

NDEP Drinking Water Operator Certification Nevada Rural Water Conference March 19, 2015

- Max Sosa
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- Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
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OUR NEW LOGO



Who's certification is it Anyway?

What are the top two Operator Certification renewal questions?



Who's certification is it Anyway?



*OH NO! I can't find
my renewal card!*



*When is my
renewal
due?!!*



DAVE



Who's certification is it Anyway?

- When do I get my wallet card?



STUART

Who's certification is it Anyway?



*Susan...
Did you get my payment?
Did I fill my application out right?
Is my application approved?*

**I know, let's call
Susan! Hello..
Hello... Susan...**



*I know she is there
somewhere.*



PHIL



Who's certification is it Anyway?

- When do I get my wallet card?



Who's certification is it anyway?

- *Honest Susan... I know where my wallet card is.*

IT WASN'T ME!



Administrative Assistant

- [Susan Bunch](#)

Email: susan_bunch@ndep.nv.gov

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

**Nevada Division of Environmental
Protection**

901 S. Stewart St., Ste 4001

Carson City, NV 89701

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Renewal Cards

- ***Renewal Cards were mailed February 18, 2015. If you did not receive it....***
- ***DID YOU Change Your Address or E-Mail? or check with your bank?***
- ***Thank you for your patience.***



Who's certification is it Anyway?




I have an idea!

*Let's attach a copy of the
wallet card to the
certificate!*

Who's certification is it anyway?

**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER**




SUPER OPERATOR

HAVING SUBMITTED ACCEPTABLE EVIDENCE OF THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS IN THE OPERATION OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS AS REQUIRED BY THE NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, IS HEREBY GRANTED THIS CERTIFICATE FOR:

WATER DISTRIBUTION OPERATOR
GRADE D-3 OPERATOR-IN-TRAINING

<p>WITNESS OUR HAND AND SEAL:</p> <p>XXXX</p> <p>_____ Certification Administrator XXXX</p> <p>_____ Effective as of May 12, 2050 Expires December 31, 2052</p>	<p>CERTIFIED WATER OPERATOR Water Treatment Operator Super operator Operator ID: 0H0000 Renewal No: 0000 Grade: This Certificate Expires on December 31, 2002</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">X</td><td style="text-align: center;">X</td><td style="text-align: center;">X</td><td style="text-align: center;">X</td></tr></table> <p>_____ Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Nevada Division of Environmental Protection</p>	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X		

OPERATOR ID: OPO 12333344 CERTIFICATE No: XXXVV



*Attach a
copy of the
wallet card*

Who's certification is it anyway?



*When can I
convert
my certification ?*



*I went to a
training last
year. Can I
use it for my
renewal
contact
hours?*

Program Staffing

Please Contact Max Sosa For Technical Questions, Your Operator Certification Program Contact



Susan Bunch is the Administrative Assistant Program Contact

Who's certification is it anyway?



DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER



SUPER OPERATOR

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WATER DISTRIBUTION OPERATOR

GRADE D-3 OPERATOR-IN-TRAINING

WITNESS OUR HAND AND SEAL:

XXXX

Certification Administrator

XXXX

Effective as of May 12, 2050
Expires December 31, 2052

CERTIFIED WATER OPERATOR

Water Treatment Operator

Super operator

Operator ID: UHUUUU Renewal No: UUUU

Grade:

This Certificate Expires on December 31, 2002

X X X X

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

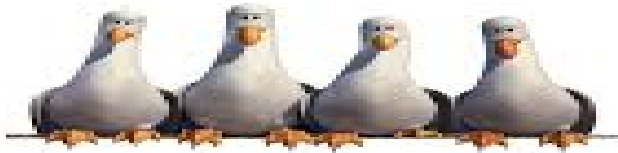


OPERATOR ID: OPO 12333344

CERTIFICATE No: XXXVV



Who's certification is it anyway?



MINE.
MINE.
MINE.
MINE.

It is *your*
certification, take
ownership of your
permit to work.

It is *your*
livelihood.



What does Regulation NAC 445A.646 mean to you?

- Hint, We talked about it last year...
-
- *Check the box* or Susan is going to be calling you!
- You attest to this regulation when you sign your renewal application....

WHAT REGULATION IS NAC 445A.646?

STATE OF NEVADA
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER
APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF
WATER DISTRIBUTION/TREATMENT OPERATOR CERTIFICATE

- APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: _____
-
- PLEASE LEGIBLY PRINT NAME: _____
-
- ***NOTE: YOU MUST CHECK THE YES OR NO BOX BELOW OR YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE REJECTED. To review the content of Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.646: Click here: [NAC 445A.646](#), or visit our website at: www.ndep.nv.gov/bsdw. Click on “Regulations”, then NAC Water Controls and scroll down to NAC 445A.646 – “Denial of Application: Grounds”.***
-
- **Yes** **No** Have you ever been in violation of any of the provisions contained in Nevada Administrative Code 445A.646? If yes, please explain on an attached sheet.



What happens if I forget to renew my certification?

- **You are in violation of NAC 445A.646 Denial of application for certificate or suspension or revocation of certificate: Grounds.** ([NRS 445A.860](#), [445A.880](#)) The Division may deny an application for a certificate or suspend or revoke an operator's full certificate, provisional certificate or certificate as an operator-in-training if he or she:
 - 1. In applying for or obtaining a certificate, has submitted to the Division any application, document, record, report or affidavit, or any information in support thereof, which is false or fraudulent;
 - 2. Is grossly negligent, incompetent or has committed misconduct in the performance of his or her duties as an operator of a public water system;
 - 3. Has demonstrated disregard for the health and safety of the public;
 - 4. Has acted outside the rights and privileges of his or her classification for which he or she holds a certificate;
 - 5. Has been convicted of a violation of any federal law or law of any state relating to water quality, including, but not limited to, the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300f et seq.;
 - 6. Has been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or corruption;
 - 7. Has willfully made to an employee of the Division or any health authority any false statement which is material to the administration or enforcement of any provision of this chapter or [chapter 445A](#) of NRS;
 - **8. Has failed to renew his or her certification**; or
 - 9. Has violated, attempted to violate, assisted or abetted in the violation of, or conspired to violate any provision of this chapter or [chapter 445A](#) of NRS (Added to NAC by Bd. of Health, eff. 9-16-92; by Environmental Comm'n by R129-05, 10/31/05)

NAC 445A.646 FAILURE TO RENEW YOUR OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

- *Certifications not renewed by the renewal deadline are considered expired and the operator may not perform any duties of an operator. Those operators working with an expired certificate are subject to disciplinary and enforcement actions.*
An expired certification which is not reinstated within 6 months of the expiration date will be considered **Null & Void AND YOU WILL HAVE TO RETEST.**
- Until an operator becomes recertified by reinstating or re- testing, a contract operator of appropriate grade & type must be hired to maintain compliance.

NAC 445A.644 FAILURE TO RENEW PROVISIONAL OR OIT OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

- ***Nevada Administrative Code NAC 445A.644 does not provide for reinstatement of expired OIT and Provisional Operators certificate(s).***
- **An expired certification will be considered Null & Void AND YOU WILL HAVE TO RETEST.**
- **NDEP's Operator Certification Webpage**
 - ◆ ***http://www.ndep.nv.gov/bsdw/cert_home.htm***



New Updates to regulations.

- ***NRS 445A.950 Civil penalty and administrative fine against supplier of water for certain violations***
- ***The civil penalty and administrative fine prescribed in this section may be imposed in addition to any other penalties or relief prescribed in [NRS 445A.800](#) to [445A.955](#), inclusive.(Added to NRS by 1977, 455; A [1991, 404](#), [615](#), [1041](#); [2001, 635](#);***
- ***NRS 445A.955 Criminal penalty. Any person who violates the provisions of [NRS 445A.800](#)to [445A.955](#), inclusive, or any regulation adopted by the Commission pursuant to those provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.***
- ***(Added to NRS by 1977, 445; A [1991, 405](#), [615](#); [2005, 558](#)) [2005, 557](#); [2013, 210](#))***



For More New Updates to Regulations.

- **Check out this afternoon's session:**
- **With Jennifer Carr NDEP**
BSDW – Bureau Chief
- **Drinking Water Enforcement - State and Federal Perspectives**
- ***3:45 - 5:00 this afternoon***
- **Rooms Nevada 9 & 10**

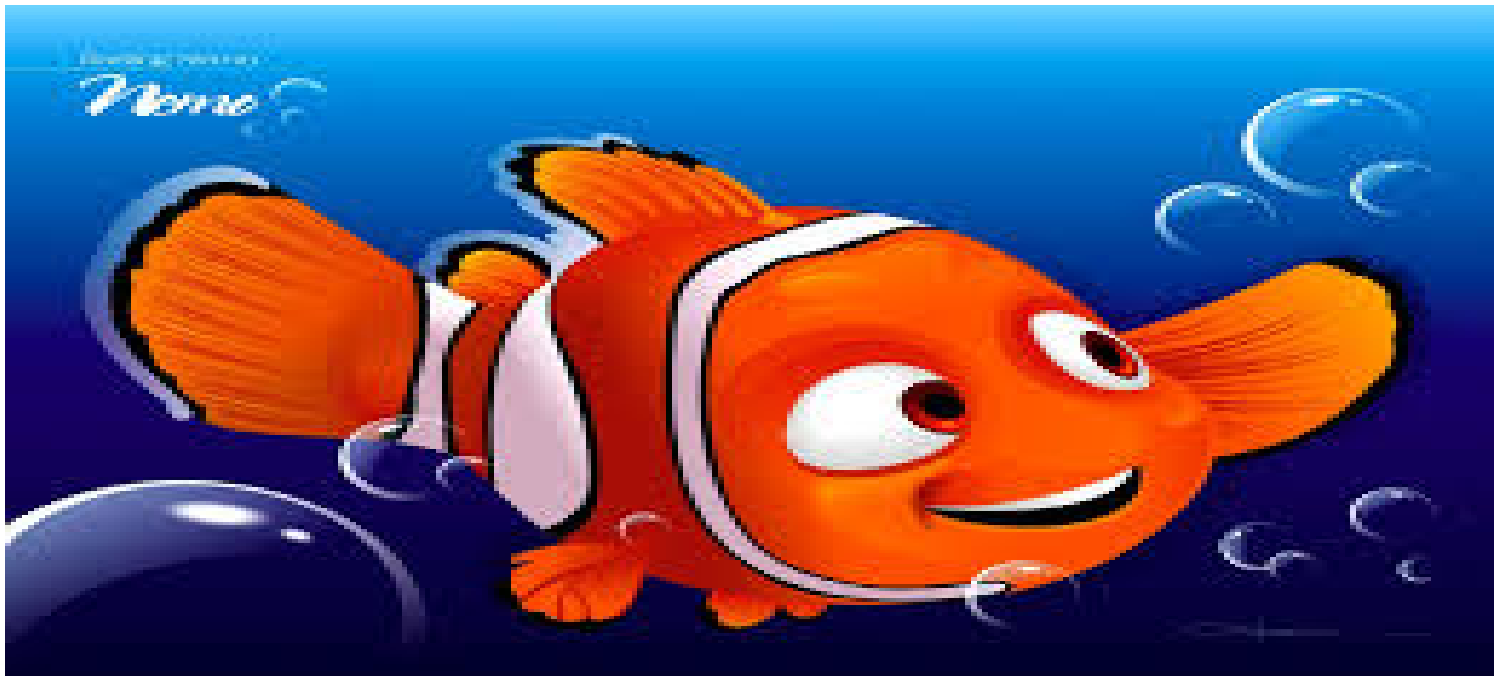


Who's certification is it anyway?



Ok, let's quit clowning around !

- ***and move on to some operator certification
FAQ's (frequently asked questions)***



Operator certification frequently asked questions. (FAQ's)

- *Hi, Max. I got my water Operator certificate renewal, but it went to my old job address. Do I need to fill out a form to change my address?*
- ***As long as you inform the Nevada Operator Certification Program in writing, fax or e mail of any changes of address that will be ok. No changes will be made over the phone.***

Operator certification frequently asked questions. (FAQ's)

- *I would like to test for the D1 certification in Henderson because I would like to take the test before the October test date. I'm filling out the NDEP application, and Henderson is not listed. Is this still an option? If so, will I send the application to the CA-NV AWWA address in Rancho Cucamonga or to the NDEP BSDW office in Carson City?*
- ***The computerized exam in Henderson is not offered by The State of Nevada that is why Henderson is not listed on the application. If you wish to test before October and take the test in Henderson, you will need to contact AWWA California/Nevada section and obtain their application as the NDEP application is for the State of Nevada exam. The contact for AWWA is Gina Enriquez you may reach her at 909-291-2100 and she will be able to help you. Once you pass the AWWA exam if you wish to obtain a State of Nevada Certification, you would have to apply for reciprocity.***



Operator certification frequently asked questions. (FAQ's)

- *I would like to qualify to take the Distribution 3 and Treatment 3 exams at the next available southern Nevada location. We were not sure how to handle the fact that my D1, D2, T1 and T2 were issued by AWWA .*
- *Your first step would be to apply for Nevada reciprocity for your AWWA D2 and T2 certification as they are not issued by the State of Nevada. Once reciprocity has been granted you would apply to test as per:*
- **NAC 445A.630 Examination for certification: Application; submission and applicability of fee; reexamination; scheduling; ascending order of administration; postponement; failure to appear or postpone. ([NRS 445A.860](#), [445A.880](#))**
- **5. An applicant must take the examinations for certification in ascending order beginning with the examination for a certificate as a class distribution-1 or class treatment-1 operator, as applicable.**

Operator certification frequently asked questions. (FAQ's)

- *I was wondering what grade certification I should test for. I have completed all water and wastewater classes through the College of Southern Nevada and am currently an intern at a water treatment plant. I was wondering what I would qualify for and if I can only take the OIT or can I take a grade 2 or higher as my first certification test? What if I have to change my test date because of my work schedule?*
- **6. An applicant may postpone his or her examination if the applicant submits a written notice to the Carson City office of the Division at least 7 days before the date of the examination. The examination may only be postponed for one test cycle. Emergency situations must be considered by the Division on a case-by-case basis.**
- **7. An applicant who fails to appear for an examination or fails to postpone an examination pursuant to subsection 6 forfeits the application and the application fee.**

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Health, eff. 9-16-92; A by R185-99, 2-10-2000; R021-02, 8-29-2002; A by Environmental Comm'n by R129-05, 10-



Operator certification frequently asked questions. (FAQ's)

- *Should I have a check made out for \$57 or \$114 to acquire reciprocity for both D2 and T2? Where will June 24 and Oct. 7 exams be administered; Las Vegas area? Can I sit for both D3 and T3 exams on June 24?*
- *To acquire reciprocity for both D2 and T2 you will need to complete two separate applications and send in \$114. I would recommend that if you are planning to test in June or October that you send in both reciprocity applications right away so that they can be reviewed. Both applications will be evaluated separately. For experience please document actual hands on distribution and treatment experience. Once the reciprocities are granted, based on your experience I can advise you as to whether you qualify to test for T3 or D3 operator in training (OIT) or a full certification.*
- *Testing is always offered in the Las Vegas area as specified on the application and yes you may sit for both the D3 and T3 exams on the same day. Also please note on the application the post-secondary education requirements for both the T3 and D3 certifications. You will need to provide copies of your college or university transcripts along with an organizational chart. The transcripts do not have to be an official certified copy.*

\$\$\$\$ DON'T RISK LOOSING MONEY HAVE A CAREER PLAN! \$\$\$\$

- *I have been working in distribution for a couple of years and I hold a D1 OIT and a D2 OIT should I test for my D3 OIT?*
- ***No, the best next step at this time for you is to get signed up for your post secondary education for your distribution D3. For example you could get that training from CSUS by taking the Distribution Volume I course. After signing up for the post secondary education I would recommend that you convert your D1 OIT to a full.***
- ***After you convert your D1 OIT to a full then we will check into converting your D2 OIT to a full. By that time you should have completed your post secondary training and we can see where you stand in regards to testing for a D3 OIT or full.***

Who's certification is it anyway?



Renewals

Who's certification is it anyway?



Did you get my payment?
Did I fill my application out right?
Is my application approved?

**I know, let's call
Susan... Hello..
Hello... Susan...**



*I know she is there
somewhere.*



PHIL

Who's certification is it anyway?



- **PLEASE HELP SUSAN. TAKE THE TIME TO CHECK YOUR APPLICATION BEFORE MAILING IT IN.**
- **Actual e-mail:** *Please help me locate an e-payment that was submitted to us 12/17/14 for \$30.00 with no name, or operator ID number. There is nothing indicating who the operator would be. I have the e-pay confirmation no. #####. Your help would be greatly appreciated.*

Regards,

Susan



Who's certification is it anyway?

IT WASN'T ME!



Who's certification is it anyway?



IT IS NOT YOUR EMPLOYER'S CERTIFICATION:

- Operator turned in an OIT renewal to his employer on December 12 and NDEP received it January 2nd
- Employer did not expedite mailing a check
- Operator did not follow up
- *NDEP was open for business December 31, 2014*
- Operator could have followed up used E-Pay and renewed on time and not have to retest
- *Take Ownership of your certification.*





- **The provision for reinstatement requires that operators with expired certification(s) submit their completed application along with a *\$100.00* fee that**
- **must be received before 5PM in Carson City on June 30th, 2015. Failure to reinstate prior to the deadline will require the operator with a “full certification” to retest.**

NAC 445A.644 FAILURE TO RENEW OIT OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

- *Please note that, operators with expired OIT or Provisional Operator certification(s) cannot be reinstated and must retest in order to obtain a valid certificate.*
- **Water Certification Exam Date:**
- **June 24, 2015** - Complete applications must be received by **5:00 p.m.** on **May 11, 2015** in our Carson City office.
- **October 7, 2015** - Complete applications must be received by **5:00 p.m.** on **August 24, 2015** in our Carson City office.

Applicants



Application Notes:

To apply, please go to our webpage.

http://www.ndep.nv.gov/bsdw/cert_home.htm

Check your CEU options; online courses, test dates and application deadlines & download a current application form.



Test applicants



Application Notes:

- *Fill out the Entire form.*
- *Valid E-mail addresses are essential.*
- *Accurate Mailing Addresses are essential.*
- *READ Regulations to make sure you qualify for a Full; or apply for an OIT.*
- *If you are not sure call Max @ 775-687-*



It's your license, It's your livelihood

Take ownership of your certification(s)
maintain your own files of professional certification history & records



MINE.
MINE.
MINE.
MINE.

~ ~ ~

Keep your Certificates, Keep your Application Copies, Keep your Transcripts, Keep your Wallet Card & Training Records, Keep it all where you can FIND it!



Who's certification is it Anyway?



TAKE OWNERSHIP
OF YOUR
CERTIFICATION!

BSDW Contact Information



Max Sosa

Operator Certification Program Lead

**p: 775.687.9527 call for questions on
CEU's, training, conversions, reciprocities, hours needed**

Email: msosa@ndep.nv.gov

Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Operator Certification

Susan Bunch

Administrative Assistant

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