March 26, 2020.

Dear Certified Landfill Operator,

Re: Alberta Environment and Parks COVID-19 Exemptions for Certified Landfill Operators

Thank you for being part of Alberta’s Landfill and Compost Facility Operator Certification program. We are closely following the steady stream of updates on Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the impact the pandemic is having on landfills and other waste management facilities. We wish you, your co-workers, and your family health and safety in this uncertain time. Our thoughts are with all individuals impacted, and the medical professionals dedicated to their care.

In response to the overwhelming need to prevent the spread of COVID-19, spring conferences, workshops, and seminars organized by many organizations have been canceled or deferred to a later date. Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) is here to help certified landfill operators navigate this difficult period while they continue to provide the same level of landfill operation and meet Alberta’s regulatory requirements.

In the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, AEP is granting certified landfill operators the following exemptions:

- A 6-month certificate renewal extension to all certified landfill operators whose certificates are set to expire on June 30, 2020.
- Allowing certified operators who are currently self-isolating or under quarantine due to COVID-19 to provide distance supervision as per Section 3.6 of the Landfill and Compost Facility Operator Guideline to meet Alberta’s regulatory requirements.

Certified Landfill Operators will still receive a letter about their certificate renewal from SWANA Northern Lights Chapter (NLC), and they are welcome to renew their certificate anytime until December 31, 2020. Under the above certificate renewal extension, your current certificate will remain active until December 31, 2020. Note that you will not receive a renewal sticker - AEP will consider any certificate with an expiry date of June 30, 2020 to be active until December 31, 2020.

SWANA NLC:

- Has deferred their annual conference to November 23 – 26, 2020,
- Are actively deferring training and will have many training options available once the pandemic is controlled,
- Are working to get online training courses,
- SWANA.org currently has some online options see www.swana.org, and
- Many other education providers are doing the same. For a list of approved Continuing Education Unit (CEU) courses, please check out AEP’s Continuing Education Policy document.
For more information about the Alberta Landfill and Compost Facility Operator Certification program please, see https://www.alberta.ca/landfill-and-composting-facility-operator-certification.aspx

Please contact Claudia Boecking with SWANA-NLC at (587)745 0807 or via email at claudia@swananorthernlights.org for all certificate renewal and CEU related questions.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the COVID-19 distant supervision exemption and other certification program related matters.

Sincerely,

Richard Adjei  
Chair of Solid Waste Certification Advisory Committee (SWCAC)  
Senior Waste Policy Advisor  
Water and Waste Policy Branch  
Alberta Environment and Parks

Cc: Patrick Kane, Director of Waste Policy