

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 645 (2025)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

OTHER

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: State Affairs Committee  
Representative Conerly offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**Section 1. Subsection (13) is added to section 403.814,  
Florida Statutes, to read:**

403.814 General permits; delegation.—

(13) (a) For the purposes of this subsection, the term:

1. "Distributed wastewater treatment system" or "DWTS"  
means an integrated system approach to treating wastewater  
consisting of one or more distributed wastewater treatment  
units.

2. "Distributed wastewater treatment unit" or "DWTU" means  
an advanced onsite closed-tank wastewater treatment system that  
is remotely operated and controlled by the permittee using an

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17 electronic control system and designed to achieve secondary  
18 treatment standards and a minimum of 80 percent total nitrogen  
19 removal before discharge to a subsurface application system.

20 (b) A general permit is granted for the replacement of an  
21 existing onsite sewage treatment and disposal system, otherwise  
22 subject to s. 381.0065, with a DWTU if the DWTU and DWTs are  
23 commonly owned and operated by the permittee. Pursuant to  
24 obtaining this permit, the installation of each DWTU may proceed  
25 without further action by the department if the permittee  
26 submits a notification to the department at least 30 days before  
27 installation. Such notification must certify that a Florida  
28 registered professional designed the DWTU in accordance with  
29 applicable rules adopted pursuant to this chapter and that the  
30 proposed DWTU meets all of the following requirements:

31 1. The design capacity of the DWTU does not exceed 10,000  
32 gallons per day of domestic wastewater or 5,000 gallons per day  
33 of commercial wastewater.

34 2. The DWTU may discharge without disinfection into a  
35 slow-rate subsurface application system designed and operated to  
36 protect public health and safety and maintain the current  
37 separation, and in no case has less than 12 inches of  
38 separation, between the bottom surface of the drainfield and the  
39 water table elevation at the wettest season of the year.

40 3. The horizontal setback distance from the DWTU and  
41 subsurface application system to property lines, surface

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42 waterbodies, potable water wells, and utilities is consistent  
43 with rules adopted under this chapter and s. 381.0065.

44 4. The permittee has legal access to maintain and operate  
45 the DWTU and remove the DWTU in case of termination of service.

46 5. The permittee has submitted a plan for conducting  
47 monthly effluent compliance sampling of a representative number  
48 of deployed DWTUs, the results of which may be aggregated to  
49 determine compliance with performance standards consistent with  
50 this subsection and the rules adopted under this chapter.

51 6. The operation of the DWTU does not:

52 a. Create saturated conditions on the ground surface;

53 b. Adversely impact wetlands or other surface waters; or

54 c. Cause or contribute to a violation of state water  
55 quality standards.

56 (c) The permittee shall:

57 1. Conduct monthly reporting, annual inspections,  
58 recordkeeping, and biosolids management for the DWTU consistent  
59 with the rules adopted under this chapter.

60 2. Schedule staffing and visitation by licensed operators  
61 for the DWTU in a manner that is consistent with the rules  
62 adopted under this chapter, except that visitation may be  
63 accomplished using an electronic control system.

64 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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**T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T**

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:  
An act relating to distributed wastewater treatment system permits; amending s. 403.814, F.S.; defining terms; authorizing the Secretary of Environmental Protection to grant a general permit for the replacement of an existing onsite sewage treatment and disposal system with a distributed wastewater treatment system under certain circumstances; providing for the installation of distributed wastewater treatment units to proceed without any further action by the Department of Environmental Protection if a permittee submits a notification to the department at least a specified number of days before installation; providing requirements for such notification; requiring such a permittee to take specified actions for distributed wastewater treatment units they install; providing an effective date.