Recognition and Certification of Environmental Engineers and Scientists

Since 1969, the American Public Works Association has been one of the Sponsoring Organizations of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (prior to 2013, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers, whose predecessor was founded in 1955). The Academy is now certifying environmental engineers in the following eight specialties:

- Air Pollution Control
- Environmental Sustainability
- General Environmental Engineering
- Hazardous Waste Management
- Industrial Hygiene
- Radiation Protection
- Solid Waste Management
- Water Supply & Wastewater Engineering

In 2013, AAEES began certifying environmental scientists in the following eight different specialties:

- Air Resources
- Environmental Biology
- Environmental Chemistry
- Environmental Microbiology
- Environmental Toxicology
- Groundwater and the Subsurface Environment
- Surface Water Resources
- Sustainability Science

Starting in 2014, AAEES will begin certifying scientists in a ninth specialty: solid waste management.

For all science specialties, there is a Part A written exam which consists of common questions that all of the environmental scientist applicants need to address; and, a Part B which is solely on the specialty chosen, e.g., solid waste management; whereas, for the engineering specialties, the entire written examination is on the specific specialty.

Those individuals with sufficient qualifying experience, whether an environmental engineer or scientist, may opt not to take the written exam, albeit there is an oral examination for all of the applicants, except for those who are eligible for certification by the Eminence procedure.

Applications for 2015 are due March 31, 2015.
In addition to the personal satisfaction of recognition in a denoted environmental specialty, certification in a specific specialty by a third party is further indication to the public, your clients, and your employer of your expertise in your field and can be shown with a BCEE (i.e., Board Certified Environmental Engineer) or BCES (Board Certified Environmental Scientist), respectively, after your name, such as Stephen G. Lippy, P.E., BCEE, S.C., who is a Life Member of APWA, has been certified in solid waste management since 1983, and was on the AAEE Board of Trustees for six years representing SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America), which, along with APWA, is one of the present twelve sponsoring organizations of AAEES.

To see one of the flyers discussing certification by AAEES, check out http://aaees.org/members-recruitment.php; or www.aaees.org to find more out about AAEES. Also, you can contact either Steve Lippy (s.lippy@verizon.net), or Lamont “Bud” W. Curtis, P.E., BCEE, who has been certified in Water & Wastewater Engineering since 1985 and is representing APWA on the AAEES Board of Trustees (bud.curtis@atkinsglobal.com).