A substantive policy statement (SPS) is advisory only. In accordance with A.R.S. §11-1601, SPS’s do not include internal procedural documents that only affect internal procedures of the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department and do not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or confidential information.

1. **SPS Subject:**
   To clarify the procedure to determine the requirements for swimming pool gate latch heights.

2. **Statutory Overview:**
   ADA Standards for Accessibility Design
   Maricopa County Environmental Health Code (MCEHC)

3. **SPS:**
   1. If a latch is installed and there are no locking mechanisms, then the latch must comply with the requirements of the Pool Code and be located 54 inches or higher above the ground/floor.
   2. If a latch is installed at a height of at least 54 inches and the gate is self-closing and self-latching, the gate complies with the Pool Code latch requirements regardless whether any additional locking mechanisms are present.
   3. If a self-locking mechanism is installed and there is no latch at 54 inches or above, the bottom of the unlocking mechanism must be located as close as is practicable to 48 inches above the ground/floor. In addition, a variance must be obtained to allow the locking mechanism to vary from the Pool Code’s 54 inch latch height requirement. Variance requests for this purpose shall be routed as direct appeals to the Director.

4. **SPS Effective Date**
   May 13, 2015

5. **SPS New Document/Revision Statement:**
   SPS-WW-2015-003 is a new SPS.
6. **Contact Us:**

For questions of comment regarding this SPS or to obtain a copy of this document, please contact the Department Records Custodian at the address and/or phone number listed above.