

APRIL 2016 UPDATE

CWSA Annual Conference



BRIAN THORBURN

Board Member

EOCP

EOCP is celebrating 50 Years!



The EOCP evolved in BC from a handful of wastewater treatment plant operators who began the Program in 1966. Since then, the Program has grown along with similar programs throughout North America to include over 3,500 British Columbia and Yukon operators of:

- ▶ water distribution (WD)
- ▶ water treatment (WT)
- ▶ wastewater collection (WWC)
- ▶ municipal wastewater treatment (MWWT)
- ▶ industrial wastewater treatment (IWWT)
- ▶ small water systems (SWS), and
- ▶ small wastewater systems (SWWS)



Who is the EOCP?

The Environmental Operators Certification Program is incorporated as a not-for-profit society

The society's members are the certified Operators in British Columbia & the Yukon

Ministry of Environment regulations require that facilities have EOCP classification and operators have EOCP certification



New Definition for Water Treatment

EOCP has taken a Leadership position in Canada and updated the definition of Water Treatment

Definition:

- ▶ A facility that includes treatment using physical, chemical, or biological processes, including any method of primary disinfection, to produce potable water is to be classified as a Water Treatment facility.



New Definition for Water Treatment

Rationale:

- ▶ A facility performing a process that is intended to accomplish primary disinfection must be operated by a person certified as a Water Treatment Operator.
- ▶ However, a facility performing secondary disinfection (generally with chlorine) on water that is already potable can be operated safely by a person certificated as a Water Distribution Operator.



New Definition for Water Treatment

Many Facilities have already been classified. This process has separated the Water Treatment from the rest of the Distribution System, resulting in WT and WD classifications for Cities, Districts and Municipalities.

The information was mailed out to the WD system owners in October 2015.

With the classification process, the EOCP has classified 73 new Water Treatment plants at no cost to the Facility Owners.



New Definition for Water Treatment

We are in the process of having qualified EOCP Operators write the WT I Exam to become appropriately certified.

97 Operators have already applied for the WT I through the 'Fast-Track' applications process developed to streamline certification for qualified Operators.



New Definition for Water Treatment

When applying for an exam, the EOCP Office looks for the percentage of time the Operator has spent at the classified Facilities/Systems.

When reviewing WT Experience from before the definition change, the EOCP Office will reference the WD Classification records for your system, to determine the amount of WT Experience that can be recognized.



New Definition for Water Treatment

Example:

- ▶ The City of Nanaimo recently commissioned a Water Treatment Plant - Newly Classed as EOCP Facility #2319
- ▶ Prior to that, Facility 170 was re-classified in 2004 with a Surface Water source
- ▶ The EOCP could potentially review the City of Nanaimo Operators experience back to 2004 when a water Operator applies for a WT exam
- ▶ More information on the New Definition is available at <http://eocp.ca/facilities/new-definitions-for-water-treatment-and-distribution>



If you have questions regarding your specific certification, please contact the EOCP Office at 1(866)-552-3627

Direct Responsible Charge (DRC)

Three (3) main points about the recent changes to DRC:

- ▶ New Guidelines came into effect on January 1, 2016
- ▶ The EOCP began accepting DRC Plans as of January 1, 2016
- ▶ The DRC requirements for Level III and IV WD and WWC Certifications will change as of April 15, 2016



Direct Responsible Charge (DRC)

1. New Guidelines came into effect on January 1, 2016

Rationale:

- ▶ To remove a bottleneck in achieving higher certification levels
- ▶ To recognize operators already making meaningful decisions
- ▶ To recognize more than one operator role at a time



Direct Responsible Charge (DRC)

2. The EOCP began accepting DRC Plans, on a voluntary basis, as of January 1, 2016

- ▶ At the core of the revised DRC model is the DRC Plan. This is a form to be completed and approved by both the Chief Operator and the owner/manager.
- ▶ Without a DRC Plan in place, the available DRC for Operators will remain as it was before January 1, 2016.
- ▶ For access to the DRC Plan forms for Class II, III, & IV, go to <http://eocp.ca/program-info/forms-and-applications>



Direct Responsible Charge (DRC)

2. DRC Plans - FAQ's

Who approves the DRC plan submitted by a facility?

- ▶ The DRC plan is reviewed by the EOCP for compliance (i.e. that it is clear, complete and reasonable) but approval is given by the chief operator and facility/system management. The EOCP does not prescribe staffing decisions at facilities.

How should DRC hours be reported against a plan?

- ▶ When a DRC plan has been submitted to the EOCP, the actual DRC experience earned should be reported annually, for all operators.



Direct Responsible Charge (DRC)

3. The DRC requirements for Level III and IV WD and WWC Certifications will change as of April 15, 2016

- ▶ Prior to this, only Operators applying for WT and WWT Level III and IV certifications had a mandatory DRC requirement
- ▶ Now all certificates have a mandatory two year DRC requirement

You can see much more information regarding the changes to DRC at <http://eocp.ca/certified-operators/direct-responsible-charge-drc>



We are the EOCP



Help us hear you -

- ✓ Vote during Board elections
- ✓ Provide feedback during consultations for our projects
- ✓ Get involved on a committee
- ✓ Consider running for the EOCP Board

QUESTIONS?



EOCP

Environmental Operators
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THANK YOU!!



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