



Water and Wastewater Operator Information Sheet

Effective **January 1, 2014**, the Department of Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour (PETL) will begin issuing certifications in the Water and Wastewater Operator occupations under the *Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification (AOC) Act*. This change comes at the request from the Department of Environment and Local Government as the certification process through the Atlantic Canada Water and Wastewater Association Voluntary Certification Program (ACWWAVCP) will no longer be available.

Certificate vs. Certificate of Qualification

The current process for certification of Water and Wastewater Operators has a certificate issued by the ACWWAVCP Board. When PETL assumes responsibilities for certification in these occupations, clients will receive a Certificate of Qualification issued under the *AOC Act* and signed by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and the Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification Board Chair. Certified clients will also receive a photo identification card as proof of certification.

Is there any impact to Certifications that have already been issued?

All certifications previously issued under the ACWWAVCP will remain valid and will continue to be recognized by the Department of Environment and Local Government. There is no requirement to update certificates to have one that is issued by PETL. If an individual requires a replacement certificate, they will be issued a Certificate of Qualification (including a new number) based on the certification they received through ACWWAVCP. The original issue date of the certification will not change. There is a fee of \$20 for issuing a replacement certificate.

Will the process change?

As PETL has a number of occupations designated under the *AOC Act* where certification is offered, there are already processes and forms in place that are used for clients wanting to challenge the certification exam. These processes and forms are similar to the current process used for water and wastewater certification, however there are some differences. Much of the same information is collected; it will just be using different forms.

In addition to the change in some of the forms and processes to align with the other occupations offered through PETL, there are also set fees established under the *Fees Act*.

The Certificate of Qualification Challenger Assessment fee is \$100.

The fee to challenge the Certificate of Qualification Examination is \$250.

The fee to re-write the Certificate of Qualification Examination is \$120.

Applications received and approved remain valid for a period of three years. This means that if a candidate applies and is approved, writes the exam and is unsuccessful, the original application remains active for three years for the client to re-write the exam without re-applying and completing the documentation again.

Will the exam change?

The same exams currently used for certification will continue to be used once PETL takes over responsibility for certification in this occupation. In the future and in consultation with industry stakeholders, we may consider updating or revising the examinations if deemed necessary.

Where to find us!

PETL has eight Regional Offices located throughout New Brunswick. These offices accept applications to challenge the exam for Water and Wastewater Operator certification. They also conduct exam sittings on a regular basis. For a complete list of regional offices, please see the attached sheet.

Please note that PETL will only be accepting applications after January 1, 2014. In the interim, please continue to use the existing process for requests relating to Water and Wastewater Operator certification.