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**Chambers, Laura M.**

**From:** Graham Orton [gorton@buckinghampa.org] 2009 AUG 12 PM 2:48  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2009 1:28 PM  
**To:** EP, RegComments  
**Subject:** Proposed rulemaking Chapter 302 Regulation I.D. # 7-433

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

August 11, 2009

Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harristown 2  
 333 Market Street  
 Harrisburg, PA 17101

Environmental Quality Board  
 Post Office Box 8477  
 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

**Re:** Environmental Quality Board  
 Proposed Rulemaking, July 11, 2009  
 Chapter 302, Administration of the Water and Wastewater Systems Operators Certification Program  
 Regulation I.D. # 7-433

Dear Commissioners and Board Members:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the referenced rulemaking. First, may I inform you that the comment period for sweeping changes was way too brief. Please consider extending it. I would like more time to review the regulation changes and their potential impacts.

I am a certified water and wastewater operator and have been employed as such for 38 years. I believe, through discussion with others having more time to review the changes, that the proposed regulations would significantly negatively impact my ability to do my job as a professional. I endorse the comments being prepared by the Eastern PA Water Pollution Control Operators Association and the Pennsylvania AWWA. I believe the proposed changes impose arbitrary and unreasonable requirements, including the creation of new forms of personal liability and that the enabling language is too vague to be realistically or fairly interpreted.

I am concerned about DEP's refusal to meet with representatives from the professional operators' associations during the course of drafting the regulations. I urge the Board and the Commission to recommend strongly to DEP that it return to the drawing board and work with the regulated community to develop reasonable and practical regulations.

You will be receiving many detailed letters about this. I am willing to serve on a committee that would proactively work with DEP produce a regulation that would serve the environment as well as the need to have water and wastewater facilities properly operated to reduce the risk of health effects and environmental damage. You have a dedicated DEP regional director, Jenifer Fields, trying to advance a program to provide a new generation of operators to maintain the systems into the future and, at the same time, are proposing to promulgate regulations that will serve to make certified operators scarcer that they already are. Isn't there something you can do?

Sincerely,

Graham Orton  
 PO Box 822  
 Cherryville, PA 18035

8/12/2009