

TESTIMONY

GM757

**HTH
Committee Hearing
03-07-2012**

March 1, 2012

Senator Josh Green
Chairman, Senate Committee on Health
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 222
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chairman Green:

Re: Governor's Message No. 757: Nomination of Robert S. Spetich to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators

Thank you for your letter dated February 24, 2012. In response to your request for information, I offer the following written statements in response to your questions:

1. Why do you wish to be a member of the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*?

I wish to be a member of the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators to help protect public health by evaluating water system operator qualifications for certification.

2. How do you perceive the roles and responsibilities of a member of the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*?

Board members evaluate Water System Operator applicant qualifications based on Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) and Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) Rules. When HRS and DOH Rules are not clear, Board members, based on their experience, must interpret the intent of HRS and DOH Rules and make recommendations to clarify those rules.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position?

I have 33 years of experience in water and wastewater engineering, management, and operations. This background gives me a well-rounded knowledge of water systems and skills needed to operate them and a good appreciation for the need to have qualified people working in drinking water systems operations.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

During my term of service, I hope to make sound decisions on certification of operators and contribute to draft rule changes as necessary.

5. Name three qualities that best describe you and would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*?

Three qualities that distinguish me for consideration related to Board duties are thoroughness, fairness, and integrity. My thoroughness will benefit the Board when evaluating an individual's qualifications for certification. Fairness will

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benefit the Board when deciding questions of policy. Integrity will be important when deciding to excuse myself from an individual's certification evaluation because of conflict.

6. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*?

My previous experience serving on the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators* would be beneficial.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the *Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators*? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Yes, if a fellow employee is under consideration by the Board. Should that situation arise, I would excuse myself from any decision regarding that individual.

If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact me at (808) 883-9355 or by e-mail at rspetich@whutilities.com and spetichr001@hawaii.rr.com.

Respectfully submitted,



ROBERT S. SPETICH, P.E.
P.O. Box 1731
Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

GM757

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

In reply, please refer to:
File: SDWB

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

**GM757, SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM
OPERATORS, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBERT S. SPETICH, FOR A
TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2016**

**Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health**

March 7, 2012, 1:30 p.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health strongly supports the nomination of
2 Mr. Robert S. Spetich to the Board of Certification of Public Water System Operators.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None

4 **Purpose and Justification:** Mr. Spetich is currently the Local Manager of Hawaii Water Service
5 Company where he has thirteen years of experience in the management of water and wastewater
6 facilities. Prior to his current position, Mr. Spetich has more than twenty years of experience in design,
7 planning, operation and start-up of water and wastewater facilities with consulting firms both in Hawaii
8 and on the mainland. Mr. Spetich is a registered professional chemical engineer and holds a grade 4
9 wastewater plant operator license so he understands the value of a certification program and maintaining
10 certification.

11 In addition to his extensive work experience and training, Mr. Spetich has served on the Board of
12 Certification of Public Water System Operators for the past 4 years. His knowledge has brought
13 valuable insight to the Board and his willingness to continue this service demonstrates his commitment
14 to his profession and the certification of drinking water system operators.

Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness