



ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION

"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental and Ground-Water Geology"

January 24, 2005

The Honorable Michael Alpert, Chair and Commissioners
Milton Marks "Little Hoover" Commission on
California State Government Organization and Economy
925 L Street, Suite 805
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Opposition to the Elimination of the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists

Dear Commissioner Alpert,

The Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section (AEGSoCal) opposes Governor Schwarzenegger's Reorganization Plan 1 (GRP1).

AEGSoCal represents the interests of environmental and engineering geologists in the southern third of the State of California. AEGSoCal opposes GRP1 because it eliminates all Boards and Commissions that represent the geosciences, and because the plan varies greatly from that previously presented by the CPR Commission.

We are also opposed to the plan because the legislature, hearing testimony from all interests, has deemed the BGG valuable by maintaining the Board after three Sunset Review processes. The BGG has proven its value, receiving accolades and support from the Sunset Review Committees of 1995, 1999 and recently 2005. To reject the thorough review an analysis performed by the legislature is a disservice to the people of California.

GRP1, with respect to the BGG, is based on incorrect assumptions and analyses. Peer review by geoscientists for geoscientists is the ultimate review process; this is what is currently in place. Removing this simple structure will make government more cumbersome, slow and ineffective not leaner, quicker and more efficient as proclaimed by GRP1. GRP1 is flawed, not the BGG.

We ask the Commission to recommend maintaining the BGG in its current form.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hawley, PG 6752, CEG 2122
Chair, Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section
(805) 524-9727

Cc: Members of the "Little Hoover" Commission
