Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 1018 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/21/07	
2	86th General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2007		HOUSE BILL 2761
4			
5	By: Representative Saunders		
6			
7			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT TO	O ESTABLISH THE PHASE I ENVIRONME	ENTAL
10	SITE ASSE	ESSMENT CONSULTANT ACT; TO MAINTA	AIN A
11	PUBLIC LI	IST OF PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE	Е
12	ASSESSMEN	NT CONSULTANTS; AND FOR OTHER PUR	RPOSES.
13			
14			
15		Subtitle	
16	THE PH	HASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE	
17	ASSESS	SMENT CONSULTANT ACT.	
18			
19			
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GE	NERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF A	ARKANSAS:
21			
22	SECTION 1. Arkan	sas Code Title 8, Chapter 7, Sub	ochapter 13 is amended
23	to read as follows:		
24	§ 8-7-1301. Titl	.e.	
25	This subchapter s	hall be known and may be cited a	as the <u>"Environmental</u>
26	Site Assessment Consult	ant and Hazardous Substance Resp	oonse Contractor
27	Certification Act" "The	Phase I Environmental Site Asse	essment Consultant
28	Act".		
29			
30	§ 8-7-1302. Purp	ose.	
31	It is the purpose	e of this subchapter to authorize	e the Arkansas
32	Department of Environme	ental Quality to establish and ad	lminister a
33	certification program t	:o :	
34	(1) Certif	y Phase I environmental site ass	sessment consultants;
35	(2) Certif	y comprehensive site assessment	consultants and

1 response action contractors undertaking investigations and response actions, 2 respectively, under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the 3 4 Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Cleanup 5 Act, § 8-7-1101 et seq.; and 6 (3) Require as a condition of certification that such 7 contractors and consultants demonstrate that they have the qualifications 8 required to undertake such activities. maintain a list of Phase I consultants 9 who meet the minimum qualifications for an environmental professional who undertakes a Phase I environmental site assessment, referred to as "all 10 11 appropriate inquiry" under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, as it exists on January 12 1, 2007 or a Phase I environmental site assessment under the American Society 13 for Testing and Materials standard E1527-05 as in effect on January 1, 2007. 14 15 16 § 8-7-1303. Definitions. 17 As used in this subchapter: (1) "Commission" means the Arkansas Pollution Control and 18 19 Ecology Commission; 20 (2) "Comprehensive site assessment" means an assessment to 21 determine the rate, extent, and characteristics of contamination at a site 22 addressed under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the Remedial 2.3 24 Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Cleanup Act, § 8-25 7-1101 et seq.; 26 (3) "Comprehensive site assessment consultant" means a person 27 that performs a comprehensive environmental site assessment for a fee or in 28 conjunction with other services for which a fee is charged; 29 (4) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental 30 Quality; 31 (5) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of 32 Environmental Quality; 33 (6) "Environmental site assessment" means a Phase I 34 environmental site assessment or a comprehensive site assessment; 35 (7) "Environmental site assessment consultant" means a person 36 that performs a Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive

1 environmental site assessment for a fee or in conjunction with other services 2 for which a fee is charged; 3 (8) "Hazardous substance" has the same meaning as that term is 4 set out in § 8-7-503; 5 (9) "Hazardous waste" has the same meaning as that term is set 6 out in § 8-7-203; 7 (10)(1) "Person" means any individual, corporation, company, 8 firm, partnership, association, trust, joint-stock company or trust, venture, 9 state or federal government or agency, or any other legal entity however 10 organized; 11 (11)(2) "Phase I consultant" means a person that performs a 12 Phase I environmental site assessment for a fee or in conjunction with other services for which a fee is charged; and 13 14 (12)(3) "Phase I environmental site assessment" means a Phase I 15 environmental site assessment as that term is used in the American Society 16 for Testing and Materials standard E1527-00 as in effect on January 1, 2005; 17 an assessment defined as "all appropriate inquiry" under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, and 18 19 the rules promulgated under that federal act or a Phase I environmental site assessment as that term is used in the American Society for Testing and 20 21 Materials standard E1527-00 as in effect on January 1, 2005; and. 22 (13) "Response action contractor" means a person that is: 23 (A) Required to obtain a contractor's license pursuant to 24 § 17-25-101 et seq.; and 25 (B) Responsible for undertaking the physical removal, 26 treatment, or disposal of hazardous substances or environmental media 27 contaminated with hazardous substances associated with a response action at a 28 site addressed under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 29 8-7-201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the 30 Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Cleanup Act, § 8-7-1101 et seq., for a fee or in conjunction with other services for 31 32 which a fee is charged. 33 34 8-7-1304. Powers and duties. (a) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall+ 35 36 (1) Establish and administer the Environmental Site Assessment

1	Consultant and mazardous substance Response Contractor Certification Program
2	for response action contractors and environmental site assessment
3	consultants; and
4	(2) Issue, deny, revoke, condition, or suspend the certification
5	of response action contractors and environmental site assessment consultants
6	under the terms established in this subchapter. maintain and make available
7	to the public a list of Phase I consultants who meet the minimum
8	qualifications for an environmental professional who undertakes a Phase I
9	environmental site assessment, referred to as "all appropriate inquiry" under
10	the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub.
11	L. No. 107-118, and the rules promulgated under that federal act.
12	(b) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
13	promulgate necessary regulations to effect the purpose and implementation of
14	the certification program, including, but not limited to:
15	(1) Provisions governing categories of certification;
16	(2) Applications for certification;
17	(3) Continuing education requirements;
18	(4) Professional and technical standards for certification;
19	(5) Renewals of certifications;
20	(6) Procedures for peer committee review and other actions
21	affecting the status of certification; and
22	(7) Establishment of reasonable fees. The Arkansas Pollution
23	Control and Ecology Commission shall promulgate rules to implement this
24	subchapter.
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26	8-7-1305. Applicability.
27	(a)(1) Six (6) months after the adoption of rules by the Arkansas
28	Pollution Control and Ecology Commission to implement this subchapter, a
29	person shall not provide services as an environmental site assessment
30	consultant or a response action contractor unless those services are
31	performed under the direction and responsible charge of an individual who has
32	obtained a certification under this subchapter.
33	(2)(A) Until the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and
34	Hazardous Substance Response Contractor Certification Program is implemented,
35	the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality should develop and maintain
36	a list of those environmental site assessment consultants and response action

1 contractors that indicate to the department an intent to apply for 2 certification enumerated under this subchapter. 3 (B) After the certification program is implemented, the department shall develop and maintain a list of those environmental site 4 5 assessment consultants and response action contractors that have a 6 certification under this subchapter. 7 © The department shall make available to the public the 8 lists required under subdivisions (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this section. 9 (b) The provisions of this section do not prohibit the engagement of 10 an associate, an apprentice or assistant, or a subcontractor if an individual 11 who is certified under this subchapter supervises that associate, apprentice 12 or assistant, or subcontractor and maintains responsibility for the work of 13 that associate, apprentice or assistant, or subcontractor. 14 (c) This subchapter does not apply to services provided by: 15 (1) An employee of a business or public agency relative to the 16 hazardous substance or hazardous waste management, release investigation, or 17 response responsibilities of his or her employer, exclusively, while the employee is acting in the course of his or her employment; 18 19 (2) An employee of a public agency with the responsibility of 20 regulatory enforcement, emergency response, or protection of public health 21 and welfare or the environment while the employee is acting in the course of 22 that employment; or 23 (3) A person that is a transporter of hazardous wastes that are: 24 (A) Designated as the specific responsibility of the 25 transporter of hazardous wastes under the applicable state or federal 26 regulations; or 27 (B) Necessary to perform the service of transportation of 28 hazardous waste in accordance with the applicable state and federal 29 regulations. 30 (d) Any environmental site assessment activities performed by a person certified as an environmental site assessment consultant under this 31 32 subchapter that would constitute the "practice of engineering" as defined in 33 § 17-30-101 shall be performed under the responsible charge of and signed and 34 sealed by a professional engineer registered in the State of Arkansas. 35 (e) Any environmental site assessment activities performed by a person 36 certified as an environmental site assessment consultant under this

1	subchapter that would constitute the "public practice of geology" as defined
2	in § 17-32-102 shall be performed under the responsible charge of and signed
3	and sealed by a professional geologist registered in the State of Arkansas.
4	
5	8-7-1306. Certification categories.
6	(a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
7	establish by regulation categories of certification under this subchapter.
8	(b) Categories of certification shall include:
9	(1) Phase I environmental site consultant;
10	(2) Comprehensive environmental site assessment consultant; and
11	(3) Response action contractor.
12	
13	8-7-1307. Certification criteria and procedure.
14	(a)(1) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
15	establish by rule criteria for certification as an environmental site
16	assessment consultant.
17	(2) The criteria shall incorporate United States Environmental
18	Protection Agency requirements including minimum qualifications for an
19	environmental professional who undertakes Phase I environmental site
20	assessments of "all appropriate inquiry" as defined under the Small Business
21	Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, and
22	the rules promulgated under that federal act that are not inconsistent with
23	this subchapter.
24	(3) Upon demonstration of compliance with the criteria, the
25	applicant shall be eligible for certification as a Phase I environmental site
26	assessment consultant under this subchapter.
27	(b) The criteria for initial certification of a Phase I environmental
28	site assessment consultant or a comprehensive site assessment consultant, or
29	both, shall provide that:
30	(1) The license issued to a registered professional engineer or
31	engineering intern meets the requirements for an environmental site
32	assessment consultant certificate if:
33	(A) Any professional engineer or engineering intern who
34	performs Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive site
35	assessment, or both:
36	(i) Registers with the Arkansas Department of

I	Environmental Quality;
2	(ii) Submits demonstration of knowledge, training,
3	or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and experience, as
4	determined by regulations issued under this subchapter; and
5	(iii) Pays the applicable fees; or
6	(B) A professional engineer licensing board has or
7	develops a program recognized by the department as substantially similar to
8	the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and Hazardous Substance Response
9	Contractor Certification Program that requires demonstration of knowledge,
10	training, or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and
11	experience, in the field of Phase I environmental site assessments or
12	comprehensive site assessments that satisfies the requirements of the
13	professional licensing board;
14	(2) The license issued to a professional geologist or geologist-
15	in-training meets the requirements for an environmental site assessment
16	consultant certificate if:
17	(A) Any professional geologist or geologist-in-training
18	who performs a Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive site
19	assessment, or both:
20	(i) Registers with the department;
21	(ii) Submits demonstration of knowledge, training,
22	or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and experience, as
23	determined by regulations issued under this subchapter; and
24	(iii) Pays the applicable fees; or
25	(B) A professional geologist licensing board has or
26	develops a program recognized by the department as substantially similar to
27	the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and Hazardous Substance Response
28	Contractor Certification Program that requires demonstration of knowledge,
29	training, or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and
30	experience, in the field of Phase I environmental site assessments or
31	comprehensive site assessments that satisfies the requirements of the
32	professional licensing board;
33	(3) Any person who provides proof of:
34	(A) Certification by another state recognized by the
35	department as substantially equivalent for performing environmental site
36	assessments; or

1	(B) Completion of training and receipt of certification of
2	other form of recognition of successful completion of training provided by
3	organizations found by the department to provide training necessary to
4	perform environmental site assessments; or
5	(4)(A) Any person who demonstrates competence by achieving a
6	passing score on an examination administered by the department in accordance
7	with the rules issued under this subchapter or relevant and appropriate
8	criteria as the commission shall deem appropriate, or both.
9	(B) Any examination administered by the department in
10	accordance with the rules issued under this subchapter is the property of the
11	department and shall remain confidential and shall not be subject to
12	disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.
13	(c) Certification as a comprehensive site assessment consultant shall
14	serve as certification to perform both Phase I environmental site assessments
15	and comprehensive site assessments.
16	(d)(1) The commission shall establish by rule criteria for
17	certification as a response action contractor.
18	(2) The criteria for initial certification of a response action
19	contractor shall provide that the applicant has:
20	(A) A valid license issued by the Contractors Licensing
21	Board;
22	(B) Demonstrated that he or she has received the training
23	and medical monitoring required by the Occupational Safety and Health
24	Administration for handling hazardous substances;
25	(c) Either:
26	(i) Completed training and received a certificate or
27	other form of recognition of successful completion of training provided by an
28	organization found by the department to provide training necessary to perform
29	response actions; or
30	(ii) Proof of certification by another state
31	recognized by the department as having an adequate certification program for
32	response action contractors; and
33	(D)(i) Demonstrated competency by achieving a passing
34	score on an examination administered by the department in accordance with the
35	rules issued under this subchapter or relevant and appropriate criteria as
36	the commission shall deem appropriate, or both.

1	(11) Any examination administered by the department
2	in accordance with the rules issued under this subchapter is the property of
3	the department and shall remain confidential and shall not be subject to
4	disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.
5	(e) The commission shall promulgate rules for renewal of an
6	environmental site assessment consultant certificate that shall provide that
7	certification be renewed upon demonstration of the following criteria:
8	(1) For a professional:
9	(A) Engineer or an engineering intern, a valid license to
10	practice engineering and approved continuing education hours; and
11	(B) Geologist or geologist-in-training, a valid license t
12	practice geology and approved continuing education hours;
13	(2) For a person with a certificate based on certification by
14	another state or organization, demonstration of a current certificate from
15	the approved state or organization and approved continuing education hours;
16	and
17	(3) For those persons whose certification is based on training
18	from an approved training organization or testing administered by the
19	department, proof of approved continuing education hours.
20	(f) The commission shall promulgate rules for renewal of a response
21	action contractor certificate that shall provide that certification be
22	renewed upon demonstration of the following criteria:
23	(1) A valid license from the Contractors Licensing Board;
24	(2) Current training and medical monitoring as required by the
25	Occupational Safety and Health Administration for handling hazardous
26	substances;
27	(3) For those persons whose certificate is based on
28	certification by another state or organization:
29	(A) Demonstration of a current certificate from the
30	approved state or organization; and
31	(B) Proof of approved continuing education;
32	(4) For those persons whose certification is based on training
33	from an approved training organization, proof of approved continuing
34	education; and
35	(5) Other relevant and appropriate criteria as the commission
36	may deem appropriate.

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2	8-7-1308. Unlawful acts.
3	It is unlawful for any person to:
4	(1) Make any false statement or representation in any application for
5	certification;
6	(2) Render inaccurate any certification issued under this subchapter;
7	or
8	(3) Solicit or perform the services for which certification under this
9	subchapter is required without holding a current and valid certificate under
10	this subchapter.
11	
12	8-7-1309. Disciplinary actions and suspension or revocation of
13	certification.
14	(a) A response action contractor or environmental site assessment
15	consultant holding a certificate issued under this subchapter may be subject
16	to a disciplinary action or the certificate may be subject to suspension,
17	condition, or revocation if he or she:
18	(1) Engages in activities subject to licensure under this
19	subchapter and is no longer entitled to the certification by reason of his or
20	her failure to maintain the license or certificate on which the certification
21	was issued; or
22	(2) Demonstrably fails to produce acceptable work for specific
23	activities for which the response action contractor or environmental site
24	assessment consultant has been certified under this subchapter.
25	(b)(1) If the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental
26	Quality has sufficient evidence that a response action contractor,
27	professional engineer, professional geologist, or other environmental site
28	assessment consultant licensed by a state board should be subject to
29	disciplinary action or have his or her certification suspended, conditioned,
30	or revoked, the director shall submit the evidence to the licensing board of
31	the contractor or professional involved.
32	(2) The Contractors Licensing Board may investigate the matter
33	and take such action as it finds to be appropriate and report its findings to
34	the director.
35	(3) If following its procedures for resolving disciplinary
36	proceedings and licensing matters the Contractors Licensing Board finds that

1 action is necessary, the Contractors Licensing Board shall provide 2 appropriate information regarding the actions taken to the director. (4) The director shall consider the information by the 3 4 Contractors Licensing Board to determine appropriate action on the 5 certification. 6 (5) If the department has sufficient evidence under this 7 subsection that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment 8 consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or 9 revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action under applicable rules of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission. 10 11 (6) The director's decision shall be subject to adjudication 12 before the commission in accordance with administrative procedures adopted by 13 the commission. 14 (7)(A) If the Contractors Licensing Board finds that the issue 15 presented is not within the Contractors Licensing Board's jurisdiction or 16 otherwise elects not to pursue the matter, the Contractors Licensing Board 17 shall notify the director. 18 (B) If the Contractors Licensing Board gives notice to the 19 director under subdivision (b)(7)(A) of this section, the peer review 20 procedures outlined in subsection (c) of this section shall apply. 21 (c)(1) The procedure described in this subsection shall apply to 22 disciplinary action or suspension, condition, or revocation of the 23 certification of an environmental site assessment consultant that does not 24 have a professional license issued by a state board and under the Contractors 25 Licensing Board. 26 (2) Under this subsection, if the department has sufficient 27 evidence that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment 28 consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or 29 revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action and advise 30 the person of his or her right to a peer review and a hearing within the time period provided under applicable rules of the commission. 31 32 (3) If a request for peer review is made within the allotted 33 time frame, the commission shall appoint a peer review committee established 34 in accordance with the rules of the commission, including, but not limited 35 to, representation of at least three (3) certified response action 36 contractors or environmental site assessment consultants in good standing.

35

36

periodic review.

1 (4)(A) The peer review committee shall conduct an investigation 2 in accordance with procedures established by rules and regulations developed 3 for these purposes by the commission. 4 (B) The peer review committee shall submit its report to 5 the director and to the consultant or contractor. 6 (5) The director shall consider the peer review committee report 7 in making a decision. 8 (6) Under this subsection, if the department has sufficient 9 evidence that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or 10 11 revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action under 12 applicable rules of the commission. 13 (7) The director's decision shall be subject to adjudication before the commission in accordance with administrative procedures adopted by 14 15 the commission. 16 17 8-7-1310. Rules and regulations - Appeals and hearings. (a) The procedures of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology 18 19 Commission for promulgating any rules and regulations, the conduct of 20 hearings, notice, review of actions on certificates, right of appeal, 21 presumptions, finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided 22 in §§ 8-4-202, 8-4-210 - 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 - 8-4-229 and in the rules and 23 regulations applicable to administrative procedures of the Arkansas 24 Department of Environmental Quality and the commission. 25 (b) After notice and hearing, the commission shall adopt regulations 26 under this subchapter for the administration and implementation of a 27 certification program for contractors and consultants. 28 29 § 8-7-1311. Fees. 30 (a)(1) Under regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution Control 31 and Ecology Commission, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality may 32 assess fees to participating contractors and Phase I consultants who apply to 33 be placed on the list maintained under \S 8-7-1304 . 34 (2) Fees shall be reasonable and appropriate and subject to

(b) All fees collected under this subchapter shall be deposited in the

1	Hazardous Waste Permit Fund, § 19-6-434.
2	(c) Fees collected under this subchapter shall be used for the
3	purposes of administering this subchapter.
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5	/s/ Saunders
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7	APPROVED: 4/3/200
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