



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# Wastewater News

## Environmental Services

- [Final Rules for Wastewater, Drinking Water, Sludge and Operator Certification will be Discussed at January EPC Meeting](#)
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## Final Rules for Wastewater, Drinking Water, Sludge and Operator Certification will be Discussed at January EPC Meeting

Four Final Rules concerning wastewater, water supply, sludge, and operator certification will be presented to the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) for approval at their upcoming meeting on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. The Final Rules are for:

- Water Supply Rule Cleanup and Modification (Chapters 9, 40, 43, and 49): Bring water supply rules in alignment with a 2020 legislative action that allows public works departments to retain professional engineers; puts more emphasis on construction of water mains; and clarifies well separation distances.
- Wastewater Rule Cleanup and Modification (Chapters 60-64): Update wastewater definitions, add references to federal rules, correct mistakes, and simplify and clarify language.
- Sewage Sludge Rule Cleanup (Chapter 67): Update sewage sludge rules to clarify definitions, bring sewage sludge rules in alignment with federal laws, correct conversion amounts and simplify language.
- Public Wastewater Treatment and Public Water Supply Operators to Add New Grade and Rule Cleanup (Chapter 81): Amend rules to add a new classification grade for public wastewater treatment and water supply operators; clarify definitions, specify operator requirements and remove references to an obsolete grade.

The Client Contact Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 13 at 1:00 p.m.

The EPC business meeting starts at 10 a.m. in DNR's conference room 2N, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines. The public can also attend via video conference or by phone. To join by video, connect with <https://meet.google.com/rzo-uidn-tvg>. To join by phone, call 631-618-4607, and enter the PIN code of 484 733 354 followed by the pound (#) sign. The meeting is open to the public. There is no scheduled public participation. Written comments may be submitted up to one day before the meeting to Alicia Plathe at [Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov) or to DNR, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319.

For more information on the Client Contact and EPC meetings, and to view the EPC meeting packet and agenda, please see the [Environmental Protection](#)

[Commission](#) webpage.

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## Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

Online and virtual training opportunities are being created and offered through community colleges, state industry associations, national industry associations, EPA, and other state industry partners. All operators should continue to monitor their emails and the Training Calendar on the [Iowa DNR Operator Certification Database](#). Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

Please contact Laurie Sharp at (515) 725-0284 with any questions concerning operator certification training.