



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

*PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

September 3, 2024

Alyssa Royse  
5315 55<sup>th</sup> Ave. South  
Seattle, WA 98118

Sent Via Email

Dear Alyssa Royse:

This letter provides formal notice that the Washington State Board of Health (Board) denied your petition for rule making, submitted on June 16, 2024, at its regular business meeting on August 7, 2024, for the reasons described below.

The petition asked the Board to revise WAC 246-272A-0240, Holding Tank Sewage Systems, to allow for external or internal storage of septic waste in approved containers with a valid pumping contract.

Prior to the meeting, Board members were provided with all materials that were submitted relating to the petition. Board staff also provided background information about the scope and intent of the existing rule and current recommendations from the Department of Health at the Board meeting.

WAC 246-272A-0420 allows local health officers to waive the requirements of the rule and allow holding tanks for the specific use requested if it meets minimum performance standards. Board members discussed these standards and stated that they support the discretion granted to local health officers by the rule, as it allows them to uniquely assess each situation to ensure the use of the tank is appropriate. Members also noted the varying geographic circumstances that could affect whether to allow these systems as well as the varying use of the waivers by counties that allow these systems, including Jefferson County and Mason County, mentioned in the petition.

RCW 34.05.330(3) allows a person to appeal a petition's denial to the Governor within 30 days of the denial.

Sincerely,

Kelly Oshiro, J.D.  
Vice Chair, Washington State Board of Health