**Section 10.71 Decertification Process**

a) The State, or a third-party, may challenge the certification status of a business at any time.

b) Upon receipt of information that questions the validity of a certification, the Secretary shall conduct an investigation. This may include on-site or telephone interviews, review of existing records, or collection and examination of new records to supplement, explain or clarify records previously submitted.

c) If the investigation results in a finding that the firm is no longer eligible for BEP status, the Secretary shall notify the firm that it is decertified. The applicant may appeal using the review and reconsideration procedure of Subpart G. After decertification, the applicant may not reapply for certification until one year has passed since the date of decertification. A certification of the applicant by another entity shall not be accepted during the one year period following decertification.