



# Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists Southern California Section

*"Connecting Professionals, Practice, and the Public"*

July 14, 2006

Ms. Karla Diring  
Deputy Appointments Secretary  
Office of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Recommendation for Appointment of James R. Ashby to the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists**

Dear Ms. Diring:

I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation for James R. Ashby to fill the vacant Engineering Geologist position on the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists. Although I've only known Mr. Ashby a short while, he is highly recommended by many members of the Southern California Section of AEG, and his reputation of integrity and dedication to service in the public interest precedes him.

Mr. Ashby has degrees in Geology from San Diego State University, and from UCLA (MS). He has more than 25 years of experience in the geologic industry in the State of California, including assisting the Board in their enforcement efforts – *one of the most vital functions the Board performs*.

Mr. Ashby's broad range of experience and expertise is not limited to the State of California. He is also licensed to practice geology in the States of Oregon, and Washington, and he possesses certifications and licensures in several related areas of technical expertise including being a Certified Paleontologist and a founding Registered Member of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration. Mr. Ashby's wide range of experience and expertise will enhance the Board's reputation and ability to serve the public in an effective manner.

It is essential that the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists be composed of experienced and proven Professional Geologists who are well recognized as experts in their field of expertise. Jim is precisely such a professional who is regularly retained as an expert on a variety of Engineering Geologic and Geologic Hazards such as landslides, active faulting, and debris flows, many of which have adversely impacted the residents of southern California in the past several years.

The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists, the people of California, as well as the Governor would be very well served by the appointment of Mr. Ashby to the Board. It is my pleasure to highly recommend him for this appointment, and thank you for this opportunity to recommend him to you.

Sincerely,

Charles Nestle, Chair  
AEG, Southern California Section