

Guidance on Continuing Education Requirements for Certified Wastewater Operators

I. PURPOSE

To provide certified wastewater operators in Connecticut guidance on the requirements regarding changes to the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) on continuing education.

II. GOVERNING AUTHORITIES

Section 22a-416(d) of the CGS, as modified by Public Act 18-97 (Effective October 1, 2018).

III. POLICY

Section 22a-416(d) of the CGS states “on or after October 1, 2018, each certified wastewater operator shall obtain not less than six hours of continuing education each year. A record of such continuing education shall be maintained by the certified operator and by the facility employing the operator and shall be made available for inspection upon request by the commissioner” of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (Department).

IV. GUIDANCE

Time Period

The time period to meet the annual continuing education requirement will be a calendar year, which will commence on January 1st and end on December 31st. The only exception to the time period is the first year of the requirement, where any continuing education classes taken between October 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018 will count toward the continuing education requirement for calendar year 2019.

Record of Continuing Education

Examples of a record of continuing education can be found in Section 22a-416-1(37) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (*Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certification Regulations*) and in the March 2005 *Connecticut Wastewater Operator Certification Guidelines*. Examples include the following:

- Certified copies of official transcripts, diplomas, course descriptions and foreign certificates, or
- A certificate or letter signed by the instructor which contains the date, location and subject(s) covered in the training course; the total contact hours completed; and verification that the applicant satisfactorily completed the training or course.

Suggested Continuing Education Courses

Suggested continuing education may include, but are not limited to, courses in wastewater process control; the operation and maintenance of wastewater equipment and facilities, biosolids processing, and sewer collection systems; in science such as biology, microbiology, environmental science, chemistry, and physics; and in other areas such as computers, mathematics, electrical systems, plumbing, blueprint reading, technical report writing, or project management.

Courses that are approved by the Department for education units required for a wastewater operator certification exam are acceptable to fulfill the annual continuing education requirement.

Course selection is solely at the wastewater operator's discretion, however, the Department recommends that the selection should be related to career advancement and maintaining competency.

Maintenance of Records

It is incumbent upon the certified operator and the wastewater facility to assure that records are properly maintained.

Inspection of Continuing Education Records

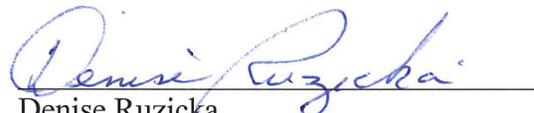
Inspection of the continuing education records may be made by a Department representative during a compliance evaluation inspection of the wastewater treatment plant, or at any other time and without notice. The Department may request continuing education records for any time period commencing after October 1, 2018.

V. DEFINITIONS

CGS: Connecticut General Statutes

Department: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

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Date


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