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Susan C. Evans
Sims

Janice Hovis
Cherryville

Dr. Cheryl McClary
Asheville

John C. McFadyen
Raleigh

Dr. Shoou-Yuh Chang
Greensboro

Mack W. Edmisten
Lenoir

J. Fred Edwards
Fletcher

Thomas W. Elliott
Lake Waccamaw

North Carolina
Water Treatment Facility
Operators Certification Board
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7687
(919) 733-0379

July 14, 1995

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Water System Officials *JCM*
FROM: John C. McFadyen, Chairman
North Carolina Water Treatment Facility
Operators Certification Board
SUBJECT: Certified Distribution Operator Required

The State regulations were changed effective May 1, 1994, which requires a certified distribution operator to be operator in responsible charge for the distribution portion of the water system no later than July 1, 1997 for community public water systems serving more than 3,300 service connections; no later than July 1, 1998 for those systems with more than 1,000 connections but less than 3,300; and no later than July 1, 1999 for those community systems with more than 100 service connections but less than 1,000. The other systems are not required to have certified distribution operators although certification training would be valuable for their distribution personnel as well.

This notification is being provided to assist you with scheduling training for your employees in time to meet this requirement. On the back of this correspondence is a reprint of regulations T15A:18D .0201 (7), (8), (9) and .0206 (c).

If you have questions regarding the need for qualified distribution personnel, please call the Certification Board office at telephone number (919) 733-0379. For information on certification schools or examinations, please call Dwight Lancaster at (919) 733-0026.

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.0201 GRADES OF CERTIFICATION

Applicants for the various grades of certification shall meet the following educational and experience requirements:

- (7) **GRADE A-DISTRIBUTION** shall have one year of acceptable experience at Class B or higher distribution system while holding a Grade B-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed an approved A-Distribution school, and hold current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificate.
- (8) **GRADE B-DISTRIBUTION** shall:
 - (a) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, and have six months of acceptable experience at a Class B or higher distribution system, or
 - (b) Have one year of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system while holding a Grade C-Distribution certificate and have satisfactorily completed an approved B-Distribution school.
- (9) **GRADE C-DISTRIBUTION** shall hold a certificate of completion of approved trench shoring training and shall:
 - (a) Be a college graduate with a bachelor's degree in the physical or natural sciences, or be a graduate of a two year technical program with a diploma in water and wastewater technology, and have six months of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system, or
 - (b) Be a high school graduate or equivalent, have six months of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system and have satisfactorily completed an approved C-Distribution school, or
 - (c) Have one year of acceptable experience at a Class C or higher distribution system and have satisfactorily completed an approved C-Distribution school.

History Note: Statutory Authority G.S. 90A-21(c); 90A-22; 90A-23;

Eff. February 1, 1976;

Amended Eff. September 1, 1977;

Readopted Eff. March 1, 1979;

Amended Eff. May 3, 1993; August 3, 1992; July 1, 1991; December 31, 1980.

.0206 CERTIFIED OPERATOR REQUIRED

(c) There shall be an operator in responsible charge for the distribution portion of the community public water systems designated in Subparagraphs (c)(1), (2) and (3) of this Rule. This operator shall possess a valid certificate issued by the Board equivalent to or exceeding the distribution classification of the facility for which he or she is designated.

- (1) No later than July 1, 1997 all community public water systems serving greater than 3,300 service connections shall have a certified distribution operator in responsible charge of the distribution portion of the system.
- (2) No later than July 1, 1998 all community public water systems serving greater than 1,000 service connections shall have a certified distribution operator in responsible charge of the distribution portion of the system.
- (3) No later than July 1, 1999 all community public water systems serving greater than 100 service connections shall have a certified distribution operator in responsible charge of the distribution portion of the system.

History Note: Statutory Authority G.S. 90A-20; 90A-28; 90A-29; 90A-32;

Eff. July 1, 1991;

Amended Eff. May 1, 1994; May 3, 1993.

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