



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

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Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor

Brian C. Rockensuess  
Commissioner

May 16, 2022

INDIANA  
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

MAY 16 2022

FILED

Ms. Katherine Noel, Chair  
Indiana State Ethics Commission  
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

RE: Waiver of the Application of 42-IAC-1-5-1

Dear Chairwoman Noel,

The Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (“IDEM”), Brian Rockensuess, has designated authority to me, as the Chief Ethics Officer for the agency, to waive application of the gift rule, 42 IAC 1-5-1, in those instances consistent with the public interest. In accordance with 42 IAC 1-5-1(a), I am waiving application of the gift rule based on the following facts.

Peru Utilities, 335 E. Canal St., Peru, Indiana, is a multiservice utility company providing electric, water and wastewater treatment services to the community of Peru, Indiana. IDEM regulates the company’s wastewater treatment plant (“WWTP”). The company has hired Barbara Smith of Wastewater 101 to teach an operator certification review course for approximately \$1,800 and has invited two IDEM employees to take the course with its facility employees on May 26, 2022.

The two IDEM employees taking the course are Kelly Paulsen and Ramelito Biscocho. Both employees are Senior Environmental Managers who have the responsibility of inspecting WWTP for IDEM. Neither employee is assigned to inspect the Peru WWTP.

Acceptance of this training offer is consistent with the public interest. The knowledge the employees obtain by attending this course should help in the performance of their duties at IDEM and therefore benefit the public.

*Kathleen Mills*

Kathleen P. Mills  
Chief Ethics Officer  
Indiana Department Environmental Management



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