



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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Mike Braun
Governor

Clint Woods
Commissioner

To: Katherine Noel
Chair, Indiana State Ethics Commission

William Deane
Ethics Director, Office of the Indiana Inspector General

From: James French
Ethics Officer, Indiana Department of Environmental Management

FILED

Date: July 2, 2026

JUL 02 2026

Re: Waiver of 42 IAC 1-15-1

INDIANA STATE
ETHICS COMMISSION

In accordance with 42 IAC 1-5-1(c), as the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's (IDEM's) Ethics Officer, I am filing this waiver of the application of the Gift Rule based on the following facts.

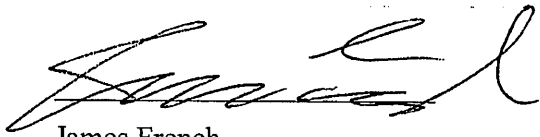
Jeremy Waite is an employee of the State, working in IDEM's Office of Water Quality as a Senior Environmental Manager. The Office of Water Quality handles all regulatory matters pertaining to wastewater and drinking water in the State of Indiana.

Waite has been gifted registration fees by the Indiana Section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) to attend the 2026 Operator Symposium North (Symposium), which occurred June 4, 2026. The address for the AWWA is P.O. Box 127, Brownsburg, IN 46112. The Symposium offers training and networking opportunities to those in the IDEM-regulated drinking water community.

Specifically, Waite received registration fees totaling \$100.00.

Though IDEM does not assert that it has a business relationship with the AWWA, IDEM is nevertheless filing this waiver out of an abundance of caution to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

This waiver of the Gift Rule is consistent with the public interest because the Symposium presents the agency with an opportunity to engage and strengthen relationships with the regulated community, communicate recent regulatory changes, discuss areas of IDEM focus for the coming year, and undergo training alongside those in the drinking water field. This relationship building enhances IDEM's visibility and can lead to improved environmental outcomes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James French', written in a cursive style.

James French
Ethics Officer
Indiana Department of Environmental Management