



**Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation**  
Commissioner's Office  
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*Agency of Natural Resources*

August 18, 2016

Dear Wastewater (Pollution Abatement) Facility Operators:

In the spring of 2016, the Legislature passed Act 156 to transfer the licensing of Wastewater (Pollution Abatement) Facility Operators from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation (OPR). The implementation date is January 1, 2017. After that date OPR will handle the administration of all wastewater operator licenses.

If your license is up for renewal and you have obtained the required number of training hours, consider submitting an application to DEC by December 1, 2016 so that we can process it before the transfer occurs.

OPR manages 46 professional licenses for approximately 58,000 licensees, and has an efficient, on-line license application and renewal process. You should expect to be contacted by OPR directly with contact and application process information. In addition, OPR will be developing rules to administer this license program and will advise you of any changes. After the transfer, DEC will continue to review and approve wastewater courses for the requisite continuation credits for your certification.

We have confidence this partnership will be a positive change. OPR will be able to provide a(an):

- High level of professionalism similar to other licensed professionals;
- Well-developed process for handling complaints and enforcing licensing policies;
- Online application process for licensees; and
- Public database providing the public with direct access to licensing information – improving transparency and accessibility.

DEC will continue to work with OPR and anticipates a smooth transition. We ensure you will be provided with additional information as it becomes available. For updates, visit our Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certification Program webpage at: <http://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/wastewater/wastewater-treatment-facility-operator-certification>. If you have any questions regarding this transfer, please contact Matthew Probasco at (802) 490-8013 ([matthew.probasco@vermont.gov](mailto:matthew.probasco@vermont.gov)) within DEC's Watershed Management Division.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alyssa B. Schuren".

Alyssa B. Schuren  
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation

Cc: Watershed Management Division, Wastewater Management Program