

Jeff Landry  
GOVERNOR



Bruce D. Greenstein  
SECRETARY

**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of the Secretary

September 3, 2025

Caryn Benjamin, P.E., Interim Chief Engineer  
Bureau of Engineering Services  
Office of Public Health | Louisiana Department of Health  
628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street | P.O. Box 4489  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Re: Letter of Intent - Minimum Diameter of Sewer Collection Line Requirements (LAC 51:XIII.503.A, Recommended Standards for Sewage Works, 1990 Edition, Section 33.1)

Dear Ms. Benjamin:

It has recently come to my attention that the Louisiana State Sanitary Code (LAC 51), Part XIII (Sewage Disposal), Section 503.A, Recommended Standards for Sewage Works (1990 Edition), Section 33.1, mandates a minimum diameter of 8 inches for gravity sewer collection lines. Section 33.4 [LAC 51:XIII.503.A, Recommended Standards for Sewage Works (1990 Edition)] further requires these sewer systems to be designed for a minimum cleaning velocity of 2.0 feet per second (fps) when flowing full, calculated using Manning's formula with an "n" value of 0.013.

It is my understanding that in some small RV Parks, maintaining this 2.0 fps velocity with an 8-inch pipe may not be feasible due to lower flow rates, potentially leading to stagnation and other problems (buildup/clogs) within the sewer system. Based upon staff's research, the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code (LAC 17, Part I), and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) both allow smaller diameter sewer mains in Recreational Vehicle or Travel Trailer Parks.

Therefore, to address situations where a larger diameter piping would result in lower flow and insufficient cleaning velocity, this department will allow the use of 6-inch gravity sewer collection lines with cleanouts in small Recreational Vehicle Parks, provided that design calculations demonstrate adequate flow velocity and system performance.

Please ensure that copies of this letter are circulated to your staff and others as appropriate. Should questions arise, they should be directed to Caryn Benjamin, P.E., Interim Chief Engineer, Engineering Services at (225) 342-7499.

Sincerely,

Signed by:  
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Ralph L. Abraham".  
845BED979A47436...

Ralph L. Abraham, M.D.  
Surgeon General/State Health Officer