Meeting Announcement

AEG Sacramento Chapter

Tuesday, August 23, 2016

Location: Hoppy Brewery
6300 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95819
Link to map

Speaker: Laurie Racca, Senior Registrar for Geologists and Geophysicists, Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists

Topic: “Understanding Licensure in California: Historical Perspective, Today’s Purpose, Planning for Tomorrow”

Agenda:
5:30–6:30pm – Social hour
6:30-7:30pm – Dinner
7:30-8:30pm – Speaker
8:30-8:45pm – Questions

Meeting Cost: $30 members (with RSVP) and $35 non-members
There will be a $3 surcharge for walk-ins
$10 students (no surcharge for student walk-ins)
The FIRST 5 students to RSVP are free

Student Sponsorships welcomed! Sponsor a student for $20 (suggested).

RSVP at http://www.aegsacto.org/meetings/signup/
or email: Tim.McCrink@conservation.ca.gov
Abstract:
In 2009, the State Legislature mandated integration of the former Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) with the former Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. While many at the time weren’t sure of the outcome BPELSG, as it is known today, believes the result is greater than the sum of the two parts.

The role of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists (BPELSG) is to protect the public by promoting standards for competence and integrity through licensing and regulating the Board’s professions. BPELSG is inviting you to join us for a discussion focused on the evolution and current status of qualification requirements for becoming a licensed Professional Geologist in California.

Valid criteria to achieve professional licensure includes education, work experience, and success in passing the appropriate examinations. In 2004, the former BGG changed the education requirements for geology licensure. The current education requirements for geologist licensing in California are described in §7841 (b) of the Geologist and Geophysicist Act (Cal. Bus. and Prof. Code §7841). "Graduation from a college or university with a major in geological sciences or any other discipline that, in the opinion of the board, is relevant to geology."

While a major in geological sciences may seem straightforward, the lack of a detailed definition has been confusing for applicants and creates problems while reviewing applications for the Professional Geologist license. The Board intends to define the minimum curriculum for a qualifying geological sciences degree and is actively soliciting input from all stakeholders before rulemaking.

Laurie Racca, P.G., is a licensed Professional Geologist with 25 years of experience specializing in complex environmental site investigations and leading multidisciplinary teams. Her experience includes working in private environmental and geotechnical consulting; providing regulatory agency oversight of large military and civilian environmental cleanups for the Department of Toxic Substances Control; and investigating fraud, waste, and abuse as part of the Office of Enforcement at the State Water Resources Control Board. She was appointed as the Senior Registrar for Geologists and Geophysicists by BPELSG in June 2015.