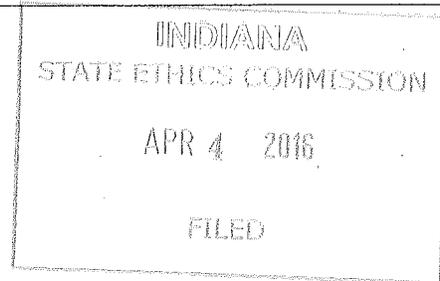




April 4, 2016

Indiana State Ethics Commission  
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202



Dear Sirs:

Pursuant to 42 Indiana Administrative Code 1-5-1(c) and as the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' ("Department") Appointing Authority, I waive application of 42 IAC 1-5-1 ("the Gift Rule") as applied to the following Department employees as such waiver is consistent with the public interest.

Employees benefitting from the Gift:

Matt Buffington – Environmental Manager  
James Hebenstreit, PE – Assistant Director, Division of Water  
David Knipe, PE – Section Head, Engineering Central Basin  
Darrin Miller, PE – Section Head, Engineering North Basin  
Carl Wodrich – Director of Ecological Services  
Brad Baldwin – Senior Environmental Manager  
David Carr – Senior Environmental Manager  
Eric Moster, PE – Hydraulic Engineer  
Andrea Gromeaux-Schnaith – Technical Services Section Manager  
Jennifer Ware – Senior Environmental Manager  
Mary Taitano – Environmental Manager 2  
Don Kaczorowski – Web Content Specialist

Nature and Value of the Gift

The Department and the American Council of Engineering Companies ("ACEC") will be hosting a training seminar ("Seminar") on April 12, 2016. The Seminar will have a variety of presentations, including but not limited to a review of Indiana's In-Lieu Fee Program, Fluvial Hazard Mitigation, and issues involving the Flood Control Act. A copy of the tentative schedule is attached. The attending employees listed above ("Employees") provide support in putting on the seminar, whether in overall event organization, serving as a speaker, or facilitating discussions as moderators. The Seminar is open to the public and professional engineer attendees will receive 6 hours of continuing education credit.

The registration fee to attend the Seminar is \$37.50, with the total gift equating to \$450 for those Employees attending. This fee includes the nominal value of any food or drink received as part of the Seminar.

### Donor of the Gift

The donor of the gift is the ACEC, a professional trade association of consulting engineering firms. ACEC advocates for engineering firms on legislative and business issues. The Department deals with *members* of ACEC Indiana on permitting and flood insurance related matters. The Employees attending consist of engineers, biologists, and technical staff serving as environmental engineers. ACEC intends to provide a special registration fee of \$37.50 to public employees, which covers ACEC's cost relative to the handouts provided, lunch, and break time refreshments. Private sector attendees will pay a higher rate.

### Public Interest

The Department is co-hosting the Seminar and the Employees participating are doing so as representatives of the agency. The event has a formal education component for which certain professions earn continuing education credit. The Employees attending will benefit from the Seminar by enhancing their professional knowledge and skills, which ultimately translates to improving the individual's competency as public servants. Many of the attendees to the Seminar are served by the Department. The Employees attending will also benefit from the personal interaction with their colleagues and constituents and take advantage of the opportunity to answer questions and receive comments.

In closing and for the reasons stated, I believe it is in the public interest to issue a waiver of the applicability of the Gift Rule as it pertains to the \$37.50 registration fee those Employees who plan to attend the Seminar.

Sincerely,



Cam F. Clark  
Director

# DNR and ACEC Regulatory Training Conference

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 8 am – 4:15 pm, EDT  
Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room B  
302 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN

## AGENDA

- 7:30 - 8:00 Registration
- 8:00 - 8:10 Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 8:10 - 9:40 Joint Regulatory Programs and Case Studies by Norma Condra, USACE, Jay Turner, IDEM Section 401, and Matt Buffington, DNR Fish and Wildlife
- 9:40 - 10:10 Indiana's new In-Lieu Fee Program by Carl J. Wodrich, Director of Ecological Services, DNR
- 10:10 - 10:30 Morning Break
- 10:30 - 11:30 Fluvial Hazard Mitigation by Robert Barr, PhD, Research Scientist, IUPUI Center for Earth and Environmental Science
- 11:30 - 12:00 Morning Sessions Q & A Panel
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00 - 1:30 Flood Control Act: New Permit Life Extension by James Hebenstreit, P.E., Assistant Director, DNR Division of Water
- 1:30 - 2:00 Theory and Problems with the DNR Bridge Replacement-in-Kind Worksheet, Darrin Miller, P.E. Engineering Services, DNR Division of Water
- 2:00 - 2:15 Afternoon Break
- 2:15 - 3:15 Evaluation Table and New Modeling Guidelines, David Knipe, P.E., Engineering Services, DNR Division of Water
- 3:15 - 3:45 Meeting DNR and INDOT Hydraulic Requirements for Federal Funded Projects by David Finley, P.E., Bridge Design, INDOT
- 3:45 - 4:15 Afternoon Sessions Q & A Panel
- 4:15 Conference Adjourns