ASTTBC TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BULLETIN

TOPIC:	Onsite Wastewater System Inspections
PRACTICE AREA:	Onsite Wastewater
DISCIPLINE:	All Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioners
DOCUMENT #:	PPB-2023-OW-01
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This practice bulletin is being issued to registrants of the Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC to provide clarity on the practice requirements for Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioners (ROWP) as it pertains to performing inspections for onsite wastewater systems.

Registrants are expected to adhere to these requirements in addition to the Professional Governance Act, ASTTBC Bylaws, applicable industry codes, standards, and ASTTBC practice guidance documents when carrying out work.

Background Information:

Under section 7.0 of the current ROWP practice guidelines two different types of inspections are identified: performance inspections; and compliance inspections. Further, section 7.1 identifies a regulatory framework for Private Inspectors.

Although ASTTBC registers onsite wastewater practitioners in the categories of Planner, Installer, Maintenance Provider and Private Inspector, the Sewerage System Regulation (SSR) and Standard Practice Manual (SPM) do not currently require individuals providing inspection services to be registered with ASTTBC or as an Authorized Person (AP).

ASTTBC is revising section 7.1 to align with these provincial regulations and will no longer require a ROWP to hold the Private Inspector (PI) designation when providing inspections, assessments or confirmation of the performance or functionality of an existing sewage system other than the purposes of maintenance. This change is applicable to ROWP registrants holding the Planner (PL) and Maintenance Provider (MP) endorsements. ROWP registrants holding an Installer (IN) endorsement are still required to hold registration as a (Private Inspector). The following table illustrates this new requirement.

Table 1: Permission Level of ROWP Registrants to Perform Inspections

Type of ROWP Registrant	**Permission Level**
Planner (PL)	YES
Installer (IN)	NO
Maintenance Provider (MP)	YES
Private Inspector (PI)	YES

Practice Directive

Section 7.1 of the Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) Practice Guidelines, January 26, 2017 version, shall be revised as noted with the following strikethrough and replacement:

7.1 Regulatory Framework for Private ~~Inspectors~~ Inspections, paragraph one.

The SSR and the SPM do not stipulate that individuals providing onsite wastewater inspection services are to be certified or registered as Authorized Persons (AP). ASTTBC considers conducting accurate inspections and providing quality reports and other information on the condition of onsite wastewater systems of paramount importance. ~~Any ROWP that provides services as an Inspector, or provides any assessment or confirmation of the performance or functionality of an existing sewage system other than for the purposes of maintenance, shall be certified and registered with the PI endorsement~~.

Replaced with:

7.1 Regulatory Framework for Private Inspections
The SSR and the SPM do not stipulate that individuals providing onsite wastewater inspection services are to be certified or registered as Authorized Persons (AP). ASTTBC considers conducting accurate inspections and providing quality reports and other information on the condition of onsite wastewater systems of paramount importance. Any ROWP that provides inspection services, provides any assessment or confirmation of the performance or functionality of an existing onsite sewage system other than for the purposes of maintenance, shall be registered and endorsed as a Planner (PL), or Maintenance Provider (MP), or a Private Inspector (PI).

All ROWP registrants providing private inspection services must follow Procedural Guidelines for Private Inspectors as detailed in section 7.4 of this guide.

Reference Documents:

- Registered Onsite Wastewater Practitioner (ROWP) Practice Guidelines, January 26, 2017.
- British Columbia Sewerage System Standard Practice Manual, Version 3
- British Columbia Sewerage System Regulation

Revision History

Revision Number	Date of Publication	Filename	Description of Changes
1.0	February 15, 2023	PPB-2023-OW-001	Issued to Registrants and published to ASTTBC website.