

Guidance for Geologic Site Investigations for Regulation 5 Permits

A. Preliminary Investigation

Pursuant to APC&EC Regulation 5.402 and 5.404 a preliminary subsurface investigation is required for any liquid animal waste management system. The preliminary site investigation shall be performed by a certified soil scientist and/or an Arkansas Licensed Professional Engineer. A narrative description must be provided regarding the engineering geology considerations listed in 651.0702 of the Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH). This should include the soil information and its source and what design decisions were made based on the information for each point outlined in Chapter 7 of the AWMFH. If the preliminary investigation causes any issues or uncertainties that justify requesting assistance of a geologist or determines that the facility is located in a complex geologic location, the applicant shall conduct a detailed geologic investigation as outlined below. The preliminary investigation report shall be conclusive to inform facility design and operational decision-making necessary for facility planning, design, and permitting purposes or a detailed investigation will be required by ADEQ.

B. Detailed Investigation for Complex Geology Locations (ex. Karst)

Pursuant to APC&EC Regulation 5.402 and 5.404 a preliminary subsurface investigation is required for any liquid animal waste management system. If any issues or uncertainties occur during the preliminary investigation or if the facility is located in a complex geologic location, the applicant shall conduct a detailed geologic investigation. This detailed geologic investigation will require the assistance of an Arkansas Licensed Professional Geologist. The detailed geologic investigation shall be performed in accordance with 651.0704(b) of the AWMFH. The detailed geologic investigation shall also include a narrative description for each engineering geology consideration listed in 651.0702 and 651.0703 of the AWMFH. This should include the soil information and its source and what design decisions were made based on the information for each point outlined in Chapter 7 of the AWMFH. This detailed geologic investigation and/or conclusions, beyond the preliminary site investigation for areas of complex geology, must be stamped and signed by an Arkansas Licensed Professional Geologist based on the following Rules of Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists:

Per the Rules of Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists (Act 701 of 1987), a geologic report signed and stamped by a geologist registered in the state of Arkansas will be required.

Rules of Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, Section 4, Subsection 4-1 (1) states that:

“It shall be unlawful for any person other than a registered geologist or subordinate under the direction of a registered geologist to prepare any geologic plans, reports or documents in which the performance is related to the public welfare or safeguarding of life, health, property or the environment”.

Additionally, the Rules of Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, Section 5, Subsection 5-2 states that:

“All drawings, reports, plats, or other geologic papers or documents involving the public geologic work as defined in the Act which shall have been prepared or approved by a registered geologist or a subordinate employee under his direction for the use of or for the delivery to any person or for public record within this State shall be signed by him and impressed with said seal or the seal of a nonresident practicing under the provisions of the Act, either of which shall indicate his responsibility for them”.