



**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL &  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS**  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER  
"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental and  
Ground-Water Geology"

## **San Diego Chapter, October 2007 Newsletter**

### **AEG MEETING NOTICE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2006.**

**Wahooo! AEG, SDAG and ASCE Geotechnical Group are proud to announce the Joint Meeting.** Social period starts at 5:30 PM, with dinner at 6:30 PM and the presentation; **Geohazard Criteria for Development and Redevelopment atop Coastal Bluffs in California** will begin at 7:00. Cost is \$30 for members, \$35 for guests, and \$10 for students. The meeting will be in the **Seaside Room** at the Marina Village, 1936 Quivira Way, San Diego, California 92109. Please RSVP at the SDAG web site <http://www.sandiegoengineers.org/> If you have problems connecting with SDAG, contact Lesley Barnes at Tetra Tech ([lesley.barnes@ttemi.com](mailto:lesley.barnes@ttemi.com)).

Our speaker for the Wednesday night meeting is Dr. Mark Johnsson, CEG of the California Coastal Commission. Mark is an earth system scientist trained as a clastic sedimentary geologist. His principal professional interests are in the broad field of erosion and weathering. He is interested in geotechnical issues related to development in coastal regions and in controls of chemical weathering and erosion in general. Dr. Johnsson has served as staff geologist for the California Coastal Commission since 2000, and in that capacity serves as a technical advisor to the Commission and its staff on geologic and geotechnical issues related to development in the coastal zone. Prior to joining the Coastal Commission, Dr. Johnsson worked as a research geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey and taught in the Earth Systems Program at Stanford and the Geology Department at Bryn Mawr College. Mark received his PhD from Princeton University in 1989, and continues to do research into the system controlling the composition of clastic sediments and its relationship to global geochemical cycling and landscape evolution. A California-licensed engineering geologist and hydrogeologist, Dr. Johnsson is the author of some 40 papers and books, and has advised some 15 theses and student research projects.

Dr. Johnsson will discuss geohazard criteria for development and redevelopment at the top of coastal bluffs in California. In an era of sea-level rise such as has persisted on Earth for at least the past 18,000 years, the landward recession of coastal bluffs is an inevitable natural process wherever tectonic or isostatic uplift rates are lower than the rate of sea-level rise. Responsible development, and California law, requires that new structures be sited a sufficient distance landward of a coastal bluff that their stability shall be assured over their expected economic life, and that they will not require the construction of coastal armoring over that same time interval. Because coastal bluffs are dynamic, evolving landforms, establishing structural setbacks for coastal bluffs is a far more complex process than for manufactured or natural slopes not subject to erosion at the base of slope. This talk will present some of the considerations for development and redevelopment in this challenging environment.



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**As an added bonus...Walt Crampton of Terracosta Consulting Group** will join Dr. Johnson in presenting some cool case studies and current projects along the San Diego coast.

**No AEG Meeting in November, BUT.....Please attend the SDAG Meeting on Wednesday November 14, (one week early due to Thanksgiving).** Dave Bloom has managed to pull **Werner Landry** from the cozy confines of the **City of San Diego** offices to provide a long awaited update on the geotechnical requirements for development in San Diego. The November meeting will also be held at the Marina Village conference center.

**AEG will hold our next and last meeting of 2007 on the regularly scheduled 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of December (the 11th).** Please reserve the date; the talk will undoubtedly be interesting as we explore the fascinating connection between *Geology and Oenology*.

We are always in need of interesting talks in the environmental and engineering geology arenas. Please send your ideas in to [steve.bradley@ttemi.com](mailto:steve.bradley@ttemi.com).

#### **NOTES FROM THE FIELD:**

There is still space available to sign up for the 2007 SDAG Annual Field Trip entitled: "**Hydrogeology and Environmental Issues in the Guadalupe Valley and the Northern Coast of Baja California, Mexico**" on October 13th-14th. In addition to exploring the geology, we'll be doing wine tasting at some of the Guadalupe Valley's finest wineries and camp out at a Kumeeyaay native village. Go to <http://www.sandiegoengineers.org/FieldTrp.html> for more info and sign up.

#### **AEG AND USEFUL LOCAL LINKS**

- Southern California Section AEG: <http://www.aegsc.org/>
- National AEG: <http://www.aegweb.org/>
- San Diego Association of Geologists <http://www.sandiegoengineers.org>
- American Society of Civil Engineers, San Diego Geotechnical Group [http://www.asce-sd.org/groups\\_geotech.asp](http://www.asce-sd.org/groups_geotech.asp)
- San Diego State University, Geology Department <http://www.geology.sdsu.edu>

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

**Tetra Tech EMI**, a global leader in environmental consulting, is looking for entry level geologists or environmental engineers for an immediate position in San Diego, California. Candidates should have a BS degree in geology, engineering, or similar. The candidate must be able to work within a team environment, be a self-starter, possess strong organization/communication skills, familiarity with basic environmental sampling protocol, preparation of Environmental Site As-



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sessments and OSHA 40 hour certification a plus. The position requires a minimum 6 months of related experience in Geology, Hydrogeology or Environmental Engineering.

Responsibilities will include working with a professional team on a variety of private and local or federal government/military environmental projects. Day to day responsibilities will include: conducting environmental site assessments; subcontractor management; technical report writing; collection of soil & groundwater samples; site inspections; and analytical data evaluation. Please contact Steven Bradley at (619) 321-6717 or via email at [steve.bradley@ttemi.com](mailto:steve.bradley@ttemi.com).

**GEOTECHNICS INCORPORATED** is looking for Staff Geologists. One to two years experience. No registration necessary, graduate degree preferred. Candidate should be willing to work throughout southern California and Arizona. Four-wheel drive truck or SUV required. Tasks will include investigative field mapping, logging, report writing. **MAIL** resumes to Geotechnics Incorporated, 9245 Activity Road, Suite 103, San Diego, California, 92126, Attention: Lee Vanderhurst.

As a service to our members, AEG San Diego welcomes job postings - either for open positions or jobs wanted. Please contact Lee Vanderhurst ([lvanderhurst@geotechnicsinc.com](mailto:lvanderhurst@geotechnicsinc.com)) for information on advertising in this newsletter. The cost for an ad is \$25 per month

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