

Eric Kong

I am strongly against adding this requirement for Operator licensure. The proposed outline is not well-developed to identify the costs, impacts to existing licensure, or available training opportunities. For example, requiring additional training hours for ethics alone will reduce the opportunity for other pertinent technical trainings that's important for Water and Wastewater operations. Otherwise, there will be increased operational costs to water and wastewater utilities to have more Operators in training classes that could be better used for either other necessary trainings or actual operations. The current Operator workforce is already stressed in terms of availability and diverting resources to this requirement will further stress our limited workforce. This should only be an optional training and not something that is required for licensure.