

Please Note: Our New Fax Number is 717-787-2878

August 8, 2001

«Name»  
«DEP\_House\_Senate»  
«PO\_Box\_Address»

Dear «Formal\_Sal»:

The Citizens Advisory Council to the Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed H.B. 1830 (P.N. 2387) which would amend the Sewage Treatment Plant and Waterworks Operator's Certification Act.

Federal guidelines for the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program are straightforward: a certified operator must make all process control decisions. Council agrees that the safe and reliable operation of water and wastewater systems by thoroughly trained and qualified operators is essential to protect public and environmental health. We support the concepts included in the legislation. Aside from the fact that failure to implement these changes would result in Pennsylvania losing a significant amount of federally funded State Revolving Fund monies, imposing these requirements will help operators address public health concerns.

The Department estimates that currently 30-40 percent of Pennsylvania's water and wastewater treatment systems do not have certified operators. This is a significant shortcoming and there clearly will be some economic impacts associated with imposing this requirement. However, it is a federal requirement that is in the public interest in terms of protecting public and environmental health. In addition, the amendments include provisions to try to address economic concerns that will likely be felt by small systems.

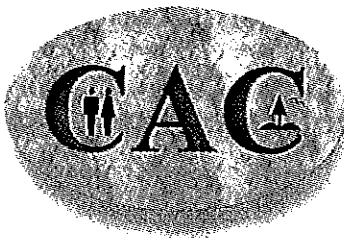
The amendments would increase professionalism in the field through enhanced requirements for experience, education and continuing education/training. Pennsylvania's current program does not require operators to meet any minimum training requirements in order to achieve or renew certification.

Finally, we also support having the relevant regulations promulgated by the Environmental Quality Board (EQB), even though this would be a change from current practice. The EQB provides a broader opportunity for public participation, tapping outside expertise, experience and perspectives results in more workable and widely acceptable solutions and better regulations.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposal. Please contact Sue Wilson, Council's Executive Director, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David L. Strong  
Chair  
Citizens Advisory Council



# Citizens Advisory Council

to the Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 8459 • Rachel Carson State Office Building

Harrisburg, PA 17105-8459 • 717-787-4527 • Fax 717-772-2291

Please Note: Our New Fax Number is 717-787-2878

August 31, 2001

The Honorable James J. Rhoades  
Senate of Pennsylvania  
Senate Post Office Box 203029  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3029

Dear Senator Rhoades:

The Citizens Advisory Council to the Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed H.B. 1830 (P.N. 2387) which would amend the Sewage Treatment Plant and Waterworks Operator's Certification Act.

Federal guidelines for the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program are straightforward: a certified operator must make all process control decisions. Council agrees that the safe and reliable operation of water and wastewater systems by thoroughly trained and qualified operators is essential to protect public and environmental health. We support the concepts included in the legislation. Aside from the fact that failure to implement these changes would result in Pennsylvania losing a significant amount of federally funded State Revolving Fund monies, imposing these requirements will help operators address public health concerns.

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Sincerely,

David L. Strong  
Chair  
Citizens Advisory Council



Name	DEP House Senate	PO Box Address	Formal Sal	Comm
The Honorable Thomas E. Armstrong	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Armstrong	EREC House CCD ARA
The Honorable Daniel F. Clark	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Clark	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Tom C. Creighton	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Creighton	New EREC House CCD
The Honorable Brett Feese	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Feese	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Daniel Frankel	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Frankel	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Robert Freeman	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Freeman	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Camille George	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative George	EREC House Reelect
The Honorable Catherine M. (Kate) Harper	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Harper	New EREC House CCD
The Honorable Arthur D. Hershey	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Hershey	EREC House ARA Reelect
The Honorable Kenneth I. Jadowiec	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Jadowiec	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable David K. Levdansky	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Levdansky	EREC House GF CCD
The Honorable James Lynch	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Lynch	EREC House GF CCD
The Honorable Jennifer Mann	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Mann	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Eugene F. McGill	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative McGill	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Charles C. McIlhinney, Jr.	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative McIlhinney	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Ron Miller	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Miller	EREC House CCD ARA
The Honorable John Pallone	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Pallone	New EREC House CCD
The Honorable Chris Ross	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Ross	TRD EREC House CCD
The Honorable Carole A. Rubley	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Rubley	EREC House CCD Reelect

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The Honorable Sara G. Steelman	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Steelman	EREC House CCD ARA
The Honorable Jerry A. Stern	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Stern	EREC House CCD ARA
The Honorable Richard R. Stevenson	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Stevenson	New EREC House CCD
The Honorable Dan A. Surra	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Surra	EREC House GF CCD
The Honorable W. Curtis Thomas	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Thomas	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable Gregory S. Vitali	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Vitali	EREC House CCD Reelect
The Honorable James Wansacz	Pennsylvania House of Representatives	House Post Office Box 202020 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020	Representative Wansacz	CED EREC House CCD
✓ The Honorable David J. Brightbill	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203048 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3048	Senator Brightbill	EREC Senate Lead GF CCD
✓ The Honorable Edward W. Helfrick	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203027 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3027	Senator Helfrick	EREC Senate GF CCD
✓ The Honorable Raphael . Musto	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203014 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3014	Senator Musto	Lead Not EREC Senate
✓ The Honorable James J. Rhoades	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203029 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3029	Senator Rhoades	EREC Senate CED CCD
✓ The Honorable Joe Scarnati	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203025 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3025	Senator Scarnati	New EREC Senate CCD
✓ The Honorable J. Barry Stout	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203046 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3046	Senator Stout	EREC Senate Lead CCD
✓ The Honorable Don White	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203041 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3041	Senator White	New EREC Senate CCD
✓ The Honorable Mary Jo White	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203021 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3021	Senator White	CED EREC Senate Reelect
✓ The Honorable Anthony H. Williams	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203008 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3008	Senator Williams	CCD Not EREC Senate
✓ The Honorable John N. Wozniak	Senate of Pennsylvania	Senate Post Office Box 203035 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3035	Senator Wozniak	CED EREC Senate GF ARA