

REGULATION
of

NAME OF AGENCY

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Concerning

SUBJECT MATTER OF REGULATION

Forest Practices Regulations

The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are amended as follows:

Section 1. Subsection (o) of Section 23-65h-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows.

Continuing Education Standards for Renewal of Certification

(o) In accordance with section 23-65i of the general statutes, all certified forest practitioners shall participate biennially in a relevant program of professional education to improve or maintain professional forestry skills that is sponsored by the [department of environmental protection,] department of energy and environmental protection, the New England Society of American Foresters, the University of Connecticut, Yale University, the Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, or any university having a forest management or forest products harvesting curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters.

Sect. 2. Subsection (r) to Subsection (s), inclusive, of Section 23-65h-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are amended to read as follows.

Fees

(r) The fee for applying for certification or renewal of certification shall be [~~\$76.00~~] \$235.00. The fee shall be submitted simultaneously with the application for certification or renewal of certification and certification shall not be granted or renewed prior to payment of the fee. The fee provided in this section shall be non-refundable. The application fee required by this section shall be paid by [certified] check or money order payable to [department of environmental protection] department of energy and environmental protection. The [certified] check or money order shall state on its face, "Forest Practitioner Certification Application Fee". [" On July 1, 1995, and every July 1 thereafter, the fee provided in this section shall increase by three percent, rounded down to the nearest whole dollar.]

(s) An applicant for forest practitioner certification or renewal of certification shall, if required by this section to take an examination, pay an examination fee of [~~\$13.00~~] \$65.00 for each examination. The fee provided in this section shall be non-refundable. The fee required by this section shall be paid by [certified] check or money order payable to the [department of environmental protection] department of energy and environmental protection. The [certified] check or money order shall state on its face, "Forest Practitioner Certification Examination Fee". [" On July 1, 1995, and every July 1 thereafter, the fee provided in this section shall increase by three percent, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.]

Statement of Purpose

Pursuant to CGS Section 4-170(b)(3), "Each proposed regulation shall have a statement of its purpose following the final section of the regulation." Enter the statement here.

Statement of purpose: Section 23-65h-1(o) specifies the sponsors of relevant programs of professional education required of certified forest practitioners to maintain or improve professional forestry skills. The proposed amendment will change the name of the sponsoring agency "department of environmental protection" to the name of the successor agency "department of energy and environmental protection" as sponsor.

Section 23-65h-1(r) and Section 23-65h-1(s) specify the required form of payment and annual rate of increase for the application fee and examination fee for certification as a forest practitioner or renewal of certification. The proposed amendments to the existing regulations will eliminate the requirement for checks to be "certified" thereby allowing applicants to submit personal or business checks. With the tendency of the industry to work in remote areas six days a week, the amendment will enable forest practitioners to stay in the woods longer without interruption of daily work schedules and the resulting limitation to daily earnings. Proposed amendment to Section 23-65h-1(r) and Section 23-65h-1(s) will also establish fixed fees for applications and examinations for certification as a forest practitioner or renewal of certification and eliminate the three percent annual increases in fees.

The proposed amendments will not affect any other existing laws or regulations.