

**TITLE 252. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHAPTER 710. WATERWORKS AND WASTEWATER WORKS OPERATOR
CERTIFICATION**

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT

Before the Water Quality Management Advisory Council on January 14, 2014.
Before the Environmental Quality Board on February 21, 2014.

1. **DESCRIPTION:** The Department is proposing to clarify that an entity only need to meet one of the listed conditions set forth for a particular classification level in order to fall under that classification.
2. **CLASSES OF PERSONS AFFECTED:** Classes of persons affected are operators of water and wastewater systems certified by the DEQ and the public who have their water and/or wastewater treated.
3. **CLASSES OF PERSONS WHO WILL BEAR COSTS:** Classes of persons who will bear the costs are municipalities and other persons or entities who may need to increase the classification level of operator.
4. **INFORMATION ON COST IMPACTS FROM PRIVATE/PUBLIC ENTITIES:** The DEQ has not received any information on cost impacts from other public or private entities.
5. **CLASSES OF PERSONS BENEFITTED:** All citizens of Oklahoma will benefit because water and wastewater treatment systems will have properly trained operators for specific treatment plants regardless of population served.
6. **PROBABLE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON AFFECTED CLASSES OF PERSONS:** DEQ anticipates a small economic impact on some public water supply and wastewater treatment systems that will be required to have an operator with a higher classification.
7. **PROBABLE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS:** There may be an economic impact on political subdivisions (i.e., municipalities) that employ public water supply and/or non-industrial wastewater system operators (see Items #3, #4, and #6 above). The level of economic impact on any one political subdivision is unknown at this time.
8. **POTENTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS:** There may be an economic impact on non-industrial private entities that hire either a public water supply operator or a wastewater system operator (see Items #3, #4, and #6 above). The level of economic impact on any one individual non-industrial commercial entity is unknown at this time.
9. **LISTING OF ALL FEE CHANGES, INCLUDING A SEPARATE JUSTIFICATION FOR EACH FEE CHANGE:** N/A
10. **PROBABLE COSTS AND BENEFITS TO DEQ TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE:** None.
11. **PROBABLE COSTS AND BENEFITS TO OTHER AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE:** N/A
12. **SOURCE OF REVENUE TO BE USED TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE RULE:** No new revenue will be needed to implement this rule.

13. **PROJECTED NET LOSS OR GAIN IN REVENUES FOR DEQ AND/OR OTHER AGENCIES, IF IT CAN BE PROJECTED:** None.
14. **COOPERATION OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT OR ENFORCE RULE:** None.
15. **EXPLANATION OF THE MEASURES THE DEQ TOOK TO MINIMIZE COMPLIANCE COSTS:** N/A
16. **DETERMINATION OF WHETHER THERE ARE LESS COSTLY OR NONREGULATORY OR LESS INTRUSIVE METHODS OF ACHIEVING THE PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED RULE:** N/A
17. **DETERMINATION OF THE EFFECT ON PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT:** The proposed amendments will protect public health, safety and the environment by ensuring that public water supply and wastewater treatment systems have properly trained operators for specific treatment plants regardless of population served.
18. **IF THE PROPOSED RULE IS DESIGNED TO REDUCE SIGNIFICANT RISKS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT, EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE RISK AND TO WHAT EXTENT THE PROPOSED RULE WILL REDUCE THE RISK:** See item 17.
19. **DETERMINATION OF ANY DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT IF THE PROPOSED RULE IS NOT IMPLEMENTED:** See item 17.
20. **PROBABLE QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE IMPACT ON BUSINESS ENTITIES (INCLUDE QUANTIFIABLE DATA WHERE POSSIBLE):** See item #8.

THIS RULE IMPACT STATEMENT WAS PREPARED ON: December 16, 2013
Amended January 8, 2014