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To;
All Members,
Pa State Environmental Quality Board of Wastewater and Drinking Water Operators.

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From;
Roger R. Spitler, Pa. State Certified Operator of Wastewater and Drinking Water Systems.

INDEPENDENT REGULATOR
FOR WASTEWATER

Dear Board Members, with relation to reciprocity between states I as well as many others feel that not recognizing someone's achievement in becoming a certified operator just because they crossed a state line would be an insult of our abilities, accomplishments and borderline discriminatory. However, if another states requirements would fall short of our commonwealth's requirements at that point you as the board would need to recognize the need for further testing for certification in Pa. By making it across the board is not fair to those who have taken and passed comparable certification exams.

We all know that there is an ever increasing need for competent certified professionals in our field, why would we not recognize someone's accomplishments they have already earned if they are comparable to what we require in Pa.?

If we as professional operators do not promote, encourage and make reasonable attempts to retain operators in our field no matter where they live, we are only hurting ourselves as well as the waters we claim to protect. I would only hope your current reciprocity proposal is not about money? We need to look at this as other professionals do with relation to reciprocity.

I do not feel that an operator's abilities and accomplishments should be considered null and void just by crossing a state line as you are currently proposing.

I do feel that the proper fees should apply for certification within another state to acquire the certification certificate needed for that state.

Pennsylvania's waters are no more important than any other states. We all know we have only the water we have, it must ALL be protected as such. Looking at the big picture, it would be foolish to think our waters are more important than another states.

In closing please consider my comments in your decision regarding reciprocity. I do feel that if an out of state persons certification requirements are not reasonably equal to ours then they should have to test for the classification desired, otherwise please no not complicate or hinder ones ability to relocate to another United State if he/she desires to do so.

Let Freedom Ring!

Thank You,

Sincerely,

Roger R. Spitler

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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD