

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Agriculture and
Insurance
(SC-AI)

File Naming Example:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP
> 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01a
> 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01b
> 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt02

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

> Committee Hearings ... CH (Public Hearing Announcements)

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> Committee Reports ... CR

> **

> Executive Sessions ... ES

> **

> Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE
CLERK FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

> Appointments ... Appt

> **

Name:

> Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

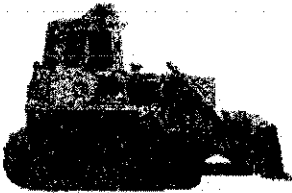
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> Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

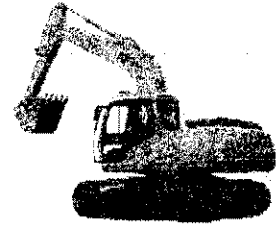
> ** **05hr_ab0852_SC-AI_pt01**

> Miscellaneous ... Misc

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TO: Wisconsin Legislature
FROM: Wisconsin Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association members
DATE: February 21, 2006
RE: Assembly Bill 852

I am a member of the Wisconsin Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association, which represents more than 250 septic system designers, installers, engineers, manufacturers, soil testers and soil scientists, as well as state and county regulators. We urge the members of the Wisconsin Legislature to NOT SUPPORT Assembly Bill 852 either as drafted or with a "voluntary customer sign-off" amendment. AB 852 would require that tracer wires be installed at the time of private septic system installation.

As a WOWRA member, I am opposed to AB 852 for the following reasons:

- 1) Construction plans which identify where septic systems are located are available by contacting the county in which the system is located. Every county in the state keeps a copy of the septic system site plan on file and has been doing so since 2000. This includes all new construction.
- 2) This statute change is not necessary. The location of nearly all systems installed today is already identifiable. Most systems currently being installed have a pump or an alarm. This wire already acts as a tracer wire and allows contractors to identify where the line is running from the house to the tank.
- 3) The cost of compliance for the passage of AB 852 vastly outweighs any possible benefits. Why ask homeowners to spend an additional \$300 per septic system when all of the information a contractor needs to locate a septic system is already available at the county?
- 4) The older systems are more problematic during a site inspection. However, this bill will not affect these systems -- tracer wires will be required only on new installations. The most problematic systems will still be difficult to locate and require a site inspection even after this bill is passed.

These are just a few of my objections to AB 852 -- the bill leaves even more unanswered questions than mentioned above. I would appreciate your vote of "NO" on Assembly Bill 852.

Michael Hess