North Carolina Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board



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November 30, 2020

Susie Esealuka

The Office of State Budget and Management (via email at: Susie.esealuka@osbm.nc.gov)

Virginia Barlow

Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee

(via email at: virginia.barlow@ncleg.gov)

Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations (via email at: govops@ncleg.net)

RE: Interim Report on Efforts to Exercise Regulatory Flexibility

To Whom It May Concern,

The North Carolina Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board (the "Board") submits the following interim report on its efforts to exercise regulatory flexibility in accordance with the "Coronavirus Relief Act 3.0.", Session Law 2020-97, s. 3.20 (c) (H 1105) (the "Act").

Specifically, the Board determined in May that due to the impacts of the coronavirus, it was in the public interest, including the public health, safety, and welfare and the economic well-being of the citizens and businesses of the State, to take the following measures:

- The April 10, 2020 licensing exam was cancelled and all prepaid exam fees were deferred to the next exam scheduled for July 10, 2020. The number of participants allowed to sit for the July exam was limited in number to allow for a safe environment to include appropriate social distancing. Masks were required at all times.
- The Board unanimously agreed at the May 2020 Board Meeting, in order to avoid inperson continuing education classes, the annual requirement of 10 Continuing Education ("CE") credits for 2020 will be suspended. Any CE credits that were earned either online or prior to the Coronavirus shutdown during 2020 will be deferred to 2021 and shall qualify to fulfill the CE requirement as specified in 21 NCAC 23 .0104(b). The license renewal will not be impacted by the lack of CE credits for 2020 because of the Board's emergency modification of the CE requirements for 2020.

The Board has seen an increase in early license renewals due to the waiver of the CE requirement for 2020. The renewal deadline of December 31, 2020 has not been extended because licensees have not indicated that an extension would be necessary. The Board reserves the right to extend the renewal deadline should it become apparent that additional time is necessary for licensees to complete the renewal process.

The Board posted its decisions regarding the CE requirement on the Board's website and communicated them to the licensees *via* e-blast.

Sincerely,

Lisa L. Deubler

Board Administrator

cc: Juliane L. Bradshaw

Assistant Attorney General

Counsel to N.C. Irrigation Contractors' Licensing Board