



Oregon Geologist Examiner

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Board Offices

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Jane Feinberg, RG, CEG
Volunteer Design Editor
(*GRI*)

Next Board Meeting

December 4, 2009
1:00 PM

Preceded by 8:30 AM
Work Session

Oregon State University

Board Closes Five Compliance Cases

At the September 18, 2009, Board meeting, five compliance cases were closed by action of the Board. An outstanding case from 2007 was concluded with confirmation that the geologic maps of the registrant met the standard expected of a Registered Geologist. The case was unanimously closed with agreement by the Board that the complaint was unfounded.

Another case was closed with a LETTER OF CONCERN to the Registered Geologist who stamped the report. The Board concurred that any report for a county inspection titled "geotechnical" for a "foundation sub-grade inspection" must be stamped by either an Engineering Geologist or a Professional Engineer.

Two cases involved a web site that represented Oregon company staff members as experienced in the practice of geology and engineering geology, although not registered to practice in Oregon. The investigation revealed that engineering geology products of the company are reviewed and stamped by an Oregon Certified Engineering Geologist who is not an employee of the company. The company's owner is also a Registered Geologist who serves as the registrant responsible for the company's geology work. Both of the individuals in question cooperated with the Board review, altered their language and the cases were closed with no further action. One other complaint accused a CEG of deceit, fraud, gross negligence, and misconduct. After reviewing the facts of the case, the Board concluded that the allegations were unfounded. The case was closed, allegations unfounded.

The Board relies upon technical reviews prepared by registrants as part of the complaint evaluation process. The Technical Reviewers are an asset to the Board and their time in assisting is greatly appreciated.

City of Portland Infiltration Testing Guidelines

The City of Portland is proposing to update its infiltration testing procedures and would like your feedback.

All projects that propose storm water infiltration on private property or in the public right of way must evaluate existing site conditions in order to properly size and locate storm water management facilities. The City of Portland's Environmental Services staff has updated Appendix F2, Infiltration Testing, to clarify the testing procedures, remove erroneous information and improve reporting requirements. The proposed changes are now available for public review.

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Knight's Notes

Over the eleven years that this column has been published, the goal has been to be “on the light side”. But this go around, the “heavy” side must prevail. During difficult economic times, it is seen as prudent to downsize government. Boards and Commissions are one component of government that are readily subject to scrutiny in this regard and are commonly asked to justify their service to the state. While OSBGE is built on a self-sustaining funding model via registration fees, and receives no general fund dollars, it too must answer to the Governor and Legislature. The Board stands ready to do so, and luckily it effectively protects the public without using any taxpayer dollars.

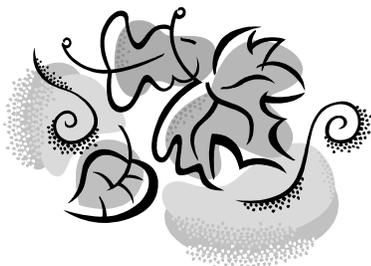
In some states, Boards may be well aware that their existence is being challenged, but in other states, it can strike like lightning! The California “shock waves” are still reverberating after passage of AB 20 4x by the California Legislature during budget negotiations last July. As a result of contentious budget negotiations, AB 20 4x eliminated the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists and transferred the responsibility for upholding the Geologists and Geophysicists Act to the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BPELS). The implementation is to occur within the 90-day window of the July 23, 2009, signing of the bill.

It is disconcerting to see this happen to our professional colleagues to the south, especially the way it happened. Geology registrants of California can locate information about this action at the AEG website (www.aegweb.org). The link to more information is posted on their home page under the Profession text box on the middle left of the page. If it can happen in California, it could happen in other states as well, and weaken the geoscience profession.

As a registrant of the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners, you are encouraged to monitor legislation that might seek to change the regulation of geology practice. With the Legislature meeting on an interim basis between regular sessions, 2010 legislative issues should be observed. Contacting your own Senator or Representative and advising them of the value of geology registration is one way to support the integrity of your profession. Please feel free to share your comments with Board staff.

Respectfully,

Susanna Knight
Administrator



Board Member Recognized

At the September 18, 2009, Board meeting lunch, Christopher Humphrey, RG, CEG, was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the engineering geology exam from January to June 2009. During this period, in addition to working with the psychometricians at the exam work site on several occasions, Humphrey also served as the reviewer of all updated questions prepared by volunteers.

In appreciation for his service throughout both the Engineering Geology Task Analysis and the examination development process, Board Administrator Susanna Knight presented Humphrey with a *Certificate of Appreciation* which read as follows:

For his leadership and dedication as a member of OSBGE in working on the 2009 Oregon-Washington Engineering Geology Task Analysis and Certification Exam Presented this day, September 18, 2009

Board Confirms Officers

At the September 18, 2009, Board meeting, Dr. Stephen Taylor, RG was confirmed as Chair through the September 2010 Board meeting. Christopher Humphrey, RG, CEG, was selected to serve as Vice-Chair for the same period. Officers of the Board are selected on an annual basis. Taylor is a geology professor at Western Oregon University. Humphrey recently accepted a position with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and previously worked with Schlicker and Associates in Oregon City.

Infiltration Testing

(continued from page 1)

For projects using the presumptive or performance approach for stormwater system design, infiltration testing conducted or overseen by a PE or RG is required. Presumptive and performance approach infiltration testing guidelines can be found on pages F.2-4 through F.2-11. Click on the link below to download a PDF of proposed revisions to Appendix F2.

www.portlandonline.com/bes/index.cfm?c=51103

Send your comments to Dawn Uchiyama at dawnu@bes.ci.portland.or.us. Please reference the page and line numbers to which your comments apply.

DOGAMI Publications Available

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) is a state agency created in 1937. It is Oregon's centralized source of geologic information. It produces maps and reports that can be used by the public and by government to reduce the loss of life and property due to geologic hazards and to manage geologic resources, including water. State Geologist Vicki McConnell heads DOGAMI as State Geologist and also serves as a member of OSBGE.

If you wish to be notified when documents are released by DOGAMI (See related article regarding newest geologic mapping in Clackamas County), there is a new publications listserve now available which you may find useful in your Oregon practice as a Registered Geologist. You may subscribe to the notification at the following link:

<http://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/dogami-pubs>

Has Your Registration Expired?

Every registrant must have an active registration with the Board to practice in Oregon. During the past quarter, individuals now have an expired registration and are not allowed to practice geology here in Oregon. The names, registration numbers and dates of expiration are as follows:

John H. Fortuna	G2003	7/31/2009
Dennis Goldman	G944	6/30/2009
Thomas S. Horning	E1131	6/30/2009
Candace L. Jochim	G1356	6/30/2009
Storr L. Nelson	G1811	7/31/2009
Simon J. Payne	G2225	8/31/2009
Mark R. Trudell	G2125	6/30/2009.

If any listed individual has proof that the registration fee has been paid, please contact Board staff so that the error can be corrected. Your assistance is appreciated.

DOGAMI Releases New Map

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), Portland, has recently released **GMS-119, GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE OREGON CITY 7.5' QUADRANGLE, CLACKAMAS COUNTY, OREGON**, by Ian P. Madin, RG, DOGAMI.

This new geologic map of the Oregon City area is one of the first geologic maps in Oregon to be prepared using a laser-based terrain mapping technology called LIDAR (light detection and ranging). LIDAR was used both to construct a high-resolution topographic base and to guide geologic mapping. As a result, it is one of a new generation of maps that will help provide greater detail of Oregon geology than ever possible before.

Learn more about LIDAR at:

<http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/projects/olc/default.htm>

“The map shows new details about the many young volcanoes in the area, some as recent as 1.2 million years ago, as well as providing a detailed look at the Bolton Fault, which is one of the more active faults in the Portland area,” said Madin, RG, Chief Scientist with DOGAMI, and author of the new map. “The map also shows literally hundreds of landslides of all sizes, many not seen before, that were mapped using the new LIDAR data.”

Read the complete news release in the attached online at: <http://www.oregongeology.org>.

Welcome to New Registrants

The Board welcomes the following new registrants and wishes them a safe and successful practice in Oregon.

RG By Cooperative Registration:

Richarson, Robert D.	G2257	09/18/2009
Hastings, Brian K.	G2258	09/29/2009

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2009-10 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Nov. 5-7: ASBOG National Meeting
Birmingham, Alabama
- Dec. 4: Quarterly Board Meeting
Oregon State University
- Dec. 4: Application Cut-off Date for
March 2009 ASBOG Exam
- March 5: ASBOG Examination
Board Office Building, Salem
- March 5: EG Examination
Board Office Building, Salem
- March 2010: Board Meeting
Date TBA