



ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

1100-H Brandywine Blvd.
Zanesville, Ohio 43701
Phone: 844-331-7867 FAX: 740-452-2552



Licensure Committee Conference Call Notes

October 21, 2016

Members (those participating are highlighted)

Ken Neal, Co-Chair (Puget Sound)
Charles Nestle, Co-Chair (Southern California)
Stephen Mogilnicki (DC-Maryland-Virginia)
Duane Eversoll (Kansas City-Omaha)
Kevin Coleman (Texas)
Raymond Knox (Carolinas)
Chris Humphrey (Oregon)
Peter Thams (Southern California)
Adam Reese (Oregon)
Paul Weaver (Carolinas)
Tom Westbrook (Lower Mississippi Valley)
Duane Kreuger (St. Louis)
Jessica Castleton (Utah)
Eric Walston (Texas)
Nate Saraceno (Greater Pittsburgh – SPC Rep)
Cynthia Palomares (Texas – SPC Rep)
Kathy Troost (Puget Sound – E.C. Liaison)
Yolanda Natividad (AEG Headquarters)

- 1) **Update on actions to thwart threats to licensure from Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce and other similar groups – cooperation between AEG and other licensed professions:** We discussed “The Occupational Board Reform Act” model legislation draft dated June 27, 2016 by the Legislative Council Institute for Justice, sent to Ken Neal by Ken Ferguson. The concern is that this draft, which would in effect harm many if not all licensure programs, could be a model that shows up in legislation in states where governmental regulation is not seen in a favorable light. We concurred that we need to be vigilant, and the best way to fight against such actions is to join with other licensed professions. Ken Ferguson has been working with ASCE and other organizations on our behalf to come up with a unified strategy.
- 2) **Other current events – anything happening?** New York has recently advertised its grandparenting period (obtaining license without examination), which will extend from now until November 2017. Ken put a note in *The Insider*. Chris inquired whether any statistics exist on how many federal employees, who are not required to be licensed for their positions, take advantage of grandparenting opportunities. To our knowledge, no statistics are available.

- 3) **Professional Legislative Support Fund update:** Yolanda left the call, so we were unable to inquire about the status of the updated policy, which contains specific direction regarding management of state legislative efforts. The Members Only branch of the Legislative Resource Link has not been modified to reflect either the updated policy or the new organization (Ken provided forms for the transition).

A rumor is circulating that the BOD voted to reduce California members' fee for the fund to \$5 because they are paying for a lobbyist to monitor legislative activities in their state (subsequently determined to be true). This is directly in conflict with the policy agreed to by the BOD at the annual meeting in 2015 and will result in serious consequences should funds be needed for specific efforts, particularly if more than one occurs at the same time. No one on the licensure committee was notified of this action by the EC.

- 4) **Other items:** Chris reported that the Oregon Board is seeking comments from Oregon-registered geologists on a proposal to require continuing education. A request for comments has been sent to each Oregon registrant.

Next Call: January 20.