



**City of Gustavus, Alaska**  
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February 10, 2022

State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Attention: Tania Bear, Division of Water  
610 University Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709  
Sent via email to: [Bear@alaska.gov](mailto: Bear@alaska.gov)

Subject: Notice of Proposed Changes in Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Regulations

Dear Ms. Bear:

The City of Gustavus requests that the Department extend the notice period an additional 60 days to allow communities to fully understand the impacts of the proposed changes of the wastewater treatment and disposal regulations.

Upon first reading, the proposed changes do not consider small communities such as Gustavus in the scope of the changes. The impacts of these changes could be significant to the point where people will not have the capacity to comply.

The proposed changes are purported to be based on recommendations from a working group established in 2017, however there are many changes to the regulations that do not appear in any documents from that working group. Could you please provide any information that would explain the omission of the working groups comments and recommendations.

We will collaborate with our many local government partners to understand the impacts. If you, or your department would like to provide any information for how the changes would affect those communities without wastewater utility departments, rural (off the road system) cities and towns, it would be very helpful.

Sincerely,

Mike Taylor, Mayor

Cc: DEC Commissioner Jason Brune via email: [DEC.Commissioner@alaska.gov](mailto: DEC.Commissioner@alaska.gov)