



## **Water and Wastewater Works Advisory Board**

**State of Alaska  
Department of Environmental Conservation**

### **Policy Statement 2010-03 Continuing Education for Wastewater Stabilization Pond (WWSP) Operator Certificate Renewal**

#### **Background**

Continuing education is required as a condition of renewal for wastewater stabilization pond operator certificates. The department recognizes the Continuing Education Unit (CEU) as a unit of education. One CEU is equivalent to 10 contact hours of education. Regulation 18 AAC 74.810 sets forth the continuing education requirement for renewal of the various certificate types offered by the department. Board policy 2010-01 sets forth the criteria for evaluating courses for continuing education credit.

#### **Introduction**

Throughout the history of the certification program, the department has counted a variety of courses toward the renewal of operator certificates. Some courses, while not specific to the wastewater industry, have a peripheral relevance to the profession. The department has long struggled with the question of how to recognize peripherally related courses (non-core courses), while maintaining some standard for requiring courses specific to the industry (core courses). In the past, non-core courses were recognized as equal to core courses. As a result, certificates were often renewed based upon meeting the entire CEU requirement with courses not specifically related to the wastewater industry.

#### **Discussion**

The Board wishes to strengthen the continuing education requirements necessary for certificate renewal by emphasizing the importance of education specifically related to the wastewater profession.

## Policy

The department will apply the following criteria when determining eligibility of CEUs toward the operator certification renewal requirements:

### A. Wastewater Stabilization Pond Operator Certificates

1. Per regulation, 0.5 CEUs of education are required during the three years prior to the expiration of a wastewater stabilization pond operator certificate.
2. The 0.5 CEUs required for renewal of a wastewater stabilization pond operator certificate must be core to the wastewater industry.
3. Wastewater stabilization pond courses may be repeated for CEU credit; however, not within a three year period.

### B. Summary Table

<b>Level of certificate</b>	<b>Total number of CEUs required during the three years prior to expiration</b>	<b>Number of CEUs that must be core to the wastewater industry</b>
Wastewater Stabilization Pond	0.5	0.5

Adopted this twenty-seventh day of October, 2010

/Mark Buggins/ Mark Buggins

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Chair, Water and Wastewater Works Advisory Board

*(Effective 10/27/10 2010-03)*