

April 3, 2003

**S 907. CERTIFICATION OF WASTEWATER SITE EVALUATIONS. TO PROVIDE FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF WASTEWATER SITE EVALUATORS.** Adds new GS 90A, Art. 3, providing for certification of wastewater site evaluators by the Water Pollution Control Systems Operators Certification Comm'n and establishing their duties, beginning on July 1, 2005. Applies to those who (1) evaluate wastewater systems designed to treat no more than 3,000 gallons of wastewater per day and to dispose of effluent by means of a subsurface disposal field, and (2) determine whether an improvement permit or an authorization to construct should be issued by the local health department for a site. Provides no one may review an application for or issue such a permit without being certified. Prohibits a certified site evaluator from practicing soil science without being a licensed soil scientist. Requires an applicant for certification to be one or more of the following: (1) a professional engineer; (2) a licensed geologist; (3) a licensed soil scientist; or (4) a registered sanitarian. Directs the Comm'n to certify any applicant who has obtained at least one of these licenses or certifications if the applicant demonstrates that he has actively and continuously engaged in evaluation of sites for at least five years beginning July 1, 2000. Directs the Commission to develop and administer a certification program providing for the training, examination, and investigation of applicants. Requires that applicants complete a 30-hour training program before taking the exam and complete 45 hours of additional training each three years following initial certification.

Amends GS 130A-336 to provide that if an improvements permit or authorization to construct is issued, the permit or authorization must bear a statement listing the license number of the soil scientist and site evaluator involved. If the permit or authorization is denied, the denial must specifically identify the statutory provision or rule upon which the denial was based and include a written permit application review checklist.

Establishes new GS 47-30.1A to require a licensed soil scientist who is also a certified site evaluator to prepare and sign a sealed report that determines the soil types within a proposed subdivision and states the potential of each proposed lot to be permitted for a wastewater system. Unless otherwise prescribed by the a local planning board, the report must address topography, landscape position, soil morphology, soil depth, depth to the water table, presence of restricted horizons, and any additional information pertinent to the siting and approval of a proposed wastewater system. Amends GS 47-30.2(a) to provide that the plat review officer must review this report before the plat is submitted for recordation.

Amends GS 143B-301 to provide for three-year terms and to increase the membership of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Comm'n from 11 to 13 members and to reconfigure the qualifications for each individual commission seat. Allows the Comm'n to adopt temporary rules to implement the act until July 1, 2005.

Makes most substantive sections of the act effective July 1, 2005.

**Intro. by Hartsell, Weinstein.**

Ref. to	GS 47, 90A, 130A, 143B
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