

The Official

AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

May Meeting Details

Tuesday, May 1st

Location: 3 Magnets Brewing

600 Franklin St. SE

Olympia, WA

6:00 pm Social

7:00 Presentation

Dinner: On your own

\$10 Donation (Member)

\$15 Donation (Non-Member)

Students FREE with RSVP

Please RSVP by 4 pm Friday,
April 27th at:

There is a \$2 surcharge for
those who do not reserve by
the deadline

Upcoming Meetings:

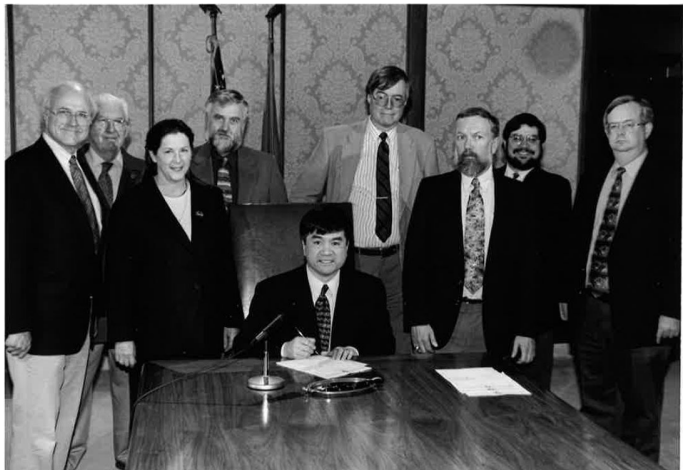


Geologist Licensing: Past, Present, and Future

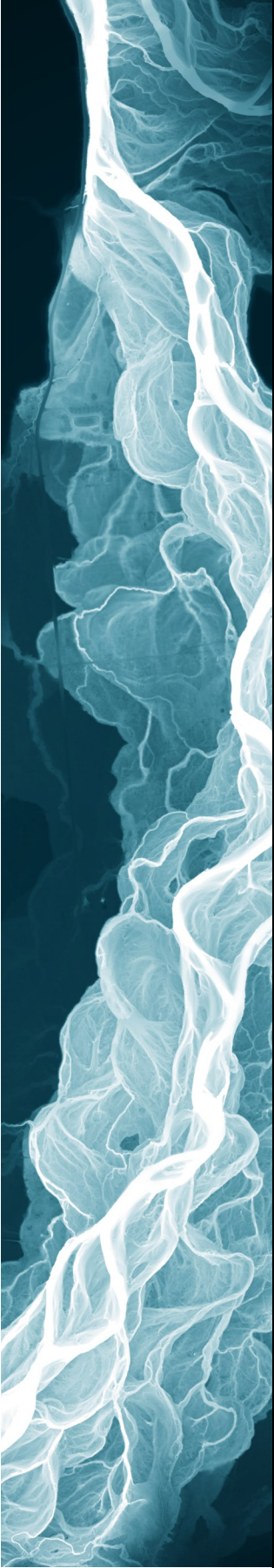
Licensure is established because there is a need to clearly identify those individuals qualified to practice a profession in order to protect the public health, safety, welfare, and the environment. AEG first attempted to initiate a licensure bill in about 1968. Little happened until 1988, when the legislature initiated a sunrise review of the practice of geology in Washington, which recommended against licensure at that time and further study. In 1993, a bill fashioned after a model act prepared by the Council of Professional Geological Organizations was introduced, but failed in committee. In 1994, after AEG was provided an outline of how a licensure bill in Washington should read, the bill was redrafted. A new licensure effort, using the revised bill, was initiated in 1999 and in 2000, engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6455 was enacted.

In September 2000, a technical advisory committee met and drafted rules, most of which are still in effect. On May 8, 2001, the Board held its first meeting, when it codified the rules and established the hydrogeologist specialty. The licensure law contains significant requirements, including who is qualified to practice geology, ethics requirements, how to file a complaint, and specific elements that separate the specialties from the general practice of geology.

It currently does not require continuing education. Although we seem to feel safe, all licensure is currently under attack on a national level, not just for geologists but for many other professions and occupations as well. Two organizations are primarily responsible for initiating legislation to abolish licensure, the Institute for Justice and the Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce. It is critical that this type of legislation is tracked from the very beginning so that it can be stopped before it becomes a real threat. AEG maintains a Professional Legislative Support Fund, from which matching dollars are available for lobbying. Assistance for coordinating legislative efforts is available from the AEG Licensure Committee. Please reference the Law Relating to Geologists prior to the meeting and bring a copy for discussion.



<http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/docs/the-law-relating-geologists.pdf>



Bio: Ken Neal

Ken Neal practiced engineering geology for 39 years before “retiring” in 2013. He previously worked for the US Forest Service and in the private sector before forming his consulting firm, Kenneth Neal & Associates, which he operated for 20 years. He became the Washington Section’s Licensure Chair in 1992 and was intimately involved with the passage of geologist licensure in 2000. He has Co-Chaired the AEG Licensure Committee since 2009. Ken received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Portland State University.





Message from the Chair

Welcome to our Nisqually Chapter newsletter! So, the daffodils have bloomed and Easter has passed, but it sure doesn't feel like spring outside yet. Sideways rain, with highs of 45 degrees and lows of 44 degrees, welcome to spring in western Washington. Of course, my field projects have already started.

Thanks to all that attended the March meeting, and thanks to Stephen Slaughter and James Struthers for the talk about the Rattlesnake Ridge slide. I hope those that were able to attend enjoyed it, together with the Puget Sound Chapter, we sold out the venue. Sorry I was not able to make it. The April joint meeting with the Puget Sound Chapter has passed as well. Thanks to John Wakabayashi, the 2017-2018 AEG Jahn's lecturer, for the technical presentation, it was also great to meet AEG President Greg Hempen.

We're planning a May meeting in Olympia at Three Magnets Brewing. The meeting will be held May 1st. Ken Neal will be discussing professional licensure and we'll be taking care of our annual chapter business, like re-electing our officers and charting our course for the upcoming year. No chapter meetings during the summer months, our next meeting will be in September, watch the newsletter for details.

Be sure to sign up for our mailing list to make sure you get future notifications and newsletters.

Thanks,

Mike

Section Officers & Committee Chairs



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Marc Fish
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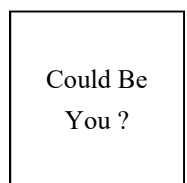
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National AEG webpage:
<http://aegweb.org>

The AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG NISQUALLY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through April. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Nisqually Chapter or other Chapters, and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free.

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