



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **General Issues Committee Meeting**

*January 27, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.*

333 Guadalupe Street, Tower 1, Room 1250A, Austin, Texas 78701

### **MINUTES**

- A. The regularly scheduled meeting of the General Issues Committee of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 10:05 a.m.
- B. Roll was called and a quorum was certified. In attendance were Members Justin McNamee, Judy Reeves, Ph.D., P.G., Charles Knobloch, J.D., P.G., and committee alternate Member Barbara Roeling, P.G. Committee Chair Kelly Krenz-Doe was absent. By assent of the committee, Member Knobloch chaired the meeting.
- C. The minutes from the General Issues Committee meeting held on November 18, 2011 were approved as written.
- D. No members of the public were present and no public comments were offered.
- E. Regarding the previously proposed and withdrawn amendment to 22 TAC 851.152, the committee unanimously approved Member Roeling to make edits to the section for future committee review, taking into account the previous proposed amendments and previously submitted comments. She was directed to forward her edits to Committee Chair Krenz-Doe for consideration of recommendation at the next General Issues Committee meeting.
- F. Regarding setting dates, times, and locations for continued public discourse on developing proposed wording relative to AOR #6, the Committee approves coordination of five (5) public hearings across the state to be scheduled in the cities of Corpus Christi, Austin, Dallas, Lubbock, and Houston. It was recommended to schedule approximately one hearing per month beginning in March, and for staff to coordinate with both the Committee Chair and the professional organizations and societies in those respective cities. Staff was directed to coordinate dates, times and locations of these hearings, and, if any professional organization wants to host a hearing in coordination with their monthly meetings, staff should work with the organizations to coordinate.
- G. Regarding the Advisory Opinion Request AOR #8 regarding P.G. Seal Requirements and "bound reports", the AOR has been withdrawn by the requestor. After discussion, the Committee determined that its recommendation is that the Board should respond with "no comment" on the Advisory Opinion Request.
- H. Regarding the Advisory Opinion Request AOR #9 regarding UIC plugging reports, the AOR has been withdrawn by the requestor. After discussion, the Committee determined that its recommendation is that the Board should respond with "no comment" on the Advisory Opinion Request.
- I. Regarding the Advisory Opinion Request AOR #10 regarding whether geologic cross sections need to be sealed by a P.G. if they are bound or unbound when submitted to TCEQ, the AOR has been withdrawn by the requestor. After discussion, the Committee determined that its recommendation is that the Board should respond with "no comment" on the Advisory Opinion Request.
- J. Regarding the issue of electronically generated signatures for P.G. seals, the committee determined that the rule regarding electronic signatures is sufficient and does not need revision at this time. No action was taken.
- K. Regarding permissive practice regulations for house foundation design development based on soil borings or geotechnical investigations and interpretation, no action was taken.

- L. Regarding underground waste injection disposal and CO<sup>2</sup> sequestration--review of current industry practices and regulation, it was determined that the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) has rules relating to this issue. Jurisdiction in this area falls under the RRC and also federal regulations. It was determined that Member Knobloch and Director Horton should follow up with the Railroad Commission to collaborate regarding this issue.
- M. Regarding future committee meeting dates: once the committee sets up some dates for the upcoming public hearings, the next committee meeting can be arranged in conjunction with one or more of those hearings. Future agenda items include review of 22 TAC 851.152 for possible amendment, scheduling the public hearings for AOR #6, and the item regarding CO<sup>2</sup> sequestration.
- N. The committee was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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