



Stephens Regional SUD is pleased to announce that the District's Water Treatment Plant Operator, James "Kelvin" Nickell, has been named "Small Plant Operator of the Year" by the Southwest Membrane Operator Association.

Kelvin has played a vital role with the District by using his expertise in membrane technology to maintain high water quality standards and ensure compliance with all state and federal regulations. Since Kelvin joined our team at the District in 2013 as a Distribution Operator, he has always demonstrated integrity, self-reliance, and a willingness to further his knowledge. In 2017, Kelvin obtained his Class B Surface Water Operator license and has been the District's Water Treatment Plant Operator since 2018.

Recipients of the Southwest Membrane Operator Association's Small Plant Operator of the Year award is chosen among those being known for showing exemplary effort in going above and beyond the basic requirements in their position, and as having worked continuously for at least one year as a licensed plant operator in a facility that contains at least one membrane-based treatment process. "Above and beyond" is a phrase that well describes Kelvin and his professionalism.

SWMOA announced Kelvin's award at their annual conference in August 2023, but due to Kelvin's schedule, he was unable to accept the award in person. Kelvin was presented his award by the Board of Directors and Staff of Stephens Regional Special Utility District in December 2023 at the District office.

