

PARTNERING AGREEMENT

ACEC *Arkansas*

AND



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Engineering Section of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Arkansas (ACEC/A) seek through this agreement to establish and continue a partnership that enhances the ability of each organization to achieve its goal, better serve the public, and improve the public's water and wastewater infrastructure.

MUTUAL GOALS

- 1) The protection of public health and the promotion of public welfare through competently designed and optimally operated water and wastewater utilities that are in compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.
- 2) The prudent utilization of the public's funds for the planning, construction, operation and regulation of water and wastewater utilities.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) **Ensure a continuing dialog between ADH and ACEC/A.**
 - a) Designate a single point of contact for the coordination of communication and actions between the organizations.
 - b) Keep each other informed of current organization structure or officers.
 - c) Appoint a liaison committee that will meet at least annually to discuss the working relationship of the two organizations, workload status, and anticipated changes in working environment.
 - d) Provide each other with notice and opportunity to comment on appropriate legislative and regulatory agendas.
- 2) **Enhance professionalism and quality of work.**
 - a) Promote professional licensure and the use of licensed professional engineers in key technical, supervisory, and managerial positions.
 - b) Promote professional development, information exchange, technology transfer, and continuing education.
 - c) Promote high ethical standards, impartiality, and consistency in administering programs and projects.
- 3) **Foster a problem solving attitude.**
 - a) Resolve to settle differences within normal channels beginning at the lowest level of authority and as quickly as possible.
 - b) ADH will continue to issue its "Guidelines for Plan Review Submittal" and will explore the possibility of preparing design guidelines with ACEC/A input to clarify and promote understanding of professional and regulatory design guidelines.
 - c) ADH recognizes the need for timely response to submittals and precise comments that have a sound regulatory basis. ACEC/A recognizes the need for complete and detailed submittals, adequate documentation, and a reasonable amount of time be allowed for ADH review.
 - d) Consider any suggestions to improve the efficiency or timeliness of their operation.

This agreement is a model and frame work for action on the part of both organizations.

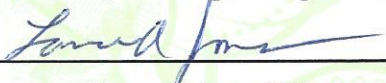
Agreed to this date:

May 13, 2014



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