Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H3/21/07	
2	86th General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2007		HOUSE BILL 2761
4			
5	By: Representative Saunder	rs	
6			
7			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT	TO ESTABLISH THE PHASE I ENVIRONMEN	TAL
10	SITE AS	SSESSMENT CONSULTANT ACT; TO MAINTAI	N A
11	PUBLIC	LIST OF PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE	
12	ASSESSI	MENT CONSULTANTS; AND FOR OTHER PURP	OSES.
13			
14			
15		Subtitle	
16	THE	PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE	
17	ASSI	ESSMENT CONSULTANT ACT.	
18			
19			
20	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARE	KANSAS:
21			
22	SECTION 1. Ark	kansas Code Title 8, Chapter 7, Subch	napter 13 is amended
23	to read as follows:		
24	§ 8-7-1301. Ti	itle.	
25	This subchapter	r shall be known and may be cited as	the <u>"Environmental</u>
26	Site Assessment Consu	iltant and Hazardous Substance Respor	ise Contractor
27	Certification Act" "T	The Phase I Environmental Site Assess	sment Consultant
28	Act".		
29			
30	§ 8-7-1302. Pu	ırpose.	
31	It is the purpo	ose of this subchapter to authorize t	the Arkansas
32	Department of Environ	nmental Quality to establish and admi	inister a
33	certification program	n to :	
34	(1) Cert	cify Phase I environmental site asses	ssment consultants;
35	(2) Cert	cify comprehensive site assessment co	onsultants and
36	response action contr	ractors undertaking investigations ar	ad response actions.

1 respectively, under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-2 7-201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Cleanup 3 4 Act, § 8-7-1101 et seg.; and 5 (3) Require as a condition of certification that such 6 contractors and consultants demonstrate that they have the qualifications 7 required to undertake such activities. maintain a list of Phase I consultants 8 who meet the minimum qualifications for an environmental professional who 9 undertakes a Phase I environmental site assessment, referred to as "all appropriate inquiry" under the Small Business Liability Relief and 10 11 Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, as it exists on January 1, 2007 or a Phase I environmental site assessment under the American Society 12 for Testing and Materials standard E1527-05 as in effect on January 1, 2007. 13 14 15 § 8-7-1303. Definitions. 16 As used in this subchapter: 17 (1) "Commission" means the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission; 18 19 (2) "Comprehensive site assessment" means an assessment to 20 determine the rate, extent, and characteristics of contamination at a site 21 addressed under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 8-7-22 201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Cleanup Act, § 8-2.3 7-1101 et seq.; 24 25 (3) "Comprehensive site assessment consultant" means a person 26 that performs a comprehensive environmental site assessment for a fee or in 27 conjunction with other services for which a fee is charged; 28 (4) "Department" means the Arkansas Department of Environmental 29 Quality; 30 (5) "Director" means the Director of the Arkansas Department of 31 Environmental Quality; 32 (6) "Environmental site assessment" means a Phase I 33 environmental site assessment or a comprehensive site assessment; (7) "Environmental site assessment consultant" means a person 34 35 that performs a Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive environmental site assessment for a fee or in conjunction with other services 36

1 for which a fee is charged; 2 (8) "Hazardous substance" has the same meaning as that term is 3 set out in § 8-7-503: 4 (9) "Hazardous waste" has the same meaning as that term is set out in § 8-7-203; 5 6 (10)(1) "Person" means any individual, corporation, company, 7 firm, partnership, association, trust, joint-stock company or trust, venture, 8 state or federal government or agency, or any other legal entity however 9 organized; 10 (11)(2) "Phase I consultant" means a person that performs a 11 Phase I environmental site assessment for a fee or in conjunction with other 12 services for which a fee is charged; and 13 (12)(3) "Phase I environmental site assessment" means a Phase I 14 environmental site assessment as that term is used in the American Society 15 for Testing and Materials standard E1527-00 as in effect on January 1, 2005; 16 an assessment defined as "all appropriate inquiry" under the Small Business 17 Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, and the rules promulgated under that federal act or a Phase I environmental site 18 19 assessment as that term is used in the American Society for Testing and Materials standard E1527-00 as in effect on January 1, 2005; and. 20 21 (13) "Response action contractor" means a person that is: 22 (A) Required to obtain a contractor's license pursuant to 23 § 17-25-101 et seq.; and 24 (B) Responsible for undertaking the physical removal, 25 treatment, or disposal of hazardous substances or environmental media 26 contaminated with hazardous substances associated with a response action at a 27 site addressed under the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, § 28 8-7-201 et seq., the Emergency Response Fund Act, § 8-7-401 et seq., the Remedial Action Trust Fund Act, § 8-7-501 et seq., or the Voluntary Gleanup 29 30 Act, § 8-7-1101 et seq., for a fee or in conjunction with other services for 31 which a fee is charged. 32 33 8-7-1304. Powers and duties. 34 (a) The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality shall+ 35 (1) Establish and administer the Environmental Site Assessment 36 Consultant and Hazardous Substance Response Contractor Certification Program

1	for response action contractors and environmental site assessment
2	consultants; and
3	(2) Issue, deny, revoke, condition, or suspend the certification
4	of response action contractors and environmental site assessment consultants
5	under the terms established in this subchapter. maintain and make available
6	to the public a list of Phase I consultants who meet the minimum
7	qualifications for an environmental professional who undertakes a Phase I
8	environmental site assessment, referred to as "all appropriate inquiry" under
9	the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub.
10	L. No. 107-118, and the rules promulgated under that federal act.
11	(b) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
12	promulgate necessary regulations to effect the purpose and implementation of
13	the certification program, including, but not limited to:
14	(1) Provisions governing categories of certification;
15	(2) Applications for certification;
16	(3) Continuing education requirements;
17	(4) Professional and technical standards for certification;
18	(5) Renewals of certifications;
19	(6) Procedures for peer committee review and other actions
20	affecting the status of certification; and
21	(7) Establishment of reasonable fees. The Arkansas Pollution
22	Control and Ecology Commission shall promulgate rules to implement this
23	subchapter.
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25	8-7-1305. Applicability.
26	(a)(1) Six (6) months after the adoption of rules by the Arkansas
27	Pollution Control and Ecology Commission to implement this subchapter, a
28	person shall not provide services as an environmental site assessment
29	consultant or a response action contractor unless those services are
30	performed under the direction and responsible charge of an individual who has
31	obtained a certification under this subchapter.
32	(2)(A) Until the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and
33	Hazardous Substance Response Contractor Certification Program is implemented,
34	the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality should develop and maintain
35	a list of those environmental site assessment consultants and response action
36	contractors that indicate to the department an intent to apply for

1	certification enumerated under this subchapter.
2	(B) After the certification program is implemented, the
3	department shall develop and maintain a list of those environmental site
4	assessment consultants and response action contractors that have a
5	certification under this subchapter.
6	© The department shall make available to the public the
7	lists required under subdivisions (a)(2)(Λ) and (B) of this section.
8	(b) The provisions of this section do not prohibit the engagement of
9	an associate, an apprentice or assistant, or a subcontractor if an individual
10	who is certified under this subchapter supervises that associate, apprentice
11	or assistant, or subcontractor and maintains responsibility for the work of
12	that associate, apprentice or assistant, or subcontractor.
13	(e) This subchapter does not apply to services provided by:
14	(1) An employee of a business or public agency relative to the
15	hazardous substance or hazardous waste management, release investigation, or
16	response responsibilities of his or her employer, exclusively, while the
17	employee is acting in the course of his or her employment;
18	(2) An employee of a public agency with the responsibility of
19	regulatory enforcement, emergency response, or protection of public health
20	and welfare or the environment while the employee is acting in the course of
21	that employment; or
22	(3) A person that is a transporter of hazardous wastes that are:
23	(A) Designated as the specific responsibility of the
24	transporter of hazardous wastes under the applicable state or federal
25	regulations; or
26	(B) Necessary to perform the service of transportation of
27	hazardous waste in accordance with the applicable state and federal
28	regulations.
29	(d) Any environmental site assessment activities performed by a person
30	certified as an environmental site assessment consultant under this
31	subchapter that would constitute the "practice of engineering" as defined in
32	\$ 17-30-101 shall be performed under the responsible charge of and signed and
33	sealed by a professional engineer registered in the State of Arkansas.
34	(e) Any environmental site assessment activities performed by a person
35	certified as an environmental site assessment consultant under this
36	subchanter that would constitute the "nublic practice of goology" as defined

1	in § 17-32-102 shall be performed under the responsible charge of and signed
2	and sealed by a professional geologist registered in the State of Arkansas.
3	
4	8-7-1306. Certification categories.
5	(a) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
6	establish by regulation categories of certification under this subchapter.
7	(b) Categories of certification shall include:
8	(1) Phase I environmental site consultant;
9	(2) Comprehensive environmental site assessment consultant; and
10	(3) Response action contractor.
11	
12	8-7-1307. Certification criteria and procedure.
13	(a)(1) The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission shall
14	establish by rule criteria for certification as an environmental site
15	assessment consultant.
16	(2) The criteria shall incorporate United States Environmental
17	Protection Agency requirements including minimum qualifications for an
18	environmental professional who undertakes Phase I environmental site
19	assessments of "all appropriate inquiry" as defined under the Small Business
20	Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, Pub. L. No. 107-118, and
21	the rules promulgated under that federal act that are not inconsistent with
22	this subchapter.
23	(3) Upon demonstration of compliance with the criteria, the
24	applicant shall be eligible for certification as a Phase I environmental site
25	assessment consultant under this subchapter.
26	(b) The criteria for initial certification of a Phase I environmental
27	site assessment consultant or a comprehensive site assessment consultant, or
28	both, shall provide that:
29	(1) The license issued to a registered professional engineer or
30	engineering intern meets the requirements for an environmental site
31	assessment consultant certificate if:
32	(A) Any professional engineer or engineering intern who
33	performs Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive site
34	assessment, or both:
35	(i) Registers with the Arkansas Department of
36	Environmental Quality.

T	(11) Submits demonstration of knowledge, training,
2	or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and experience, as
3	determined by regulations issued under this subchapter; and
4	(iii) Pays the applicable fees; or
5	(B) A professional engineer licensing board has or
6	develops a program recognized by the department as substantially similar to
7	the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and Hazardous Substance Response
8	Contractor Certification Program that requires demonstration of knowledge,
9	training, or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and
10	experience, in the field of Phase I environmental site assessments or
11	comprehensive site assessments that satisfies the requirements of the
12	professional licensing board;
13	(2) The license issued to a professional geologist or geologist-
14	in-training meets the requirements for an environmental site assessment
15	<pre>consultant certificate if:</pre>
16	(A) Any professional geologist or geologist-in-training
17	who performs a Phase I environmental site assessment or comprehensive site
18	assessment, or both:
19	(i) Registers with the department;
20	(ii) Submits demonstration of knowledge, training,
21	or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and experience, as
22	determined by regulations issued under this subchapter; and
23	(iii) Pays the applicable fees; or
24	(B) A professional geologist licensing board has or
25	develops a program recognized by the department as substantially similar to
26	the Environmental Site Assessment Consultant and Hazardous Substance Response
27	Contractor Certification Program that requires demonstration of knowledge,
28	training, or experience, or any combination of knowledge, training, and
29	experience, in the field of Phase I environmental site assessments or
30	comprehensive site assessments that satisfies the requirements of the
31	professional licensing board;
32	(3) Any person who provides proof of:
33	(A) Certification by another state recognized by the
34	department as substantially equivalent for performing environmental site
35	assessments; or
36	(B) Completion of training and receipt of certification or

1	other form of recognition of successful completion of training provided by
2	organizations found by the department to provide training necessary to
3	perform environmental site assessments; or
4	$(4)(\Lambda)$ Any person who demonstrates competence by achieving a
5	passing score on an examination administered by the department in accordance
6	with the rules issued under this subchapter or relevant and appropriate
7	criteria as the commission shall deem appropriate, or both.
8	(B) Any examination administered by the department in
9	accordance with the rules issued under this subchapter is the property of the
10	department and shall remain confidential and shall not be subject to
11	disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.
12	(c) Certification as a comprehensive site assessment consultant shall
13	serve as certification to perform both Phase I environmental site assessments
14	and comprehensive site assessments.
15	(d)(1) The commission shall establish by rule criteria for
16	certification as a response action contractor.
17	(2) The criteria for initial certification of a response action
18	contractor shall provide that the applicant has:
19	(A) A valid license issued by the Contractors Licensing
20	Board;
21	(B) Demonstrated that he or she has received the training
22	and medical monitoring required by the Occupational Safety and Health
23	Administration for handling hazardous substances;
24	(c) Either:
25	(i) Completed training and received a certificate or
26	other form of recognition of successful completion of training provided by an
27	organization found by the department to provide training necessary to perform
28	response actions; or
29	(ii) Proof of certification by another state
30	recognized by the department as having an adequate certification program for
31	response action contractors; and
32	(D)(i) Demonstrated competency by achieving a passing
33	score on an examination administered by the department in accordance with the
34	rules issued under this subchapter or relevant and appropriate criteria as
35	the commission shall deem appropriate, or both.
36	(ii) Any examination administered by the department

1	in accordance with the rules issued under this subchapter is the property of
2	the department and shall remain confidential and shall not be subject to
3	disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, § 25-19-101 et seq.
4	(e) The commission shall promulgate rules for renewal of an
5	environmental site assessment consultant certificate that shall provide that
6	certification be renewed upon demonstration of the following criteria:
7	(1) For a professional:
8	(A) Engineer or an engineering intern, a valid license to
9	practice engineering and approved continuing education hours; and
10	(B) Geologist or geologist-in-training, a valid license to
11	practice geology and approved continuing education hours;
12	(2) For a person with a certificate based on certification by
13	another state or organization, demonstration of a current certificate from
14	the approved state or organization and approved continuing education hours;
15	and
16	(3) For those persons whose certification is based on training
17	from an approved training organization or testing administered by the
18	department, proof of approved continuing education hours.
19	(f) The commission shall promulgate rules for renewal of a response
20	action contractor certificate that shall provide that certification be
21	renewed upon demonstration of the following criteria:
22	(1) A valid license from the Contractors Licensing Board;
23	(2) Current training and medical monitoring as required by the
24	Occupational Safety and Health Administration for handling hazardous
25	substances;
26	(3) For those persons whose certificate is based on
27	certification by another state or organization:
28	(A) Demonstration of a current certificate from the
29	approved state or organization; and
30	(B) Proof of approved continuing education;
31	(4) For those persons whose certification is based on training
32	from an approved training organization, proof of approved continuing
33	education; and
34	(5) Other relevant and appropriate criteria as the commission
35	may deem appropriate.
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1	8-7-1308. Unlawful acts.
2	It is unlawful for any person to:
3	(1) Make any false statement or representation in any application for
4	certification;
5	(2) Render inaccurate any certification issued under this subchapter;
6	Or
7	(3) Solicit or perform the services for which certification under this
8	subchapter is required without holding a current and valid certificate under
9	this subchapter.
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11	8-7-1309. Disciplinary actions and suspension or revocation of
12	certification.
13	(a) A response action contractor or environmental site assessment
14	consultant holding a certificate issued under this subchapter may be subject
15	to a disciplinary action or the certificate may be subject to suspension,
16	condition, or revocation if he or she:
17	(1) Engages in activities subject to licensure under this
18	subchapter and is no longer entitled to the certification by reason of his or
19	her failure to maintain the license or certificate on which the certification
20	was issued; or
21	(2) Demonstrably fails to produce acceptable work for specific
22	activities for which the response action contractor or environmental site
23	assessment consultant has been certified under this subchapter.
24	(b)(1) If the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental
25	Quality has sufficient evidence that a response action contractor,
26	professional engineer, professional geologist, or other environmental site
27	assessment consultant licensed by a state board should be subject to
28	disciplinary action or have his or her certification suspended, conditioned,
29	or revoked, the director shall submit the evidence to the licensing board of
30	the contractor or professional involved.
31	(2) The Contractors Licensing Board may investigate the matter
32	and take such action as it finds to be appropriate and report its findings to
33	the director.
34	(3) If following its procedures for resolving disciplinary
35	proceedings and licensing matters the Contractors Licensing Board finds that
36	action is necessary, the Contractors Licensing Board shall provide

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appropriate information regarding the actions taken to the director. 1 2 (4) The director shall consider the information by the 3 Contractors Licensing Board to determine appropriate action on the 4 certification. 5 (5) If the department has sufficient evidence under this 6 subsection that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment 7 consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or 8 revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action under 9 applicable rules of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission. (6) The director's decision shall be subject to adjudication 10 11 before the commission in accordance with administrative procedures adopted by 12 the commission. 13 (7)(A) If the Contractors Licensing Board finds that the issue presented is not within the Contractors Licensing Board's jurisdiction or 14 15 otherwise elects not to pursue the matter, the Contractors Licensing Board 16 shall notify the director. 17 (B) If the Contractors Licensing Board gives notice to the 18 director under subdivision (b)(7)(A) of this section, the peer review 19 procedures outlined in subsection (c) of this section shall apply. 20 (c)(1) The procedure described in this subsection shall apply to 21 disciplinary action or suspension, condition, or revocation of the 22 certification of an environmental site assessment consultant that does not have a professional license issued by a state board and under the Contractors 23 24 Licensing Board. 25 (2) Under this subsection, if the department has sufficient 26 evidence that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment 27 consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or 28 revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action and advise 29 the person of his or her right to a peer review and a hearing within the time 30 period provided under applicable rules of the commission. 31 (3) If a request for peer review is made within the allotted 32 time frame, the commission shall appoint a peer review committee established 33 in accordance with the rules of the commission, including, but not limited 34 to, representation of at least three (3) certified response action 35 contractors or environmental site assessment consultants in good standing. 36 (4)(A) The peer review committee shall conduct an investigation

- in accordance with procedures established by rules and regulations developed
 for these purposes by the commission.

 (B) The peer review committee shall submit its report to
 the director and to the consultant or contractor.

 (5) The director shall consider the peer review committee report
- 5 (5) The director shall consider the peer review committee report 6 in making a decision.
 - (6) Under this subsection, if the department has sufficient evidence that a response action contractor or environmental site assessment consultant should have his or her certification suspended, conditioned, or revoked, the director shall provide notice of a proposed action under applicable rules of the commission.
 - (7) The director's decision shall be subject to adjudication

 before the commission in accordance with administrative procedures adopted by

 the commission.

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- 16 8-7-1310. Rules and regulations Appeals and hearings.
- 17 (a) The procedures of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology
 18 Commission for promulgating any rules and regulations, the conduct of
- 19 hearings, notice, review of actions on certificates, right of appeal,
- 20 presumptions, finality of actions, and related matters shall be as provided
- 21 in §§ 8-4-202, 8-4-210 8-4-214, and 8-4-218 8-4-229 and in the rules and
- 22 regulations applicable to administrative procedures of the Arkansas
- 23 Department of Environmental Quality and the commission.
 - (b) After notice and hearing, the commission shall adopt regulations under this subchapter for the administration and implementation of a certification program for contractors and consultants.

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- 28 § 8-7-1311. Fees.
- 29 (a)(1) Under regulations promulgated by the Arkansas Pollution Control
 30 and Ecology Commission, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality may
 31 assess fees to participating contractors and Phase I consultants who apply to
 32 be placed on the list maintained under § 8-7-1304.
 - (2) Fees shall be reasonable and appropriate and subject to periodic review.
- 35 (b) All fees collected under this subchapter shall be deposited in the 36 Hazardous Waste Permit Fund, § 19-6-434.

1	(c) Fees collected under this subchapter shall be used for the	3
2	purposes of administering this subchapter.	
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4	/s/ Saunders	
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