Program funding. Four of the six had been remediated as of May 2011.

Based upon program expenditures to date, it is not anticipated that additional funding will be necessary for the Small Business Septic Program for the period 2012 to 2017. Even with the expanded area of eligibility under the program, it appears that the funding already provided by DEP will allow for continued program implementation.