

MICHAEL B. ECKHARDT

846 Park Avenue
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

January 13, 2020

Mr. Joe Saunders
Department of Public Health and
Environment
14949 62nd Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082

Re: 191 Ideal Avenue South, Mahtomedi
Septic System

Dear Mr. Saunders:

I am responding to the December 13th, 2019 letter sent by Gary Bruns advising that I have not followed up on the December 8th, 2016 non-compliant test of the subsurface sewage system (SSTS) at the above address.

I would like to first apologize for the delayed response to the December 13th letter. It was mailed to the 191 Ideal Avenue address and I do not reside there. So, I just discovered the letter in the mailbox a few days ago.

I purchased the 191 Ideal Avenue property a number of years ago as an investment property. The house is not in a condition to be lived in- there is no running water and the heating system is not safe to operate. The connected cesspool is not able to be used given there isn't any available water in the house, and it has been unoccupied for years.

Adjacent neighbors and I petitioned the City of Mahtomedi to extend city water and sewer to our properties after the compliance inspection results. We were notified about a year ago that the cost would be totally borne by the residents without any cost sharing by the City. This resulted in an unreasonable cost to the neighbors, so it was decided not to proceed with City water and sewer to the affected Ideal Avenue properties.

I have not decided what to do with the existing house at this time. It needs to be demolished but I am uncertain how best to replace it. So, I don't know what my options are for the nonconforming SSTS. I am guessing the most inexpensive option would be just to remove the SSTS and cap the septic line at the house.

Please advise what my options are that meet the County and State requirements. My mailing address is as listed above. I can be contacted at eckhardtm@aol.com or at 612-840-2331. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Eckhardt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Michael Eckhardt