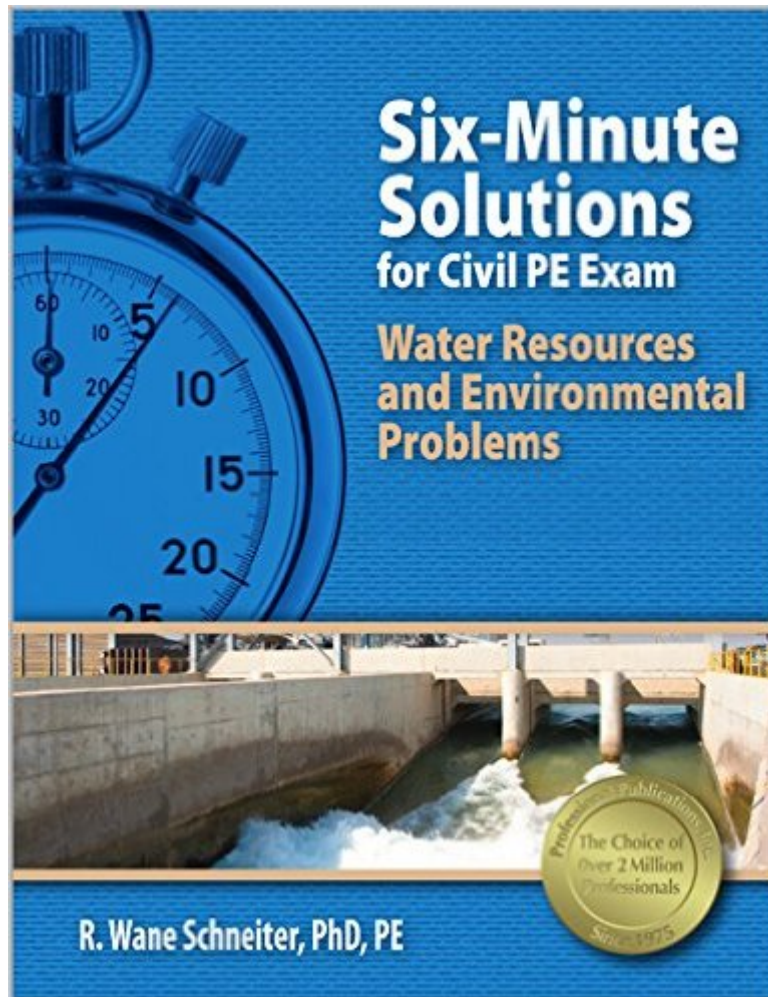


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# Six-Minute Solutions For Civil PE Exam Water Resources And Environmental Problems



## Synopsis

Beat the Clock on the Civil PE Exam With an average of only six minutes to solve each problem on the civil PE exam, speed and accuracy are vital to your success; and nothing gets you up to speed like solving problems. Six-Minute Solutions prepares you to answer even the most difficult morning and afternoon water resources and environmental problems in just minutes. Learning important strategies to solve these problems quickly and efficiently is the key to passing the civil PE exam. Six-Minute Solutions will help you pass with: 100 challenging multiple-choice problems, similar in format and difficulty to the actual exam Two levels of difficulty: 31 morning problems and 69 afternoon problems A hint for each problem, to help you get started on the right path Step-by-step solutions outlining how to answer problems quickly and correctly Explanations of how to avoid common errors Water Resources and Environmental Exam Topics Covered Aquatic biology and Microbiology Groundwater and Well Fields Hydraulics Hydrology Solid and Hazardous Waste Wastewater Treatment Water Treatment Water Quality

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Six-Minute Solutions guides are great, especially when preparing for the afternoon portion of the Civil PE exam. Yes, the questions are generally tougher than what you will see on the exam; that's why they are good practice. These questions are in-line with what you can expect on the exam, however the questions are a little more challenging and usually require a few more steps to

get to the answer. You wouldn't want an overly easy practice exam and then get slammed on the real exam. These guides are split up into morning type questions and afternoon type questions. I found that these guides were great preparation for the PE exam. The solutions are detailed enough to follow along and catch your mistakes. The solutions provided are way better approaches to answering the questions than any of the Lindeburg references, and they have fewer mistakes than Lindeburg. Some of the solutions to the Lindeburg guides are just outright wrong. The best guide for practice questions is the NCEES practice exam, but these are a wonderful supplement. I highly recommend getting the Six-Minute Solutions guide for whichever afternoon session you plan to take. If you do plan to take the Water/Environmental afternoon, get the older separate "Six-Minute Solutions for Civil PE Exam Problems: Water Resources" and "Six-Minute Solutions for Civil PE Exam Environmental Problems" guides. This one just combined those two, so there are just fewer questions overall. Your most basic study library should include the Lindeburg Civil Engineering Reference Manual, the NCEES Practice Exam, and the Six Minute Solutions guide for your afternoon session.

I bought this book for the PE exam which I just took this weekend. My original plan was to use this for the bulk of my afternoon breadth exam studying but as I got about halfway through the book I couldn't help but feel like the example questions were significantly more difficult than those I could expect to see on the test. The book advertises itself as "6 minute solutions" but very few of the problems could actually be solved in 6 minutes. Many were very obscure and complicated. Also, there were errors in several of the problems which was frustrating. The most annoying part however was that there were a few solutions that used some pretty dubious methodology. I'm not completely sure it was wrong but it definitely didn't jive with my understanding from college. After I slogged through half the book I switched to the Practice Problems for the CERM which served me well. Those problems were still more difficult than what was on the exam (which I realize is good practice) but they were not as obscure and the solutions were better explained. I'd recommend the Practice Problems book and/or the NCEES sample exam.

This book as other people have noted is pretty irrelevant to the PE. The first thing that should be noted is that the questions are MUCH MUCH MUCH harder than the actual PE. A "Six Minute" solution is a pretty big stretch for some of the questions. Most of the questions take at least 10 minutes to solve with some taking well over an hour! One of the the problem requires finding the total flow of a river with literally 20 sections and would take at least 20 minutes to solve using

Excel! Some of the solutions are also strange as well. For instance with minor headlosses in this book, the author seems to hate using K coefficients and opts for equivalent length (I was trained in school with the K coefficient method). If you solve the problem using a K coefficient, then you will NOT get the right answer. It will be close, but not exactly the same. The author even made sure to include an answer accounting for you using the K coefficient that comes out to be wrong. It made me scratch my head, and triple check my work for no reason. Bottom line is this: this book isn't useful. I felt like I actually wasted my time using this book. Some of the assumptions made were very strange, and if you don't make the same assumption then you will not get the right answer in many cases. On the actual PE, if they want you to make an assumption that is not obvious they will tell you what to assume. I recommend purchasing the CERM, the practice problems from PPI, the practice exam from PPI, and the NCEES practice exam. The PPI questions are generally much harder than the PE, but they are more RELEVANT to the actual PE. The NCEES practice exam is right on the level of the exam and is something that you really should have in your PE practice problem set at the very least. Using the set mentioned above, I passed the PE the first time I took it.

In short, approximately half of the questions are way above-and-beyond what you would see on the PE exam: to prove my point, there is at least one question whose solution requires a calculator function that is forbidden on all NCEES-approved calculators. PAY ATTENTION to the errata, because there are dozens of errors in the solutions and questions. Several solutions require equations that are not referenced and nowhere to be found in key textbooks like Metcalf and Eddy and even left some senior engineers within my company scratching their heads. In addition, as others noted, the author fails to provide key assumptions (are parameters base-e or base-10; Hazen-Williams equation or Darcy) such that you can make reasonable assumptions and calculations but get the wrong answer because the author used the other equation (and the correct answer for the "wrong", but applicable equation, is provided...but wrong) - NCEES will tell you explicitly which to use and in most cases, what parameters to use (e.g., use a  $C = 120$ ). Author could drastically improve the book by providing these assumptions to keep users on-target. There are some good questions in here (settling curves, etc.) that will prep you for the exam, but for the cost and lack-of-value in half of the questions, I would highly recommend looking for other resources first (such as the Engineering Videos Presents series) that are manageably-more difficult than the NCEES exam, but not wildly off-target.

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