

Chris Taggart

From: rickey peters <rickey0560@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 2:45 AM
To: Chris Taggart; Greg Chilcott; Chris A. Hoffman; Jeff Burrows
Subject: The Wastewater Treatment Plant Workers' Higher Calling
Attachments: The Wastewater Worker's Higher Calling.pdf

Hello,

My name is Rickey Peters. I worked thirty years as a plant operator for Kansas City, MO. Water Department, Wastewater Treatment Division. While working, I advanced to an "A" level wastewater treatment certification. I retired thirteen years ago. Attached is my poem, "The Wastewater Treatment Plant Workers' Higher Calling." The purpose for writing the poem is my way of giving back to the water treatment profession. My hope is to highlight the enormous service the water treatment industry provides for humanity. Plus it could serve as a morale booster and a motivational charge to the men and women who gallantly serve to keep our waterways clean. Ultimately, my goal is to get my poem out to the WWTPs. I also can dramatically recite my poetry. I am open to any suggestions that you may have in the dissemination of my poem. My email is rickey0560@sbcglobal.net. I hope you enjoy it.

Sincerely,

Rickey L. Peters

The Wastewater Treatment Plant Workers' Higher Calling

Around the kingly and regal conference table sat the Chairman and the Board. Staff members were presenting their year-end reports. The chief of staff, Gabriel, stood and reported, 'Mr. Chairman the human race is polluting the waters so much that the natural purification cycle cannot keep up. If the pollution continues at this rate, all of mankind and the poor innocent creatures on earth will soon be poisoned by the contaminated waters.'

Gabriel continued, "It is a sad indictment against mankind that these waters that were once clean and clear have now become filthy and foul. The waters that were once bubbling, sparkling, rippling and flowing have now become a nasty, stagnant, foul-smelling cesspool of man's waste.' Gabriel requested, 'Mr. Chairman may I blow my horn which will be a signal to our managers to immediately evict all these people who have served as horrible stewards?'

The Chairman of the Board rose from His throne-like chair and said, 'I understand what you are saying Gabriel, but I am going to give them a little more time on their lease. You see I have a plan to produce wastewater treatment plants to aid in nature's purification process. The designers and builders of these plants will occupy the scene for a while. Nonetheless, the wastewater treatment plant workers will be there from now on and their responsibility will be to maintain and efficiently operate the wastewater treatment plant." So it became a higher calling: the wastewater treatment plant workers' marching orders are to reclaim the waters by recycling, replenishing and reviving the polluted waters.