



Recognized Environmental Professional Code of Ethics

General Obligations

Recognized Environmental Professionals (REPs) should be guided by the standards of personal integrity and professional conduct as outlined below. By applying to be a REP, a REP agrees to comply with and uphold this Code of Ethics. Violation of any Rule will be grounds for disciplinary action, which may include suspension or revocation.

Obligations to the Public

REPs shall uphold environmental compliance and the public health, safety and welfare in the performance of professional services and avoid impropriety.

REPs shall observe and comply with the requirements and intent of applicable laws, codes, guidance and regulations.

A REP shall neither offer nor make any illegal payment, gift or other valuable consideration for the purpose of influencing a decision, nor shall a REP accept any payment, gift or other valuable consideration that would appear to influence a decision made by the REP.

REPs should be accurate, truthful and candid in all communications with the public and OPS.

- A REP shall not issue a false statement or false information that the REP knows to be false or misleading, even if directed to do so by an employer or client.
- A REP shall avoid making sensational, exaggerated or unwarranted statements that may mislead or deceive members of the public or OPS.
- Information in the knowledge or possession of the REP that may affect decisions by OPS shall be provided to OPS so an appropriate decision can be made.

Obligations to the Profession

REPs should serve their profession faithfully and competently within their overall professional and ethical obligations.

REPs should disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may affect their ability to serve an employer or client faithfully.

REPs should protect the interest of an employer or client so far as is consistent with the public health, safety and welfare and the REP's legal, professional and ethical obligations.

- A REP who has made an investigation for an employer or client shall not seek to profit economically from the information gained without written permission of the employer or client, unless it is clear that there can no longer be a conflict of interest with the original employer or client.
- A REP shall not use his or her employer's or client's resources for private gain without the prior knowledge and consent of his or her employer or client.

REPs should not only uphold these standards of ethics by precept and example but should also encourage other professionals to adhere to such standards.

REPs having knowledge of a violation of the Code of Ethics by another REP should bring substantiated evidence of such violation to the attention of OPS.