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# Solid Waste Licensing: Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment – Division of Environmental Quality Schedules Stakeholder Meetings

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The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment – Division of Environmental Quality (“DEQ”) announced it is scheduling stakeholder meetings involving the Arkansas Solid Waste Licensing Program.

The subject of the meetings is stated to be a discussion of proposed changes to legislation addressing solid waste licensing.

These licensing requirements are found in Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulation 27.

Licenses are required for Arkansas solid waste management facilities operators and environmental officers.

Solid waste operators qualify for licenses by completing approved training and successfully passing an examination. License levels are determined by:

- Training
- Testing
- Job Experience

The three classes of solid waste operator licenses include:

- Class I License
- Class II License
- Class III License

Licenses are also required for environmental officers. They are empowered by Arkansas statutory authority to:

- Inspect suspected illegal dumps
- Collect evidence of open dumping
- Present evidence to Officers of the Court where the offense was committed
- Issue and serve citations for violations of the Arkansas Solid Waste Management Act

Certain fees are assessed for the various licenses.

DEQ states that the first meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at DEQ headquarters in North Little Rock. Information about such meetings can be obtained by contacting Jennifer Merritt. Her phone number is 501.602.0860.