ARKANSAS WASTEWATER LICENSING COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008 ADEQ MEETING ROOMS 1E09

MEMBERS

John A. Lee, Green Bay Packaging, Morrilton, Chair Cindy Garner, Executive Secretary, ADEQ Jennifer Bouldin, Ph.D., AR State University Dennis Brunson, Hot Springs Utilities David Gross, Future Fuels Chemical, Batesville Mark Johnson, Rogers Water Utilities Michael McDaniel, Batesville Water Utilities David Thomason, Arkadelphia Water & Sewer

<u>MINUTES</u>

The meeting of the Wastewater Licensing Committee was called to order at 9:52 a.m., on Wednesday, February 13, 2008, by Chairman Lee. All members were present. Guests were; Randy Harper & Gary Oden, AR Environmental Academy; Martin Nutt, ADHHS; Janet Gay and Vicki Prewett, ADEQ.

The minutes of the November 14, 2007 meeting were read. A motion was made by Johnson to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Brunson, the motion was approved.

A financial report was given by Garner. A motion was made by Gross to approve the licensing report as read, seconded by Johnson, the motion was approved.

The Licensing Report was given by Prewett. During the months of November and December 2007 & January 2008, 75 examinations were given, 25 new municipal licenses were issued, 09 new industrial licenses were issued, 35 licenses were upgraded, 04 apprentice licenses issued, and 04 reciprocity application processed. Total number of municipal licenses current is 2,226 and total number of industrial licenses current is 1,137. The total number of current licensed operators was 2,830.

Harper handed out a copy of the training report for 2007 for the Environmental Academy. He also stated that this spring and fall they will be offering a Confined Space course that will be taught by the Fire Training Academy, an Electrical Troubleshooting and Safety course will also be offered in the fall and that they are developing a Pump Maintenance, Lab Process Control and Wastewater Collection Systems for their fall schedule.

Prewett reported that there was a 91% pass rate for the last quarter.

Garner reported that the regulation changes had been to one Legislative Committee and that it was going before another Legislative Committee on February 21, 2008. It will then go to the Commission meeting on February 22, 2008. Once it has been approved it will go in to effect 14 days after being filed with the Secretary of State.

Prewett gave a demonstration of the bar coding and scanner. She stated that we have already purchased the computer equipment, scanners and software.

Garner reported that she did some research to see how many states offered Collection System and Industrial licenses and found that there was not a lot of demand for either in the states researched. Lee suggested that there be a poll of the operators to see if there was a sufficient demand for the Collection System license. Garner stated that she will do a poll in the next newsletter.

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At the November meeting Johnson had requested that an operator be reinstated to her Class IV license that had lapsed due to illness. The committee had requested that she submit a written request with her history and career objectives, training, etc. Johnson reported that she had emailed Garner with her request. A motion was made by Thomason that she be allowed to retest at the Class IV level and also recommended that she retake the Class 3 course and require her to take the Class IV review before she retests.

Brunson made a motion that the committee continue to receive a per diem and that in light of increased costs, the per diem be increased to \$70.00. Seconded by Johnson, the motion unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next scheduled meeting is set for Wednesday, May 14, 2008.