



**ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS  
Southern California Section**

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

***NEWSLETTER – July 2009***

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Vice Chair – Dave Perry, [dlperry@mactec.com](mailto:dlperry@mactec.com), 323-889-5326  
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Secretary – Gregory Sena, [gsena@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:gsena@dpw.lacounty.gov), 626-458-4923

Visit the Southern California Section Website: [www.aegsc.org](http://www.aegsc.org)

Newsletter Editor – Steve Varnell, [svarnell@fugro.com](mailto:svarnell@fugro.com), 805-650-7000

**Meeting Date: \*\*\*Tuesday, July 14th\*\*\***

- \*\*\*Location:** Steven’s Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, California
- Time:** 6:00 p.m.-Social Hour; 7:00 p.m.-Dinner; 7:45 p.m.-Presentation
- Cost:** \$30 per person with reservations, \$35 without reservations, \$15 with a valid Student ID.
- Reservations:** Please e-mail Jon Relyea at [jon@radiusmaps.net](mailto:jon@radiusmaps.net) or call 800-554-3205
- Speaker:** J. David Rogers, Ph.D., P.E., P.G., C.E.G., C.Hg., Karl F. Hasslemann  
Chair in Geological Engineering, Missouri University of Science and  
Technology
- Topic:** Reassessment of the St. Francis Dam Failure

**Abstract:**

The St. Francis Dam failed catastrophically on its first full filling near midnight on March 12/13, 1928, killing approximately 432 people, including 126 dependents of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, who owned the dam. The disaster also brought an abrupt end to the colorful career of William Mulholland, architect of the Los Angeles water supply system. The lecture begins with a brief description of the Los Angeles-Owens River Aqueduct, the perceived need for St. Francis, its original construction, the dam's untimely demise, and the disaster's aftermath. No less than 13 official boards of inquiry were convened by various agencies. Most of these groups erroneously concluded that the dam failed on its right abutment due to seepage piping along a dormant fault. The lecture also describes the various forensic methods available to test various postulates for the failure, using state-of-the-art technology not available when the dam failed. The physical evidence is examined in light of the purported theories for failure, presenting the methods used to reconstruct the likely failure sequence, utilizing all manner of available information, including survey data and colorized ground photos.

**Speaker:**

J. David Rogers received his B.S. in Geology (California State Polytechnic University), M.S. in Civil Engineering (U.C. Berkeley), and Ph.D. in Geological and Geotechnical Engineering (U.C. Berkeley).

Prior to entering academia he worked in the private sector on a wide array of projects involving forensic geology and engineering. His ***Reassessment of the St. Francis Dam Failure*** article was recognized with the GSA's Burwell Award and the National Research Council's Rock Mechanics Award. His lecture on the St. Francis Dam was selected by AEG and GSA for the Jahns' Distinguished Lectureship in 1996 and Sigma Xi's College of Distinguished Lecturers between 1999-2001.

Professor Rogers served on the faculty of the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at U. C. Berkeley from 1994-2001 before accepting the Hasselmann Chair in Geological Engineering at the Missouri University of Science & Technology. This summer he is here in southern California as a Trent Dames and Dibner Research Fellow at the Huntington Library in Pasadena, writing a book about the St. Francis Dam failure and its impact on California, the Boulder Canyon Project, and the nation at large.

<b>Chair Column</b>
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Peter Thams

Greetings Section. At our June dinner meeting at Steven's Steakhouse, we welcomed AEG President Mark Molinari, who gave a great presentation on LIDAR applications to environmental and engineering geology projects. Many thanks to Mark whose time is stretched pretty thin these days, having traveled from San Francisco to address our group, then on to San Diego, then to San Bernardino to participate in a short course held by the Inland Empire Chapter. More on the Inland Empire Short Course from Kerry Cato below.

**Joint Task Force on Areas of Practice (JTFAP)**

The Geotechnical Engineering Technical Group of the Oregon Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ORASCE) recently submitted comments regarding the JTFAP to their national organization the Geo-Institute of ASCE. ORASCE commented that the group could ***not support*** the document as written, and provided conceptual considerations and potential revisions to improve the document in their estimation. There was nothing offered, in my review of the

ORASCE recommendations, that is likely to move any revision of the document toward consensus with AEG members in opposition. The ORASCE comments are posted on the Section website and can be retrieved by clicking on the link **(INSERT HYPER LINK HERE)** or by copying and pasting the link into your web browser.

The June 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for ASCE members to submit comments has passed, but it is not certain at this point how many comments the Geo-Institute received, what the overall consensus of ASCE membership is, or how the Geo-Institute will want to proceed (or not) on the matter. As a reminder, AEG Board of Directors decided in Seattle to forestall action on the document until the ASCE membership comment period closed. If the Geo-Institute decides to move forward with the document, AEG will form a committee to evaluate all the comments received and provide recommendations on how to move forward (or not). The committee's recommendations would be discussed in an open forum at the Annual Meeting in Lake Tahoe. We will be requesting an update from national on communication with the Geo-Institute and the potential formation of the committee and hope to have a significant progress report by the next dinner meeting.

### **Sacramento Legislative Meetings**

Charles Nestle

On Monday, June 15, Hugh Robertson (AEG SoCal), Eric Chase (AEG Sacramento), and Charles Nestle (CCGO), along with Judy Wolen (AEG's Legislative Analyst) met with several staff of key legislators to discuss the Governor's proposal to merge the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) into the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB). Following these meetings Hugh, Eric, and Charles testified at a hearing of the Senate Committee on Business, Professions & Economic Development (still informally known as B&P – it's old name) on the Governor's elimination, consolidation and reorganization proposals. The agenda item read: "Should the Board of Geologists and Geophysicists be consolidated with the State Mining and Geology Board?"

Of note is that there is no proposal to merge the BGG with the Board for Engineers and Land Surveyors, nor is there a proposal to convert the BGG into a bureau (both options proposed in the previous years). No one even spoke of it.

Our morning meetings were with: Chelsea Minor, Legislative Assistant to Senator Sam Blakeslee (R-San Luis Obispo, PhD Geophysics); Aaron Bone, Deputy Chief of Staff to Senator Mark Wyland (R-No. San Diego & So. Orange Counties); Mark Reeder, Chief of Staff to Senator Sam Aanestad (R-Nevada City); G.V. Ayers and Bill Gage, consultants to the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee; and Mufaddal Ezzy, Consultant and B&P staff person to Senate Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg.

The primary topic was this: the Senate B&P Committee prepared a background paper that discussed the proposed merger and essentially concluded that there would be no economic or efficiency benefit. Yet the official conclusion was to support. All of the staff we met with were puzzled by this.

The buzz in the corridors was that the B&P Committee staff sent their report to the Senate Rules office, which allegedly returned it on Friday June 12 with instructions to change the conclusion from "don't support" to "support." No "official" explanation was provided.

The Senate Committee on Business, Professions & Economic Development hearing began at 1:00. Veteran legislator Gloria Negrete-McLeod chairs this committee; Mark Wyland is Vice

Chair; and the members include Sam Aanestad, Ellen Corbett, Lou Correa, Dean Flores, Jenny Oropeza, Gloria Romero, Mimi Walters, and Leland Yee. The hearing agenda (item II4) indicated that testimony would be heard from the following (in sequence): BGG, SMGB, then professional groups, organizations, and individuals. Kristin Skelton (Dept. of Finance) and Marni Weber (Dept. of Conservation Legislative Director) spoke first in support of the proposal, followed by BGG Executive Officer, Rick Rempel. A committee member asked Rick if he supported the proposal and Rick danced around the question without ever directly answering it. We suspect that he was also instructed to support it. No one spoke on behalf of the SMGB, but we know that SMGB administration support the merger. Then Hugh, Charles, and Eric spoke against the proposal, providing specific reasons why the merger is inappropriate. A detailed explanation of the differences between the two boards and a discussion of why the merger is a bad fit follows this report.

Senator Wyland was the only committee member to ask the obvious questions such as why this merger was in the proposal if there's no benefit. He clearly got it, and was the only one with the cojones to vote no. The final vote was 8-1 in support of the merger proposal. Senator Aanestad did not attend the hearing at all. Walters voted for it (Charles is of the opinion that she sees the Governor through rose-tinted glasses). The committee also voted to not send the proposal back to the conference budget committee, but to do a bill instead. This could change if Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg (D) and Assembly Speaker Karen Bass (D) choose to.

We have been cultivating a relationship with Assembly Member Sam Blakeslee (R) (primarily because he has a PhD in Geophysics) since he was elected as a freshman a few years ago. At that time he cancelled other meetings to speak with us geologists. More recently as his stature increased we've only been able to speak to his staff, unless we run into him in the hall (as occurred last January), or try to meet any time other than when the budget is due. Sam is now a member of the "Big Five." The Big Five are Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (R), Assembly Speaker Karen Bass (D), Assembly Minority Leader Sam Blakeslee (R), Senate President pro tem Darrell Steinberg (D), and Senate Minority Leader Dennis Hollingsworth (R). The Big Five have been described as "impenetrable." However, we still have an ear with Blakeslee (or at least his staff), and may try to play that up if need be.

The absolute earliest that any legislation could be approved to merge the boards is the fall of 2010, effective winter 2011, but will likely take longer as that legislation will require rewriting the licensure Act, and much of the statutes that created and govern the SMGB. Read the discussion following this report, and you'll understand why this is so. The legislative process offers plenty of opportunity for comments and testimony, and your AEG representatives will be there.

What happens next? Judy Wolen reports that a bill including recommendations for board mergers has apparently been drafted but is not yet available for circulation. The bill language must be approved by the Senate Pro Tem's office, and it will not be surprising if the bill becomes available only a very short time before the hearing; thus not allowing sufficient time for scrutiny. A Senate B&P hearing may occur on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July, or it may be a Senate bill presented in the Assembly B&P Committee hearing.

The bill will include: the recommendations from the hearing we attended which included the merger of BGG with SMGB; sunset extensions (BGG is not included in this section as the Board does not sunset in 2010); eight board extensions; and sunset review reforms. Following the Senate B&P, the bill will also have to go to Assembly Business and Professions Committee. Judy reports that the Assembly B&P Committee do not know anything about the bill as of yet. And she is working to get a meeting with Blakeslee and John Pfeiffer (AEG San Francisco) and Eric Chase (AEG Sacramento).

## MERGING OF CALIFORNIA'S "GEOLOGY" BOARDS

A proposal has surfaced to merge the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) and the State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB). Both boards deal with geology and its practice, but in different ways and to different extents. There are fundamental differences in the missions, administrative procedures, regulatory duties and powers, legal counsel, administrative home and support services, and autonomy that should be accommodated in fashioning such a merger. The table below summarizes the differences in the mission, responsibilities, and function of each board. Text following the table provides detailed background and extended discussion of the principal points listed in the table.

### SUMMARY TABLE: DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS AND THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

CHARACTERISTIC	BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS (BGG)	STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD (SMGB)
BASIC DUTY	Protection of the public by licensing and disciplining geologists and Geophysicists.	Protection of the state's interest in the mining industry.
ADDITIONAL DUTIES	Establish ethical and practice guidelines for the practice of geology and geophysics. Create or contract for, and administer, licensure examinations.	Designate and protect mineral resources; provide policy guidance and product approval for California Geological Survey, especially as to Alquist-Priolo Act and Seismic Hazards Act.
MEMBERSHIP	Three professional and four public members.	One local government official, one non-specialized public member, seven expertise-based professional members.
ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY	Acts as adjudicator in disciplinary cases against licensees.	Acts as adjudicator in SMARA enforcement cases. Confirm or modify administrative penalties imposed by the Director of the Dept. of Conservation under SMARA. Evaluates lead agency performance under SMARA and assumes SMARA administrative duties if lead agency is ineffective.
BOARD KNOWLEDGE OF ENFORCEMENT CASES	Board members are kept unaware of enforcement cases that might reach the board as an adjudicatory body until such cases are	Board members are regularly informed of potential enforcement cases at early stages. SMGB may refer potential

	brought before the board.	misconduct of licensees who prepare reports for mining companies on which it bases decisions to the appropriate professional licensure board.
REGULATORY SCOPE BY SUBJECT GROUP	Regulates people (individual licensees and non-licensees).	Regulates an industry comprised of business varying from very small to very large.
PROFESSIONAL MEMBER EXPERTISE	Petroleum geology, engineering geology, geophysics.	Mining engineering and geology, geology and engineering for seismic and slope stability hazards, seismology, groundwater geology and water quality, landscape architecture, environmental protection.
MISSION	To serve and protect the public (as to the practice of geology and geophysics).	To represent the State's interest in the development, utilization and conservation of mineral resources; reclamation of mined lands; development of geologic and seismic hazard information; and to provide a forum for public redress.
STANDING COMMITTEES	Examination Enforcement Oversight Legislative Professional Affairs Advisory	Geohazards Mineral and Geologic Resources Policy and Legislation Surface Mining Standards
APPOINTING AUTHORITY AND PROCESS	Three professional and two public members appointed by the governor. One member appointed by Senate Committee on Rules and one by the Speaker of the Assembly.	All members are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.
REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBER FROM OFFICE	All appointees serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.	Once confirmed, members can be removed from office only for specified actions and following specific procedures.
LEGAL COUNSEL	Department of Consumer Affairs Staff Counsel.	Deputy Attorney General.
SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS PER YEAR	4	11
Estimated full and partial	12. Additional days	33. Additional days

calendar days per year per board member for board meetings, meeting preparation, and travel.	required for committee service.	required for committee service and vested rights hearings.
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The principal points listed in the table are discussed in detail below.

Different Missions. The BGG is a consumer protection board that regulates people, namely, geologists and geophysicists, through licensure. The SMGB regulates an industry. It asserts the state's interest in the mining industry through its duties as defined in the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA), as amended. These missions do not overlap and are not duplicative. The SMGB also has regulatory and policy duties under the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, (A-P Act) and acts as policy adviser to the State Geologist. The differing missions are expressed in the expertise and interests of the members of the two boards. The SMGB is driven by scientific expertise; only two of its nine authorized positions are not required to be a specialist in some area of professional/scientific expertise needed to understand and administer SMARA and the A P Act. One of those two positions is a non specialized public member and the other represents the interests of local government (because local government has administrative responsibilities under SMARA and the A P Act). The BGG is consumer-driven. A majority of its positions (four) are public member positions, and the other three are held by licensed professionals. The professional members of the BGG are chosen for their expertise in general areas of practice (geophysics, petroleum geology, engineering geology) and their knowledge of professional practice. They are not necessarily experienced in the mining industry, or geologic hazards issues that are at the core of the SMGB mission. The SMGB board members who have geologic backgrounds bring specific areas of geologic expertise to the SMGB, but their backgrounds do not necessarily extend to the geophysics or petroleum geology expertise required on the BGG. This lack of duplication of expertise means that a combined board would need the expertise of all of the professional geologist/geophysicists members of both boards in order to carry out the function of both boards.

Different Regulatory Purposes. The BGG regulates people: professional geologists and geophysicists. The SMGB regulates an industry: the mining industry (surface mining and the surface operations of underground mines.). The SMGB also has policy development and advisory responsibilities that affect and control the work of the State Geologist (California Geological Survey, CGS) in the areas of geologic hazards and mineral resource classification. The BGG is a consumer protection board. It examines, licenses, and disciplines individual geologists and geophysicists under the umbrella of the policies, procedures, and guidance of the Department of Consumer Affairs, using DCA staff attorneys and Administrative Law Judges familiar with consumer law. It is charged with asserting and representing the public's interest in the practice of geology and geophysics by individuals. In so doing, its case load is dominated by complaints from consumers and regulatory reviewers. The BGG regulates people in the businesses of geology and geophysics. Its staff investigates consumer complaints against individual geologists and geophysicists, and the BGG sits as the final adjudicatory body in high profile cases, such as license revocation.

The SMGB is charged with representing the state's interests in the operation of surface mines in California, i.e., the largest part of the mining industry in California. It does this as authorized and required by the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, as amended (SMARA). Complaints to the SMGB come from several sources: 1) the businesses in the industry, 2) individuals concerned with the operation and its effects of a particular mine, and 3) public interest groups. The SMGB sits as the final adjudicatory board in high-level cases, such as vested rights determination, and fines and penalties for non-compliance with the terms of SMARA and the

board's regulations. The SMGB has more independence in some of its actions than does the BGG.

Neither the staff nor the legal counsel of either board has a common regulatory or investigative approach, and they do not work on a daily basis under a common legal/administrative framework. While the staff of each board may hold identical qualifications (professional licensure), there is little overlap in technical and administrative expertise developed on the job: staff members will not be interchangeable in a merged operation, and board members will have to expand their expertise into new territory, learning the duties of the other board. The nature of the work of each board requires some working level of staff specialization, and very likely a Chief of Staff would conclude that maintaining that staff specialization would lead to smoother operations. Conclusion: there is no reason to assume that just because one board has "geology" in its name and the other board has "geologists" in its name that they are automatically overlapping or duplicative in mission, expertise, function, and purpose. They are not.

Different Agency Homes. The two boards are housed in different agencies and follow their respective home agency and department administrative policies and procedures. The BGG is housed in the Department of Consumer Affairs in the State and Consumer Services Agency; the SMGB is housed in the Department of Conservation in the Resources Agency. The physical location of each board is in its departmental home. The SMGB is housed in the Department of Conservation at 801 K St., Sacramento, because it works within the mission of that department in earth resources management and protection, and geologic hazards risk analysis and mitigation. It coordinates closely with the Department Director, the California Geological Survey, and the Office of Mine Reclamation, both in the same building. The BGG is housed in the Department of Consumer Affairs at 1625 North Market Blvd., Sacramento, along with many other consumer protection regulatory boards. It reports upward to the Director of that Department, and coordinates with other consumer protection regulatory boards. The physical location of each board is in its departmental home. Combining the two boards at one location, whether the location of either existing board or a new, separate location, displaces one or both boards from its specified administrative home and would lead to functional and administrative difficulties.

Potential Conflict of Interest for Members of a Combined Board in Disciplinary Actions. The SMGB relies on the work of professional consultants retained by mining industry companies, including the work of licensed geologists, geophysicists, engineers, surveyors, and landscape architects. If the SMGB finds it necessary to refer a report prepared by a licensed (or unlicensed) geologist or geophysicist to the BGG for investigation, it will do so, as it would (and has done) for a questionable report prepared by any other licensed professional. This introduces a conflict of interest for members of a combined board because they would be acting as both complainant and judge in a licensure discipline case against a professional geologist or geophysicist. Additionally, in BGG enforcement cases the BGG members are not informed of the case until it is either resolved below board level or brought to the BGG for final adjudication. BGG and DCA procedures require that the BGG members have no knowledge of the case until it is brought to the board for final adjudication, thus preserving respondent rights and privacy to that point, and preventing prejudicial knowledge from reaching BGG members. However, if a combined board decides to refer a potential disciplinary case involving mining or environmental geology to its staff for investigation, then the board members are automatically informed of the disciplinary case at that juncture, thus introducing a conflict if and when they act as final adjudicator in licensure cases.

Need to Reconcile Public Member Duties and Number of Public Members. As a consumer protection board, the BGG has a majority of public members, whose function is to assure that the licensure of geologists and geophysicists is controlled by the public, not the professions. As an



industry regulatory board, the SMGB has no member with close ties to the mining industry, thus assuring that the mining industry does not control the board. If a combined board is to retain both the scope of expertise needed by the SMGB, and required by statute, and the scope of expertise needed by the BGG plus the public majority required on the BGG by statute, then the combined board would have three expertise based seats from the BGG, and from the SMGB one local government seat and seven expertise based seats, for a total of 11 specialized seats. To maintain the public majority required for the BGG function would require an additional 12 public member seats, making the total board membership 23. A single regulatory board this large would be much more cumbersome and expensive to administer than the two separate boards.

Workload on Board Members. The BGG meets four times a year and the SMGB schedules 11 meetings a year. Combining the boards and their functions will nearly triple the workload on BGG members transferred to a new combined, board. Combining boards will increase the meeting workload on SMGB members by a factor of about 1.5 to 2, and likely more. The total workload will require very significant dedication of time to board service by board members. The agenda content for each board meeting is extensive, requiring meetings that typically last more than half a day to one full day. Therefore, meetings of a combined board would have to be scheduled for a separate full day dedicated to each function: licensure and SMARA administration. Travel to an SMGB meeting occurs the day before the meeting; travel home occurs the day of the meeting. SMGB committee meetings are generally scheduled on the same day as board meetings, usually preceding the board meeting. In some cases, the work of a committee requires a substantial dedication of time, and these meetings are scheduled, if possible, the day before a board meeting to reduce travel expenses.

If the SMGB appoints a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to study an issue in detail, the TAC usually has two SMGB members on it, drawn from the SMGB committee related to the task, and is populated by industry experts who are not on the SMGB. TAC meetings are public meetings, and the public and industry generally participate, requiring the meetings to be held in suitable facilities.

Because of a court decision, the SMGB also acts as a hearing board for vested rights determinations for mines in areas for which it acts as the SMARA lead agency. The SMGB anticipates three to four days of such hearings in calendar year 2009, and additional vested rights determinations could arise in future years. This adds to the workload of the board members.

If fully seated, the SMGB would have nine members meeting eleven days a year on a typical schedule, plus some or all members meeting in a variety of committee meetings or vested rights hearings several days per year. In summary, SMGB board members typically plan on 11 to 15 days a year for board and committee meetings. Each SMGB board meeting addresses an agenda that requires substantial pre-meeting study by the board members. The agenda packages are delivered on the Friday before the board meeting, and board members devote several hours over the next few days to understand the agenda actions and issues, and to prepare for discussion of staff and stakeholder presentations.

Thus, the typical SMGB member plans to devote 22 days per year to SMGB meetings and meeting travel, and 11 days per year for agenda package study, plus time for any extra committee or TAC meetings. At this time, one SMGB member is retired, and the others are employed full time. For those who are employed, taking time from their very competitive businesses or highly charged public employment stations to serve on the SMGB represents considerable dedication. It would not be an exaggeration to assert that the typical SMGB

member dedicates the equivalent of 35 days per year to board service, considering travel days, meeting days, and study days.

The BGG has four scheduled meetings per year and, depending on case load and examination cycles, at least one Examination Committee and one Enforcement Oversight Committee meeting per year. In addition, the BGG makes use of Technical Advisory Committees to deal with special issues. Meeting workload for the BGG members is generally similar to that of the SMGB members: each meeting requires one or two days of travel, and a day of preparation time. Thus, BGG members dedicate about 12 days a year to that board, considering travel days, meeting days, and study days, plus time for committee meetings.

Differing Appointing Authorities and Processes. SMGB members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Once confirmed, they may be removed from office only for specified transgressions, following specific procedures. Five BGG members (all three professional and two public) are appointed by the Governor, one is appointed by Senate Rules Committee, and one by the Speaker of the Assembly. The BGG members serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority. These differing processes and how they protect the public interest should be resolved in a proposal to combine the boards.

Different Legal Counsel. The BGG is assigned DCA staff legal counsel who attends BGG meetings and offers legal advice to the BGG and its Executive Officer. When the BGG hears discipline cases at a high level, it uses the services of an Administrative Law Judge, and DCA staff legal counsel represents the BGG. The SMGB is assigned a Deputy Attorney General for routine legal counsel. That Deputy AG attends SMGB meetings, offers legal advice to the SMGB and the SMGB Executive Officer/Special Representative, and represents the SMGB in litigation. The SMGB host agency, the Department of Conservation, has staff legal counsel who attend SMGB meetings to represent the Department before the SMGB, as when the SMGB makes decisions to support or modify certain actions by the Director of the Department related to SMARA administration.

Lack of a Staffing Plan. A staffing plan has not been presented for the proposed combined board. Each Executive Officer is fully involved in their respective functions; one super EO position might replace both EOs, but then that person would still need two subordinate administrators at the level of the present EOs to carry the load now carried by each board's EO. Each board is understaffed at present in terms of actual staff work load, so it seems that, on a rational basis, no staff positions could be cut. The expected savings will not occur. A large increase the number of public members on a combined board will increase costs considerably.

## SUMMARY

Combining these two boards presents several challenges. The time dedication by SMGB members is near the limit of what can be expected from members of a volunteer board working with minimal staff levels. In the long run, it is likely that only retirees or those with independent incomes would have the time to dedicate to a combined board routinely meeting 12 to 16 times a year, plus committee meetings. This might lead to a lack of diversity on the board. The dual missions supported by legal counsel from different sources would add to the complications of administration. The potential for crippling conflicts of interest is real in professional discipline cases. No matter where housed, a combined board and its staff would need to work within two different administrative systems in two different departments in two different agencies. Clearly, this could be dysfunctional. Each board requires expertise that is not required on the other board, so no savings will occur as a result of reduction of the number of professional board members in a combined board.

<b>Report on AEG-Inland Empire Chapter – Annual Short Course</b>
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Kerry Kato

Attendees of the recent AEG Inland Chapter Short Course were treated to diverse and in-depth discussions on many technologies, regulatory issues, and future trends useful to practitioners. The Short Course was titled, “**Expanding Geological Practice: New Areas & Methods.**” The course was held on Friday June 12 at the University of California-Riverside Extension and thirty-eight people attended the day-long course. The subject matter fell into two categories:

1) Site Investigation Survey Methods-LiDAR, InSAR, GPS-GIS; and

2) Environmental discussions include: climate change, solid waste management, storm water pollution plans, and the state of the field of Environmental Practice.

In addition, Mark Molinari, President of AEG-National gave his perspective on the state of the engineering geology profession.

The eight speakers represented industry, academia & research, and government. The Inland Chapter wants to sincerely thank all of the speakers for their presentations and participation in the course. The comments I received were glowing and there were several good question and answer sessions. More detail about the talks and a few more pictures are posted on the Chapter website: <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/shortcourses/>

Kerry Cato, Chair AEG-Inland Empire Chapter

**Public Service Announcement**

Charles Nestle

**ZIP-A-DIPs Are Still Available!**

How many of you have given up trying to find replacement for your faded and warped Zip-A-Dips? Zip-A-Dips are available from Don and Jeannine Lamar, who have lived in retirement in Reno for the past six years. Jeannine said that they don't plan on having any more made when they exhaust the present supply of Zip-A-Dips. She said, "It sure is nice to know that some geologists are still using ZADs."

Order your Zip-A-Dip by phone: (775) 322-5344. The price for 1 is \$4.00, or order 2-10 for \$3.50 ea., 11-49 for 3.00 ea., and 50+ for \$2.50 ea.

**Chapter Meetings****Inland Empire:**

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/inlandempire/>

**Central Coast:**

For the latest information and updates, please visit <http://www.aegsc.org/chapters/centralcoast/>

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\* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is Friday, July 31st.

**YEAR 2009 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED**

Contributions from corporations and individual members are 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 treasurer, Jon Relyea.

**2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

For those of you who have not yet renewed **(the deadline was November 1)**, are unsure about your membership status, or did not receive your membership dues statement, please contact AEG Headquarters at [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org). You can renew your membership online. Please update your membership if you wish to continue to receive future issues of the newsletter.

**\*\*\*NOTICE: Proposed New AEG Publication\*\*\***

**WHO'S WHO in SO CALIFORNIA ENGINEERING GEOLOGY**  
**The Evolution of Engineering Geology in Southern California**

Have you ever wondered "Whatever happened to\_\_\_?" or "I've heard of \_\_\_ , who is he?"

The undersigned have decided to try to prepare an internet publication with the above title, which will include biographies of engineering geologists in southern California. We would like you to share your biography (autobiography) with other EGs. If you have worked on an interesting project, others would like to know about it.

If we limit each autobiography to 3 pages of text, plus photos, this publication would be more than 1,000 pages long. Therefore, we plan to utilize a proposed new AEG Foundation internet website, where there is no limit to total pages, and we can use color photos. Also, this new website will be available for no-charge access, worldwide, thus spreading the word on the history and evolution of engineering geology, and southern California's immense contribution.

We suggest (not require) three criteria for inclusion: 1. That you are a CA licensed CEG; 2. That you are now or once were a member of AEG; 3. That you have enough years of professional experience to relate one or more significant projects you have worked on. We believe there are more than 250 such EGs in southern California. This will be an evolving internet site where new autobiographies can be added.

We will also include Memorial biographies of past notable geologists in southern California. So far, we have identified 30, including John Buwalda, Ian Campbell, Tom Dibblee, Rollin Eckis, Perry Ehlig, Richard Jahns, John Mann, F.L. Ransome, Charles Richter, Dottie & Marty Stout, Gene Waggoner. Biographies of 14 of these notable geologists were published for the recent AEG Annual Meeting, in "History of the Association's First 50 Years," available from AEG HQ, contact Julie Keaton or Becky Roland.

Here is a CHECKLIST FOR YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY:

Complete NAME, address, phone, email; BIRTH DATE and place; UNIVERSITY(s) attended, major(s), degree(s), year(s); MILITARY service; FIRMS/AGENCIES you worked for; up to 3 significant PROJECTS you worked on; possibly relate a serious or humorous INCIDENT; a MENTOR you may wish to acknowledge; professional SOCIETIES, HONORS, AWARDS; HOBBIES; up to 5 PUBLICATIONS; PHOTOS of yourself and of projects (scanned images preferred).

So, if you wish to be included in this new internet publication, prepare your autobiography and email it with photos to: allen@hatheway.net and in the Subject box, type: So. Cal. Geologist. Or mail it to Allen Hatheway, 10256 Stoltz Dr., Rolla, MO 65401. Please, no more than 3 pages of text, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt.

Please pass this notice on to those you may know who no longer get this Newsletter.

In the spirit of camaraderie, we thank you,

Richard Proctor  
 Allen Hatheway  
 David Rogers  
 Larry Cann  
 Bob Lynn

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Stephen Varnell, P.G., C.E.G.  
Fugro West, Inc.  
4820 McGrath St., Suite 100  
Ventura, CA 93003  
805-650-7000  
svarnell@fugro.com