

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

*"Serving Professionals in Engineering, Environmental,
and Groundwater Geology Since 1957"*

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2003

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Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2003
Location: Steven's Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA
Time: 5:30 p.m., Social Hour; 7:00 p.m., Dinner; 8:00 p.m.,
Presentation
Reservations: Call (949) 253-5924, ext. 564, or email Brian Villalobos, by
12:00 p.m., Friday, October 10, 2003
Cost: \$25 per person with reservations, \$30 at the door, \$12 for
students.

Speakers: Ms. Amanda Elioff (Parsons Brinckerhoff) &
Mr. Carl Kim (Mactec)

Title: Geotechnical Issues During Design of the East-Side
Light Rail Transit System in East Los Angeles

Abstract: The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is implementing a 7-mile light rail transit (LRT) line in the Eastside Corridor, connecting Downtown Los Angeles with low- to moderate-income communities in East Los Angeles. The proposed system would include eight stations and will traverse eastward from Union Station (the city's major intermodal hub, serving intercity, commuter, and regional rail service, as well as local and express bus services) along Alameda Street through the City Terrace, Belvedere, and East Los Angeles communities of unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The project would terminate at Atlantic Boulevard, where a 200-space park-and-ride facility is planned. The project is primarily at-grade, with a nearly 2-mile mid-section underground in tunnel. The underground portion is proposed to be constructed both as a cut-and-cover structure, and as bored, twin tunnels. There are currently 60 heavily used bus routes operating in this highly transit dependent corridor, and the proposed project will provide travel time savings and increased transit capacity to residents accessing jobs in Downtown Los Angeles and other employment destinations along the MTA Red line, the light rail system, and rapid bus routes (cont.)

The geotechnical portion of the study included analysis of the Coyote Pass escarpment, a fold in east Los Angeles first proposed by Michael Oskin and Kerry Sieh, with quantification of the amount of deformation that the tunnel in this area may experience at or near the hinge of the fold.

Bios: Ms. Amanda Elioff is the Supervising Tunnel Engineer on this project, and Mr. Carl Kim is the Project Manager for the Geotechnical studies of the project's underground portion. The presenters will discuss the geotechnical aspects of the project, with emphasis on the results of the geotechnical explorations, which included an investigation of the Coyote Pass escarpment and the underlying buried thrust fault(s).

Chair Column
(by Tania Gonzalez)

The Annual Meeting in Vail was a successful and energizing event. AEG is in great part about networking and learning, and those at the meeting were certainly doing just that, with 4 workshops going on simultaneously for nearly 3 days. The social events were also very well attended. There were approximately 440 attendees, of which I estimate about 20 were from the Southern California area.

The resounding and common theme throughout the week-long affair is that AEG has had a major financial turnaround in the last year. The volunteers working on the Executive Council and Board of Directors are very enthusiastic, moving forward with a variety of programs and new member services while keeping costs down. We have received donations from an anonymous member to start publishing electronically as early as the beginning of the next calendar year. The Publications committee is considering scanning all past journals so members can get these in pdf format. They will start with the most recent editions and move backwards in time. The first Shlemon Conference will also be held next April, in El Paso, Texas. You can sign up for this conference on Fissures by going directly to AEG's web site at aegweb.org. Another committee is planning on putting all of the Cities of the World articles in one volume, and make it available on CD.

The AEG Foundation is starting a catalogue of all of the publications that they have regarding engineering geology – their object is to have a copy of everything of significance regarding our field. They have a very good set of data on the dams in the Sierras, including both construction and remediation, and the plan is to eventually put all of these publications in digital format and make them available to the members. You can help the Foundation on this or any other of their endeavors by making a tax-deductible, unrestricted donation when you renew your AEG membership. They are also pursuing several other potential sources of grant money, including NSF and the Ford Foundation. If you know of other charitable organizations that would be interested

in helping support the Foundation's educational programs, please contact Tania Gonzalez.

And speaking of renewing, you can now also renew your membership online – membership renewal for the 2004 year is ongoing. Headquarters will send you some very nice AEG decals for your car and hard-hat if you renew soon. Their website provides for a secure connection so you can use your credit card to pay for your membership.

Five new chapters of AEG were formed this year. AEG is encouraging members from geographically large sections, such as ours, to form smaller groups. We need to look at this issue and perhaps form chapters, perhaps in collaboration with some of the other local geological organizations, such as the San Diego Association of Geologists, or the Inland Geology Society. AEG sponsors a variety of student scholarships, but very few students are applying for these. So if you are in academia or know a student in geology, encourage them to fill out an application. The requirements are spelled out in the Directory.

A committee made of Board of Directors members is developing new Mission, Vision and Value Statements for AEG. These will be published on the next issue of AEG News for review by all members. I encourage you to look at these statements, and send in any comments or suggestions within the next 30 days. The final statements will be adopted for inclusion into the 2004 Directory. Yours truly has been one of the most active members of this committee, and as such, I welcome any feedback. This is the first step on a more ambitious program to develop a new Strategic Plan for the Association.

As you recall, in 2007, the Southern California Section will be hosting the Annual Meeting, which coincides with AEG's 50th anniversary. The Meeting Co-Chairs are Jeff Keaton and Dave Seymour. They will start looking for committee members so start thinking about your own special strengths and how they can be used to make the 2007 meeting the best. We will sporadically print any information about the meeting in this newsletter to keep you all up to date.

If you have any specific questions about the Annual meeting, the Board of Directors meeting, or any other aspect of AEG, please send me an e-mail at tgonzalez@earthconsultants.com. If I cannot help you, I will make sure to find someone who has the answer to your questions.

YEAR 2002-3 CONTRIBUTORS

**Earth Consultants International
Robertson Geotechnical, Inc.**

YEAR 2002-3 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Contributions from corporations and individual members for 2003 will be greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed in our newsletter throughout the year and can post their logo or business card in the newsletter if so desired. Please mail contributions made out to **AEG** to our section chair, Tania Gonzalez.

2003 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

You probably received your 2003 dues statement from AEG National by now. If you have not received it, or are unsure about your membership status, please contact AEG Headquarters aegweb.org, or Tania Gonzalez. We are currently looking for a new Membership Chair. Please contact Tania Gonzalez you wish to volunteer.

SEPTEMBER GEOLOGY BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item Numbers

[excuse the formatting, ed.]

4. Public Comment: None, except Buzz Spellman who chastised the Board for not meeting in 9 months (budget crisis is no excuse). Professional's feel they are not getting their monies worth from license fees.

5. Election of President & VP: Unanimous vote for Craig Copelan Pres. and Bob Matthews VP.

Mr. Copelan, a public member, is a Sr. Transportation Engineer at California DOT, current President of ASCE Sacramento Section and former President of Professional Engineers in California and President of the Capitol Branch of ASCE. He has a BS from UC Davis.- Dr. Matthews, a professional member, has held a CEG license for 40 years. He has a BA from UC Berkeley and a Ph.D. from UC Davis. As a 16- year employee of CDMG he became a District Geologist followed by 20 years at UC Davis, rising to Associate Dean. Jeff Schmidt, a public member, from Tustin and recently appointed to the BGG by the Sen. Rules Comm. (Burton), is VP of UP Mining in charge of Placer gold mining in CA & NV.

6. Committee Appointments: Technical Advisory Comm. - Thomas K. Kelty, Ph.D. UCLA 1998, new member (RG, EG, HG) and Assistant Professor of Geology, Long Beach State; Seena Hoose and Tony Sawyer were re-appointed; Exam Committee - Scott Hector re-appointed.

7. Revised Disciplinary Guidelines and Enforcement Procedures – Adopted unanimously.

8. Association of State Boards of Geology Report (ASBOG)

(a) California Delegates - Annual Meeting @ Jacksonville, Fla.: Dr. John Williams is our voting delegate, and Bob Tepel who serves on ASBOG's Council of Examiners.

(b) Proposed changes to ASBOG Bylaws and Charter - Suggested changes by our Geology Board, in the past few years, have been ignored. California, the largest ASBOG membership by far with the biggest financial input, wants some respect. Therefore, the BGG unanimously approved writing a letter to ASBOG's president, Ms. Dorian Keiper (of Oregon), saying California is important to ASBOG, intimating withdrawal if ASBOG does not entertain Calif. suggestions on Bylaws, Charter, and Audits.

(c) IRS Form 990 (Audit)- For several years, ASBOG refused our request for a full audit, without reason. The BGG, this time, is emphatic that ASBOG do an audit (ASBOG wants "audit" out of their Charter).

9. Board's Comments to CALEPA – Our letter dated 9/12/03 to CALEPA addresses Environmental Justice wherein third parties and Environmental Groups presume incorrectly that they can practice geology without a license.

10. California Unified Program Agency (CUPA) – Letter of 12/2/02 from CUPA's attorney implies Geology Board is expanding their "scope of practice" and "that geologists are attempting to solve problems that do not exist....and will have an adverse impact on local government's ability to implement effective environmental programs".

11. Legislation Committee (Julian C. Isham, Chair) Senate Bill 1079 (Chaptered) – Sponsored by the DCA requires applicant for registration to have graduated from a college or university with a major in geological sciences and have at

least 3 years of professional geologic experience beyond a BS degree. This is a reduction in our prior experience requirements from 5 years beyond a BS degree. Joe Cota's 9/12/03 letter to BGG provides wording on CEG/CHG experience to be inserted in SB1079 (Liz Figueroa) by Gage in the 2004 session. MOTION: Examination Committee is to look into proper college or university courses ("core courses") leading toward a BS degree suitable for registration. Senate Bill 363 (Enrolled) – Sen. Liz Figueroa's DCA Omnibus Bill would increase renewal fee for a geologist or geophysicist from \$200 to \$400 and specialty geologists from \$50 to \$100. Even with our \$38B deficit-prone administration, the bill has a good likelihood of making it to Governor's desk, as per the 9/2/03 memo by J. C. Isham.

12. Examination Committee (Scott Hector, Chair)

ATTENDANCE AND PASS RATE 2002 & 2003

Exam	Attendance		Total Pass		Pass Rate (After Appeals)	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
CEG	56	68	17	38	36%	56%
CHG	41	44	26	31	68%	70%
RGP	5	7	3	5	80%	71%
CALIF SPECIFIC	163	275	62	186	38%	68%
GEOL FUND'MTL	170	226	21	164	71%	73%
GEOL PRACTICE	173	219	125	166	72%	76%

13. Technical Advisory Committee (Tony Sawyer, Chair)

(a) Question: "Do geologists working in California timberlands and watersheds need to be licensed"? This was a hotly debated item. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (NCR) represented by Frank Reichmuth, PE #26617, Assistant Executive Officer, Dave Parsons, EG and Ted Cobb, attorney argue they do not. Our BGG says they do per Paul Sweeney's 8/1/03 letter to Frank Reichmuth, as do representatives from the California Geological Survey (Steve Reynolds, Bill Short) and licensed members of the audience, if I recall correctly. This question has been around for 20 years and is still officially unresolved.

14. Redefining Practice of Geology: To differentiate Civil Engineers duties from Geologists duties, Craig Copelan assigned licensed geologists to describe duties by 10/10/03 for the following subjects:

- Tom Crosby—Soil sampling
- Seena Hoose—Well inspection & construction
- Brian Hirst—Interpreting well data
- Julian Isham—Leachfields
- Roy Shlemon—Vadose zone transport
- Tony Sawyer—Ground water

15. Board Attorney Report: No report from Gary Duke

16. FY 2004 Calendar: Meetings-- 2/6 Exam (Tentative), 3/5 ASBOG Exam, 3/19 TAC (Tent), 4/23 Board (Tent), 7/7 Board, 11/12 Board

17. Sweeny's Executive Officer Report:

(a) Budget: FY 2002-2003 \$ 1,106,000
 FY 2003-2004 \$ 780,000
 \$ 326,000 – Reduced Authority

Fines: BGG (Sweeney) wants to increase fines to \$5,000 above current \$2,500 ceiling. Comment: I believe fines should not be substituted to enhance the Geology Board's budget deficiencies.

This report is the best of my recollection.....Buzz

Board Meeting notes prepared by Buzz Spellman (Legislative Committee member)

BOARD OPENING

The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (Board) will have an opening for a position on the Enforcement Oversight Committee (EOC) at the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2004). The term for this position is two years, with a maximum of 3 terms. The purpose of the EOC is to continually seek ways to improve the Board's enforcement activities and to review closed cases to assist in identifying trends in enforcement activities or situations where enforcement procedures might be improved. Meetings are held in Sacramento two or three times per year or as work requires. The next scheduled EOC meeting is Friday, April 2, 2004. The Board desires that the candidate who is chosen be able to attend this meeting so that continuity in the oversight of enforcement operations can be maintained.

Applications for this position should include a curriculum vitae, a Statement of Qualifications and a cover letter. The Board will review the applications and make a selection at its meeting on December 5, 2003. Possession of one or more of the licenses issued by the Board is mandatory, as is the ability to maintain confidentiality.

This is a volunteer position with the Board. Appropriate expenses will be paid by the Board for the completion of EOC assignments, including travel to and from Sacramento. There is no salary or per diem for this position.

The deadline for submittal of applications is Friday, November 21, 2003. They can be sent to the Board at the address on this website. applications are acceptable.

Jane H. Gill-Shaler, R. G. (NC and CA) CCGO Executive Director. www.ccgo.org, 336 687 6144

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Petra Geotechnical, Inc. is currently seeking **geotechnical engineers, geologists, soils technicians, and deputy inspectors** at their Costa Mesa, Murrieta, San Diego, and Santa Clarita offices. Petra is a geotechnical, environmental, and materials testing firm that has provided professional earth science services throughout southern California since 1975. Typical projects include residential developments, commercial structures, educational and infrastructure facilities. We offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits, a comfortable working atmosphere, and a pleasant commute! Please submit your resume with references to Ms. Jennifer Griffin at email address jgriffin@petra-inc.com, fax number 714.668.3770, or mailing address 3185-A Airway Ave., Costa Mesa, CA 92626

ENSR International

At ENSR International, a recognized global leader in environmental services, we strive to match the exceptional quality of our work with the quality of the careers we build. Currently, we're looking for talented professionals who are interested in working on an exciting project in our Sacramento, Alameda, Santa Ana, and Camarillo, CA locations.

Will be responsible for assisting in all activities associated with petroleum and UST sites which includes site investigation field activities; site safety tailgate meetings; scheduling subcontractors; obtaining permits and dig-alert notifications; placement of drill rigs; obtaining soil and groundwater samples; coordination with analytical laboratories; and communications with the project manager. Additional duties may include operations and

maintenance for remediation treatment systems and report writing. B.S. in geology is preferred, and positions for various levels of experience ranging from entry-level, no experience, to 7 years relevant experience are available.

ENSR is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We offer competitive salaries, advancement opportunities and a full range of benefits. Please send your resume to hrwest@ensr.com for further consideration. To learn more about ENSR and other career opportunities, please visit our website at www.ENSR.com.

Leighton and Associates

Leighton and Associates is seeking to fill two positions:

- * Project/Senior Project Geotechnical Engineer
- * Project/Senior Project Geologist

The employee should have PE/GE or RG/CEG registrations; 5 years of project management experience for public works and commercial/residential land development and construction projects; experience managing professional and field staff; skill in preparing proposals, reports and client presentations, and the talent for interfacing with clients from the sales efforts through project execution. Leighton offers a comprehensive flexible benefits package. Our website (www.leightongeo.com) has additional details and program highlights.

Please email your resume to:
HR@leightongeo.com
or send to our corporate office at
Human Resources
Leighton and Associates
17781 Cowan Irvine, CA 92614



Is The Ground Letting Your Project Down?

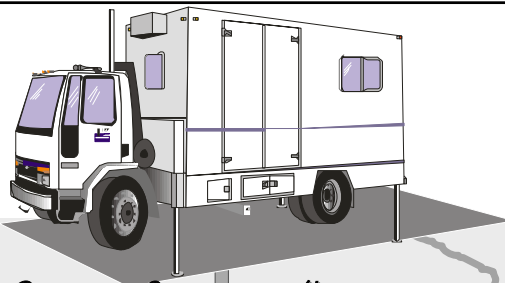
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A SHORT COURSE ON
**The Latest Developments in
 ENVIRONMENTAL and GEOTECHNICAL
 CONE PENETRATION TESTING**



COURSE SCHEDULE/LOCATION

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA
 Thursday- February 19, 2004 - Environmental
 Friday- February 20, 2004 - Geotechnical
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 (Registration/Continental Breakfast begins at 8:00a.m.)
HYATT REGENCY - HUNTINGTON BEACH
 21500 Pacific Coast Hwy.
 Huntington Beach, California 92648
 (714) 698-1234

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The courses are intended for Geotechnical Engineers and Engineering Geologists working with foundation design, liquefaction, and geotechnical site investigation and Geologists, Engineers, and Environmental Professionals working with environmental site assessment and remedial design. These short courses represent 8 hours of Professional Development Hours (PDH's) per day. A certificate will be issued upon completion.

PURPOSE

Site characterization is the basic first step for any geotechnical or geo-environmental study. This short course will provide engineers and geologists with the knowledge and background to plan and supervise site investigation and to interpret CPT and SPT data. Emphasis will be given to recent advances and regulatory requirements in the area of liquefaction potential determination and remedial design considerations.

Gregg In Situ, Inc. is pleased to announce the scheduling of two short courses on the latest developments in the use of cone penetration testing (CPT) in environmental and geotechnical site investigations.

COURSE CONTENT

Thursday, February 19th

Environmental Site Investigation
 CPT Equipment and Procedures
 CPT Data Interpretation
 Field Screening Tools
 Sampling Tools
 Small Diameter Well Installations
 Injection of Remediation Compounds
 Case Studies
 Field Demonstrations

Friday, February 20th

Geotechnical Site Investigation
 CPT Equipment and Procedures
 CPT Data Interpretation
 CPT for Liquefaction Assessment
 Case Studies
 Field Demonstrations

WORKED EXAMPLES AND CASE HISTORIES WILL BE GIVEN TO ILLUSTRATE THE CONCEPTS. A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF NOTES WILL BE PROVIDED TO ASSIST WITH THE COURSE MATERIAL.

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Peter Robertson, Ph.D., Professor of Geotechnical Engineering, University of Alberta – Dr. Robertson has more than 25 years of professional experience in geotechnical engineering for both private industry and academia. Dr. Robertson has authored many papers on the application of the CPT for geotechnical and environmental engineering. His recent research has focused on the use of CPT in liquefaction investigation.

David Woeller, P.E., President, ConeTec, Inc. – Mr. Woeller is a geotechnical engineer with more than 25 years of professional experience in geotechnical site investigation and foundation design. He has specialized in the development of CPT techniques including the seismic cone, resistivity cone and SPT energy calibration systems for use in foundation design and liquefaction investigations.

ADDITIONAL COURSE DATES -- FEBRUARY 16TH & 17TH IN SAN FRANCISCO and FEBRUARY 23RD IN SAN DIEGO
 Visit our web site at www.greggdrilling.com/seminars for further details and alternate registration forms.

SHORT COURSE REGISTRATION FORM — HUNTINGTON BEACH

Payment must be received by Jan. 16, 2004 to qualify for early registration fee.

Mail/Fax your completed registration form to:

- Please indicate which seminar you plan to attend by checking the appropriate box:*
- Thursday- February 19, 2004 (Environmental only) \$175.00 early registration - \$250.00 late registration
- Friday- February 20, 2004 (Geotechnical only) \$175.00 early registration - \$250.00 late registration
- Both days- Feb. 19 & 20, 2004 (Env. & Geo.) \$275.00 early registration - \$350.00 late registration

Gregg In Situ, Inc. PHONE: 562-427-6899
 2726 Walnut Ave. FAX: 562-427-3314
 Signal Hill, CA 90755 E-MAIL: mkeating@greggdrilling.com
ATTN: Maryann Keating
*(Make checks payable to: **Gregg In Situ, Inc.**)*

Attendee Name	Title	Company/Agency
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Phone	E-Mail Address	
Payment information: <i>Must be completed for processing. (Check one)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> My check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.		
Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard Card number: _____ Exp. Date: _____		
Card holder name: _____ Billing Address: _____		

Registration fee includes seminar, reference materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and break refreshments. Class size is limited; early registration is advised. On-site registration will be on a space available basis. A charge of \$75.00 for any cancellation within 10 business days of the seminar will be assessed. No refund for cancellation within three business days of the seminar will be offered. Notice of cancellation or substitution must be submitted in writing on letterhead listing attendee name and seminar date.