

STATE OF OREGON

Building Codes Division Staff Technical Advisory

The following advice applies to current code and conditions described in the question. Applications for similar situations may have different determinations.

PROGRAM: Electrical Program
SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION OF WASTEWATER PUMPING STATIONS
SOURCE: 2000 Electrical Specialty Code
REFERENCE: Section 500-3 of the 1999 Edition of the National Electrical Code
DATE OF ISSUE: December 8, 2000
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QUESTION: What is the classification of a wastewater pumping unit for a one family dwelling? .

DETERMINATION: A wastewater pumping unit serving a one family dwelling is unclassified.

ANALYSIS: The Oregon Electrical Specialty Section OAR 918-305-0100 (c) which was revised and became effective April 1, 2000 adopted the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) standards that are referenced in the 1999 edition of the National Electrical Code (NEC).

Section 500-3 (c) references NFPA 820 – 1995 Standard for Fire Protection in Wastewater Treatment and Collection Facilities. Table 2 of the standard classifies wastewater areas as following:

- Commercial and industrial wastewater pumping station wet well - Class 1, Division 1.
- Commercial and industrial wastewater pumping station dry well - Class 1, Division 2. The dry well may be considered unclassified where the area is continuously ventilated at 6 air changes per hour.
- Residential wastewater pumping station wet well - Class 1, Division 2. The wet well may be considered unclassified where the area is continuously ventilated at 12 air changes per hour.
- Residential wastewater pumping station dry well - Class 1, Division 2. The dry well may be considered unclassified where the area is continuously ventilated at 6 air changes per hour.
- Individual residential pumping units serving not more than 5 dwellings - Unclassified.

Equipment installed in any of the above areas shall be suitable for that classification and shall be wired to comply with the appropriate classifications.