## EL VALLE DE LOS RANCHOS WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT RESOLUTION 2015-04-01

## A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF SEPTIC TANKS

Whereas, the Board of Directors of El Valle de Los Ranchos Water & Sanitation District (hereinafter "District") meeting in regular session as required by law, considered and adopted the following resolution:

## NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- The New Mexico Environment Department has adopted standards requiring the abandonment of septic tanks within 30 days from the time a building is connected to a public sewer system.
- Those standards are found in the following section of the New Mexico AdministrativeCode:

## 20.7.3.307 STANDARDS; ABANDONED SEWERS AND ON-SITE LIQUID WASTE SYSTEMS:

- A. Every abandoned building sewer, or part thereof, shall be plugged or capped within five feet of the property line using a cap or plug prescribed by the New Mexico plumbing code.
- B. Every cesspool, holding tank, septic tank, seepage pit or other liquid waste treatment unit that has been abandoned or has otherwise been discontinued from further use or to which no waste or building sewer from a plumbing fixture is connected shall have the liquid waste pumped there from and properly disposed. The bottom of the unit shall be opened or ruptured, or the entire unit collapsed so as to prevent the unit from retaining water. The unit shall be completely filled with earth, sand, gravel, concrete or other approved material.
- C. The top cover or arch over the cesspool, holding tank, septic tank, seepage pit or other liquid waste treatment unit shall be removed or collapsed before filling and the filling shall not extend above the top of the vertical portions of the sidewalls or above the level of any outlet pipe until inspection or authorization by the department. After such inspection or authorization, the cesspool, holding tank, septic tank, seepage pit or other liquid waste treatment unit shall be filled to the level of the top of the ground.
- D. Where on-site treatment systems are abandoned consequent to connecting any premises with a public sewer, the permittee making the connection shall fill all abandoned treatment units as required by the department within 30 days from the time of connection.

- 3. The District hereby resolves to monitor those buildings for which a septic system/holding tank requires abandonment and report violations to the New Mexico Environment Department for enforcement of the environmental standards as indicated herein.
- 4. The District further resolves to address any violation of this standard with the applicable District customer to encourage compliance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of April, 2015.

Mario Barela, Chairman

ATTESTED:

Meliton Struck, Secretary

Approved as to legal form:

Renee Barela-Gutierrez, Board Attorney