



President's Letter to Members

Is This Thing Turned On?

Anyone who has ever attended a comedy show has heard a comic as he is dying on stage utter these words of desperation. Hoping to get the audience laughing, he puts himself out in front of them and recognizes that he is not quite reaching everyone. As the President of NAEP, I addressed the 2012 Annual conference with a similar trepidation.

The following remarks are provided here somewhat abridged from my address to the 2012 Annual Conference in Portland. The bad jokes are (mostly) removed and the information is expanded. This letter also adds some of the information that was provided at the membership meeting. It also has some aspects of what I experienced at the conference. If you did not

make it to the conference, I hope you will start making your plans for next year in Los Angeles.

The overall feeling I have after my first full year as President is that the year was fantastic. The Board is working hard to get things done. Our staff personnel (Donna Carter, Tim Bower, and Abby Murray) are breaking their backs to bring the best value for dues that can be found on the market. This year I feel more relaxed in my role, I feel I can actually help lead us into the future. I have said it many times; I am standing on the shoulders of giants. Jim Melton helped right this ship. Ron Deverman put the sails up and we all prayed for wind. This year, the trades blew in and we are accomplishing great things.

As the premier environmental scientists in the country, the membership of NAEP have the capability to be a strong force for good in the country and the world if we can stay on message and make time for the Association in our professional lives.

Currently, we are a relatively small number of scientists. I believe we can move mountains if we are committed to our mission statement. I also believe that if we continue to show the successes we have shown over the past few years, we will also attract committed professionals into our ranks in the coming years.

This message is one that I believe we all need to consider as we move through the year.

Good Morning everyone. Thank you for coming to this 37th Annual NAEP Conference. The Theme: Science Politics, and Policy: Environmental Nexus really has an important message for us.

You have all come to this conference for a lot of different reasons and with many expectations.

As the first speaker of the morning I believe it is my goal to set us on the right path for the remainder of the week. Knowing this, I also realize that my remarks need to properly frame what we do here and what we need to consider in our professional lives. This message took many edits and false starts as I tried to figure out what could move all of you to action.

My first thoughts were mostly of the "look what we did" variety. [At the conference I skipped over the accomplishments. Counting coup really was going to be boring to a captive audience. Instead I saved it for the membership meeting. For you, you can read them at the end of this message. Stay around for the credits, though, there is still more at the end.]

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Editor's Note: The thoughts and opinions expressed in this article are the author's and not those of the E-News editors, NAEP management or staff or Board of Directors.

NRC's Nuclear License Renewal Program *How a Flawed and Mismanaged NEPA Process Endangers the Public*



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The US has a fleet of 104 aging and antiquated commercial nuclear reactors, originally licensed for a 40-year operating period. These licenses are expiring or nearing expiration. The individual operators want to extend the operating license. Applications are flooding into the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) to extend their operating licenses for an additional 20-year period. The NRC's License Renewal (LR) program will push the operating window of these plants to 60 years (using technological designs based on 1960s and 70s technology), which is approaching the life expectancy of an average US person.

Before venturing any further, let me categorically state that I am not anti-nuclear. But as the reader will soon find, there is room for grave concern. Re-licensing an aging reactor poses considerably greater risk than that posed by constructing a modern one. There is a chasm of difference between renewing a license on a 40-year outdated reactor versus constructing a new reactor based on 21st century technology. A significant portion of the aging fleet has already received a renewed license to operate for an additional 20-year period. Within the next couple of years most of the aging reactor fleet will have been re-licensed.

The NRC's Division of License Renewal (DLR) under the direction of Mr. Brian Holian is responsible for issuing renewed licenses for the aging fleet of reactors. The DLR project branch (RPB1) managed by Mr. Bo Pham was responsible for preparing environmental impact statements (EIS) and safety assessment for re-licensing many of these nuclear power plants.

HOW MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS CAN IMPERIL A SOCIETY

DLR has suffered from serious management problems. Its own project managers (PMs) complained of management and safety-related issues. These problems became so apparent that a decision was made to conduct focus group meetings to determine the root of these problems. An independent company was hired to facilitate these focus group meetings. The focus group meeting for the DLR project managers (PM) was held on September 14, 2010. The independent facilitator presented the PMs with a number of management and safety issues. Comments provided by the PMs were captured and categorized into summary statements. The comments were so negative that DLR management did not circulate the report to DLR staff. A synopsis of the summary statements voiced by the PMs included allegations of "bypassing regulatory process," "compromising the safety mission to impress upper management," "poor management decisions," and "sacrificing quality for schedule."

These are serious allegations, particularly given the fact that DLR's mission involves nuclear power plant licensing. Perhaps



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more unsettling is the fact that these comments were not lodged by outside anti-nuclear critics, but by the very PMs responsible for preparing the safety evaluations and EISs for re-licensing the plants.

Perhaps even more alarming is the fact that DLR managers are supposed to play a vital link in the LR quality assurance process. DLR management acted as the final reviewers for each project-specific EIS and safety evaluation. In doing so, they signed and 'certified' the accuracy, rigor, and thoroughness of each LR approval. Given the comments made by the PMs, a question would arise as to who has acted as the critical stop-gap to ensure that a license application has been properly investigated and fully vetted? The following sections detail NRC's flawed LR process and why it threatens environmental quality and public safety.

DLR ROUTINELY CONCLUDES THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF A SERIOUS NUCLEAR ACCIDENT ARE SMALL

DLR prepares an EIS for each license renewal it grants. The issue of safety and the potential for a catastrophic accident is clearly the most dominant issue of concern among the public. Chapter 5 of each re-licensing EIS investigates "severe (nuclear) accidents" — an incident that is widely believed to be the most catastrophic event that could result from any US technology. DLR's analysis of "severe accidents" does not appear to meet a fully scientific method analysis. A typical DLR re-licensing EIS falls in the range of about 140,000 words or so. Out of this total, the DLR devotes somewhere in the neighborhood of about 500 words to the assessment of "severe accidents," this constitutes a mere .4% of the EIS. In comparison, these EISs devote on the order of 25,000 words (14%) to the description of the affected environment and 20,000 words to the section on environmental impacts (17%). Using this lopsided analysis, DLR has cleverly diverted public attention away from the predominant concern — the issue of overriding concern — and refocused it on less controversial 'bug-and-bunny' issues. While part of Chapter 5 is devoted to "Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives," NRC has rarely imposed such mitigation on an applicant.

ASSESSING CONSEQUENCES OF A SEVERE ACCIDENT

Let us now examine what Chapter 5 of a typical DLR EIS states about the impacts of a severe accident. Chapter 5 typically repeats a "canned" statement such as:

The probability weighted consequences of atmospheric releases, fallout onto open bodies of water, releases to ground water, and societal and economic impacts from severe accidents are small for all plants. However, alternatives to mitigate severe accidents must be considered for all plants that have not considered such alternatives.

Thus, out of a typical DLR EIS that may contain perhaps 140,000 words or so, the stakeholders and public are provided with a terse 48 word statement assessing the impacts of a potentially catastrophic accident that could threaten millions. This terse statement about the consequences of a catastrophic accident is all that DLR supplies to stakeholders and the public. An appendix generally provides some supporting information on the methodology used to reach this conclusion.

NEGLECTING STAKEHOLDER CONCERNS

NRC has discounted and consistently argued that the likelihood of severe multiple incidents at nuclear reactors are small. Using sophisticated mathematical techniques, for instance, NRC concluded that the simultaneous failure of both emergency shutdown systems designed to prevent a core meltdown is so unlikely that it would happen only once every 17,000 years. Yet, a mere 20-years ago, it happened twice within a period of four days at a pair of nuclear reactors in southern New Jersey.¹ If NRC cannot make reliable estimates over a period of a few decades, how can they possibly make risk calculations thousands of years into the future?

NRC has a long and defiant history of battling stakeholders in court. As a Federal regulatory agency they have successfully convinced Federal courts to accept their arguments that risks are acceptably low or that they do not have to address stakeholder's NEPA comments and concerns. For example, in ruling against opponents of the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, one federal judge accepted NRC's argument that the odds of an earthquake setting off a nuclear accident were negligible. In the words of the court, "The commission has determined that the chance of such a bizarre concatenation of events occurring is extremely small." Unfortunately, the lesson of Fukushima shows that such natural

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catastrophes can and do occur. Not surprisingly, in 2011, the NRC found itself in the embarrassing dilemma of having to announce that it would be conducting new seismic risk assessments the following year at 17 plants.

Only following the Fukushima disaster, was NRC finally and reluctantly forced into considering various concerns submitted in public NEPA comments, which lay “outside the reactor’s licensing basis” (e.g., tsunami, earthquake, hurricanes). For instance, unless required by the courts, the NRC has consistently refused to evaluate potential impacts of terrorist attacks in NEPA documents. NRC maintained that defiant stance even following the events of September 11, 2001. How many other safety and environmentally related issues have been ignored by DLR in an effort to fast track approval of LR applications may never be fully known.

IS A CATASTROPHIC NUCLEAR ACCIDENT “SMALL” OR “LARGE”?

Perhaps the most stunning revelation is that the DLR concludes that the impacts of “serious accidents” are “small.” You might ask how any agency could be so rash as to conclude that the impacts of a severe nuclear accident, such as a full-scale nuclear meltdown, could possibly be small? The DLR employs a mathematical analysis technique that can be described as something akin to mathematical ‘smoke and mirrors.’

The concept known as risk analysis is employed. Risk is typically defined as the consequences of an accident multiplied by the probability of an accident. DLR risk analysis essentially takes the probability (which is argued to be small) of an accident, multiplies it by the consequences (assume it is large), and then concludes that the human, environmental, and socioeconomic impacts are small because the probability is so small.

REEXAMINING THE ISSUE OF RISK

Let’s reexamine this baffling conclusion that the impacts of a severe nuclear accident are small. DLR’s re-licensing EISs typically run hundreds of pages in length, examining every conceivable environmental impact, from biota to air emissions and water usage; these analyses are performed in near myopic detail. Yet, when it comes to examining the real issue that most people are deeply concerned with - the issue that lays at the heart of the entire licensing process - DLR provides nothing but a cursory dismissal of the potential impact and a scant 48 word

conclusion that the consequences of a severe accident such as a nuclear meltdown would be small. Many would interpret this lack of documented analysis of nuclear impacts as the DLR taking extraordinary measures (hundreds of pages) to obscure the truth which could kill the issuance of some, and perhaps many, renewed nuclear operating licenses.

Let’s reframe the context of the DLR’s decision-making process. Are the impacts of a potential accident that could result in radiation deaths, birth defects, contaminated food chains, evacuation of thousands of down-winders, property damage in the hundreds of billions of dollars, and possible contamination of hundreds of thousands of square miles small? Were the potential consequences of Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, and more recently the Japanese Fukushima Daiichi power station disaster small? Perhaps NRC management should consult with officials of Japan to determine if they believe the consequences of the Fukushima Daiichi accident were small?

The NRC simply used a mathematical justification to reach its conclusion that the impact of an accident is small. To do this all it had to do was assign a value of small to the probability that an accident would occur. Such a conclusion is reasonable as long as the assignment of a small probability is defensible. Now let’s examine the defensibility of this probability value. If the probability of an accident is as small as RPB1 management claims, why have there been four other near-catastrophic nuclear reactor accidents (near misses) in the United States, in addition to Three Mile Island:

- Browns Ferry nuclear reactor incident;
- Vogtle nuclear reactor incident;
- Davis Besse nuclear reactor incident; and
- Salem nuclear reactor incident.

Clearly, when the US has already experienced a partial meltdown of the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor and four other near misses, the probability *cannot* be that small. If the probability is so small how does one account for nuclear disasters at Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, and the Japanese Fukushima Daiichi power station?

THE INFAMOUS CHINA SYNDROME

An effect of a loss-of-coolant accident (severe accident) is potentially so catastrophic that it has been termed, the *China Syndrome*. Such an accident is characterized by the meltdown

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of the reactor's core components; the temperature of the molten fuel rod assemblies becomes so high that they literally 'burn' through the containment vessels and through the concrete containment floor, seeping deep into the underlying sediment or rock.² The press has referred to the path of this molten radioactive glob as heading toward "the other side of the world" — China.³ Such an event could lead to the release of highly radioactive material(s) into the subsurface geology and groundwater. It is even possible that radioactive geysers could shoot skyward into the atmosphere and biosphere.

All of this taken together, demonstrates that NRC management is going to great lengths, obscuring the facts, to avoid having to announce to the public and stakeholders that the impact of a nuclear accident could result in catastrophic human, environmental, and socioeconomic repercussions, as great as or perhaps even greater than that experienced by Chernobyl or Japan. More to the point, they are going to great measures to avoid having to publicly announce that the impacts of an accident would be large. Such practice is a law suit waiting to happen. It is a matter of time before the public learns the dimensions of DLR's misleading and flawed assessment.

HOW DLR HIDES CUMULATIVE RISK TO THE PUBLIC

In addition to gauging direct and indirect impacts, a NEPA analysis must also rigorously investigate the cumulative impacts of an action (i.e., the combined impacts of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions).⁴ That the cumulative impacts from a major accident would be felt by millions and could sweep across many states if not much of the North American continent is undeniable; radiation released from a single accident could threaten millions of citizens; then there are the paralyzing socioeconomic and relocation impacts, and losses that would be felt across the entire continent.

DLR's EISs do address "cumulative impacts." However, a close examination of many of these cumulative impact analyses shows that they are defective and do not meet even minimal direction set forth by the courts. But there is another issue which is much more disconcerting. As mentioned earlier, these EISs describe impacts in terms of the effect or risk to the human environment. Nowhere within DLR's EISs has any consideration been given to *cumulative risk*.

As discussed earlier, DLR typically presents a terse 48 word canned statement concerning the risks posed by a severe accident. However, this analysis only considers the probability and consequences of an accident from a single operating plant. But this is not the case. There are actually 104 operating reactors in the US located in 31 states. The actual cumulative risk to the American public from an entire fleet of operating reactors is much greater than that posed by a single lone nuclear reactor. Once again, DLR management has 'conveniently' disregarded yet another troubling detail.

No attempt has been made to determine cumulative risk or cumulative impacts of a severe accident in these EISs. This analytical defect has been dismissed by RPB1. The conclusion is that RPB1's EISs have failed to acknowledge, compute or disclose the total or cumulative risk to the public from over 100 operating reactors.

WHEN NEPA BECOMES A CHARADE

Recall that DLR criticism is that the Division sacrifices "quality for schedule" and bypasses "the regulatory process and compromises "the safety mission." It should come as no surprise that DLR Licensing approvals are virtually rubber stamped on a near assembly-line basis. The process is designed to pump out EISs for actions that were never seriously questioned in the first place. The NEPA process is merely a hurdle to jump so that DLR can make its quota of license renewals for a given year. The process has been managed to allow the NRC to renew the operating licenses for a fleet of aging nuclear reactors with as little public opposition as possible. The entire process appears to be designed to mislead the public and Congress into believing that most of the impacts, including that of a catastrophic accident are small.

A RE-REVIEW OF LICENSE RENEWAL

In February 2012, the NRC voted 4-1 to approve the application to construct two new nuclear power reactors at the existing Vogtle nuclear power plant site in Georgia. Of the queue of nuclear power plant applications submitted to the NRC, the Vogtle project is the first approval for a new nuclear power plant in more than 30 years. What was extraordinary was the fact that the official who cast the dissenting vote was the *chairman* of the NRC. That the chairman of the NRC cast the dissenting vote caused a stir within the nuclear community. Citing concerns over the Japanese Fukushima nuclear disaster, the Chairman stated "I cannot support issuing this license as if Fukushima never

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happened.”⁵ Perhaps this is a red flag: If NRC’s licensing process for new nuclear reactors is similar to that for re-licensing aging reactors, then the NRC Chairman and the American public have real reason to be concerned.

The missteps described above are not all. It would appear that the NRC’s NEPA process may be plagued with procedural errors. The LR EISs have many flaws. If the NRC’s mission involved less potentially hazardous actions such as forest harvesting, rural development, wetlands development, space shuttle lunches, or flood control projects it would be a sad state of affairs. But these EISs potentially involve one of the most hazardous actions on the planet – renewing a license for antiquated nuclear reactors. The lives of millions hinge on how adequately and thoroughly these actions are vetted.

Given such questionable management practices, what does such behavior say about nuclear plant licenses that have already been renewed? Do stakeholders fully appreciate the extent to which most public concerns are routinely dismissed with terse or even “canned” responses? Does the public understand that the true cumulative risk was never even examined or publicly vetted, and that they are at much greater risk of a devastating accident

than each individual EIS would lead them to believe? Do they understand that the risk from a nuclear reactor located upwind of them is actually large rather than small?

How many of the LR applications already approved suffered from a flawed process simply to “meet schedules?” Has RPB1 already re-licensed a ticking time bomb — the equivalent to the devastating Japanese Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactor meltdown? The answer is that nobody knows. It will require a full and comprehensive review of every single renewed license issued to date to even remotely begin to answer this question. Meanwhile, a catastrophic meltdown may be a week away or 10-years into the future. Sooner or later the public will begin to realize how safety and accident issues have been twisted and obscured. It may only be a matter of time before Congress begins asking some very tough questions.

Jeffrey Loman, deputy regional director for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement stated that prior to the Deepwater Horizon disaster, the former Minerals Management Service had come to a belief that it had a “gold-plated” safety system — a belief that had led to dangerous levels of complacency; the consequences of a major accident involving the Deepwater Horizon project had likewise been evaluated and deemed to be small. The lesson is simple — accidents and calamities having very grave consequences *can* and *do* occur.⁶

Notes

¹ New York Times, “At U.S. Nuclear Sites, Preparing for the Unlikely,”

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/29/science/29threat.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1&emc=eta1

² NR Publication 1556.2, “Nuclear Power; Separating Popular Science from Research and Development,” March 2009

³ China Syndrome, In Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary (2008).

⁴ 40 Code of Regulations 1508.7

⁵ Newsmax, “NRC OKs Georgia Nuclear Reactors — First in Generation,” February 9, 2012

<http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/Nuclear-Power-reactors-NRC/2012/02/09/id/428958>

⁶ Eccleston C. and March F., *Global Environmental Policy: Principles, Concepts And Practice*, CRC Press Inc. (Lewis Press), 412 pages.

To put the opinions expressed in this article into perspective, the following news releases were found in a recent electronic news letter concerning energy development in the United States.

Shaw, Westinghouse Get Approval To Begin Building New Reactors At Summer Station.

On his “Power City” blog for the Charlotte (NC) Business Journal (4/24, Subscription Publication), John Downey wrote that “SCANA Corp. has given Shaw Group Inc. and Westinghouse formal notice to proceed on construction of the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station near Jenkinsville, S.C.” SCANA issued the approval to “start construction on April 19. The Shaw Power Group, based in Charlotte, will be the principal contractor for the project,” which calls for constructing “two 1,117-megawatt AP1000 nuclear reactors at V.C. Summer, which already has a single nuclear unit on the site.”

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The original article in the Charlotte Business Journal can be found here:

http://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/blog/power_city/2012/04/shaw-cleared-to-start-building-sc.html

San Onofre Operators Say They Are Closer To Cause Of Accelerated Tube Wear.

The AP (4/24, Chang) reports, Southern California Edison, which operates the “idled San Onofre nuclear plant said Monday it is closing in on figuring out why hundreds of steam generator tubes that carry radioactive water have eroded at an alarming rate.” With most of the tests required to diagnose the problem wrapped up, plant operators are “developing a plan to eventually bring the seaside twin reactors back online.” Pete Dietrich, Edison’s senior vice president and chief nuclear officer, said, “We’re closing in on being able to state conclusively what we’ve learned.” The “tubes are being damaged by friction and vibration by neighboring tubes and support structures” inside the steam generators, though it not yet clear exactly why that’s happening. “Dietrich said it could be due to factors such as the design or construction of the generators or how they are operated.”

According to the Los Angeles Times (4/24, Sewell), “The extended closure of the San Onofre nuclear plant due to equipment issues has led some to speculate — or hope — that the plant will be shuttered for good,” but chief nuclear officer Peter Dietrich “said he doesn’t believe the current problems signal the plant’s demise. ‘There’s nothing I’m aware of today that would make me conclude that,’” Dietrich said, noting that “after ‘intensive study’ of thermohydraulic conditions, eddy testing and visual inspections using cameras that snake inside the tubes, ‘We have made great progress in gaining an understanding of the situation.’” The Los Angeles Times (4/23, Sewell) also ran a similar version of the story on its “LA Now” blog.

The Orange County (CA) Register (4/24, Brennan) adds that Dietrich said while it is “still a little premature to be targeting restart dates,” he said plant officials are “working quite diligently; we’re particularly mindful of some of the summer conditions that could be created.”

The Los Angeles Times article: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-san-onofre-20120424,0,2589141.story>

The blog entry is at: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/04/san-onofre-shutdown-not-permanent.html>

The Orange County Register story: <http://www.ocregister.com/news/steam-350674-tubes-generators.html>.

Advertising Opportunities in the NAEP Newsletter

The NAEP Newsletter is offering a limited amount of advertising space in the publication. Advertisements will be limited to two pages per issue for 2012 and once that space is filled per issue there will be no other advertisements accepted. Advertisers will have the opportunity to purchase space in all remaining issues of 2012 so that they can be assured of space in each issue. This is a great opportunity to both support NAEP and gain access to a potential readership of over 6,500.

Ads can be purchased in either quarter or half page sizes and is priced at a very affordable price that starts at \$375 per ad for a quarter page ad when 6 ads are purchased. The purchasing of ads in advance allows the advertiser to reduce their costs and allow you to make sure your ad space is reserved.

For more information on advertising opportunities or to reserve your space please contact Tim Bower at 856-283-7816 or by email at naep@naep.org.





President's Letter

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So, as I started to put together this version of my opening remarks I realized that the first speaker needs to inspire the audience and energize you for the exciting presentations ahead. This short address is one of the first words that you will hear at this conference. It is one of several that will attempt to stir you to action, to remind you why you have committed this time, to be in this place, with these fellow travelers.

I am not sure I fit the billing as an inspirational speaker. I also realize that stirring you up so early is more the duty of your morning coffee. But, I do want to see if I can adequately place just one thought in your mind this morning to carry you through the week.

Environmental Professionals are an important part of what makes America great. WE ARE the nexus of science, policy, and politics. While each of us may not touch all of these categories in our every day work we contribute to at least one on a regular basis and all three more times than we recognize.

Last month I was asked to write a piece on Earth Day to send to the membership. This was a great treat for us all when Ron Deverman brought his poetic spirit to his reflections on Earth Day for the last two years. I really got a lot from his messages. He really did a great job of summarizing the importance of observing the day. Upon my personal reflection I realized that I had not really been a part of the first Earth Day. Also, I wasn't really in the mood to write something about Earth Day.

That morning I had read an article titled "Should we abolish Earth Day?" implying that the celebration had outlived its usefulness. Fortunately, the title was ironic and the author actually extolled the virtues of continuing to celebrate. If you were paying attention to the internet that same day you also saw the coverage of the "viral" anti-earth day video. What a waste of time that was. No solutions, just fear.

I felt maybe I was giving the day a bit of short shrift, so I looked it up to see what I did not know about the day. Plenty, it seems.

For the birth of this new Profession about 20 million people celebrated. Congress closed while all the senators and congressmen of both parties went back to their districts to celebrate with their constituents. People of all types recognized the importance of the environment.

The National Environmental Policy Act – the foundation of

who and what we are today, had passed several months before. The more I read the more I remembered.

I want to repeat this; the basis of our profession was born with NEPA. Our very livelihood became part of the country as further environmental laws were enacted. This new profession was allowed to grow and mature as the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and others like them were put in place and enforced.

So 42 years later we all sit here, Fellow travelers with a shared legacy. Are we really as irrelevant as that viral anti-Earth Day video would have the viewer believe? Are we really impediments to America's progress?

Not on your life.

The people I know in this profession are proud to be here. We all realize a common goal and we recognize that there are many ways that our birth really became the rebirth of this nation. Today, as environmental professionals, we not only share our common work and ethics, we also share common problems.

There are people who want to reverse our environmental progress. We can't let that happen.

We, as scientists and practitioners understand the limitations of words on paper versus the natural and physical world. It is our job to make sense of those words and bring professional, scientific expertise to the solution of some very thorny societal problems. The environmental laws and policies that we recognize as our ground floor have now become the basis for an ever widening number of added areas of practice. Our areas of expertise are expanding as legal interpretation becomes more complex.

New words enter our vocabulary; new concepts force us to keep learning; secondary and cumulative impacts, visual resources, watershed, viewshed, landscape management, farm land protection, environmental justice, brownfield redevelopment, LEEDS certification. These are some of the new areas of practice that join with the existing environmental professions and make us the absolute wonder we are.

A motley crew to be sure. But an absolutely committed set of professionals. There is no better bunch of people anywhere. The laws are the main reasons we are all here. The people are the reason we stay. We are a national force. The close affiliations of NAEP with our other chapters are a life line for all of us. When the world gets big and ugly, the friends we have here, our associates, bring us back to the reality of our common ground.

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I am extremely proud that our separate and interdependent Associations have become the bastions for reasonable discourse in this age of personal attack and character assassination. While political discourse seems to be all but dead elsewhere, I can hear respectful disagreements occur within our conference sessions. The debaters then retire for a beer and more discussion.

*We understand differences, we **get** politics.*

We are a unique set of individuals - our super powers are that we see the world in a specific way. I have referred to this as a love of greyness. We are not prone to black and white. We are professionals of gradation, minute detail, and grandeur all at the same time. That is our common ground. The ability to look at things from a multidisciplinary aspect... The ability to see both sides of an issue and bring sense out of chaos...

We are professionals with ideas, with solutions. We are vital to American success. Becoming the nexus for environmental science, policy, and politics really was our original charge. It was the reason all those people celebrated our birthday 42 years ago. We take our mission of environmental awareness and education seriously, but we also afford ourselves avenues for fun and enjoyment of that which we help protect.

I would like to leave you with a few ideas.

If you are not a member — Join

If you are a member — Volunteer

The next great idea could come from you!!

Contribute to Something Significant

Thank you and have fun this week.

My Laundry List of Accomplishments and Plans

As promised, here is some of what I believe that NAEP can claim as accomplishments. The future is bright for us all and I really wish for each of you to examine your professional life and see where you might help us get further along. We are only as successful as our volunteers can make us.

How are we doing?

Well, we are well managed and financially stable. We are slowly increasing membership in general and have increased student memberships up over 100%. This year we finally have all of our affiliation agreements in place and I am happy to say

most of our Chapters have had the faith to continue with us. In many ways, their commitment to NAEP is foreshadowed by the previous points and one more – because we are well managed, we are able to plan and accomplish what we promised. As far as the written agreement is concerned, we have exceeded what was promised.

What are we doing for our professionals?

Last year I told you all that we had committed to education. This year we accomplished that goal.

We continue to improve the ENews. It is finally what was envisioned, a practitioner oriented forum. It is providing all of the actively participating Chapters with a nationwide audience for their activities. It is also providing many of their speakers with a reciprocal invitation to present their message to the national audience through the newsletter.

Ron Lamb has created and we continue to publish the National Desk. This is a member benefit that provides our members with exposure to several environmental newsfeeds. Ron sorts through many articles every two weeks and provides us all with what he believes will appeal to us all. NAEP has been able to make this happen through an agreement with E and E News. In return, they are offering anyone a deeply discounted price for a single subscription. This value is one that is aimed at your individual companies. I urge you to take advantage of the offer. The pricing is located on each National Desk issue.

Our basic publication organ of communication, the *Environmental Practice Journal* has also improved. The size of each issue has increased, the number of peer reviewed articles has increased, and our shared Editors-in chief, Dr. Jim Montgomery and Dr. Kelly Tzoumis have put in a lot of effort in making specific themed issues. For the past year we have seen special issues on: Transportation; Energy; Green Infrastructure; Ethics, and we are working on producing an issue on Hydrofracturing. For those who have followed the progression, this particular subject started as articles in the ENews, it became the subject of the only two-part webinar, and now we have a themed journal issue.

Next year, the Editorial Office will be working with Roger Turner and the International Committee to develop themed issues about the European Union, China, and Developing Nations. There are several more issues in the works, so stand by while the group at DePaul work their magic. I also want to mention Dan Carroll, the Journal Editor. He is the glue that

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President's Letter

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puts it all together and makes sure that our publication schedule remains on-time. He has been working hard to be sure that we put out a quality product. He works directly with the Editorial Advisory Board to produce this great journal. He is very patient with me as I write my editorials.

Cambridge Press is our publishing house. They are doing amazing things behind the scenes to improve the world-wide exposure of NAEP and our journal. Environmental Practice has now gone from primarily a print medium to a digital one. This means that as the print journal is assembled, Cambridge makes available individual approved and reviewed articles electronically. We are now an international publication with as many as 1,850 institutions world-wide. Our journal articles have experienced a whopping increase in full article downloads, increasing from 5,400 in 2007 to 13,700 last year. Our authors are being read, our message is getting international exposure.

We continue to reach a large audience for each of our amazingly informative webinars. Marie Campbell chairs the Education Committee. She is ably assisted by Ron Lamb, Erica Mignone, and Wendy Haydon to be sure that our topics are timely and interesting. The speakers have been phenomenal.

The webinars are our most direct means for providing education to our members and affiliates, as well as other people exposed to our message. This year marks our second full year and we are aggressively filling the months with fantastic information for all areas of practice within the environmental professions. In addition, we have worked with the American Public University to provide webinar career advice for all professionals. You will see the series advertised elsewhere in this issue. The Perfect Resume will be the topic on Wednesday, July 18. There is still time to sign up now.

In the realm of continuing education, we continue to work with APU to provide amazing value for our members. In addition to the quality education that you can obtain from APU, advanced degrees, specific certification programs, APU has also recognized the value of the Certified Environmental Professional certification. They are providing graduate credits for those getting their CEP as they pursue their advanced degree. This is a huge financial benefit to our members.

NAEP continues to try to spread the message to agencies as well. During the past year, we have established initial relationships with several federal and state agencies. Harold Draper

(Vice President) and I had a very good discussion with the USEPA this past April.

CEQ remains one of NAEP's most stalwart federal supporters. I thank Horst Grezcmiel for being involved and interested in us. Through the efforts of David Keys and Larry Canter, the Best Practice Principles for Environmental Assessments was chosen by CEQ as a pilot program. A small committee was formed with the addition of Robin Senner, Rita Holder and Ron Deverman. The pilot program practitioner survey was sent to NAEP professionals as well as federal agency personnel who work with NEPA. The hot topic lunch discussion of the survey results and next steps was lively and just the thing to keep us all interested as the final report is prepared.

Joe Musil had contact with the New York City District of the Army Corps of Engineers and brought the message of NAEP to the District. Through the efforts of Louise Kling, the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service had a forum at the conference through the visual resources symposium and presentations throughout the conference. Even the last speaker on the last day had a full room of interested professionals. Many stayed through the entire conference. Internationally, Roger Turner met with officials from Norway and continued contact with China concerning environmental work and the desire of the Chinese to learn from US environmental law. Through the operation of our webinars, Tim Bower has been able to establish a professional relationship with the American Cultural Resources Association. We look forward to more of those strategic cooperative measures.

What is evident through these efforts is that individual efforts are what are getting us known in the nation.

Still under the umbrella of what are we doing, the conferences continue to amaze. The 2012 conference was one of the best attended ever. It provided new information in the form of a symposium on visual resource impacts that spilled over into the remainder of the conference. The NEPA tracks are still where you can rub elbows with the people that are shaping the practice. Next year in Los Angeles promises to be more of the same. St. Petersburg, Florida will be the location of the 2014 Conference.

And last in the "what are we doing" category, we have embraced technology. NAEP is on FaceBook and LinkedIn. We are working steadily at updating our website, as we get time and can support the effort. Also, Job Target and Green Careers are helping provide our members with information about employment opportunities.

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President's Letter

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What are we planning?

While the conference introduced the idea of the new Committee structure, we are now starting to figure out the reorganization of duties. This is resulting in a redoubling of effort to bring more value to NAEP members. The Education Committee is working to bring a travelling NEPA road-show to a town near you. Through the President of the Tallahassee FAEP Chapter and support of ABCEP, we are working toward getting formal regulatory recognition for the CEP certification. In keeping with my first year commitment, we are working toward an award of the first Robert's Fund Scholarship in Los Angeles. Details are coming.

We are also working toward recognition of the importance to NAEP of Lynton Caldwell. Through establishment of the Lynton Caldwell Award, we are hoping to recognize significant

contributions to the field of NEPA in the coming years. That pretty much sums up our activities. I am proud of what we have accomplished this past year and continue to do.

I used the tired comedic rhetorical question to start this letter. It has a couple of meanings for us. What I want all of us to take away from this message is that the NAEP is indeed Turned On. We plan to keep it turned on for you and want you as individuals to start showing our accomplishments to your professional colleagues.

We will never sell ourselves as a web presence. Our strength is our individuals, not our digitals. We will sell ourselves by the fruits of our labors. Help us get the word out. Help us to keep the message on. Help us to bring our message to the hundreds of thousands who share the environment as part of their vocation, avocation, and profession. That is the way we grow and become a force for good in the nation.

Get your CEP — Save Thousands of Dollars

The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) has just partnered with American Public University (APU) to allow up to 6 transfer credits to those who hold the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) credential. The value of these credits can substantially reduce the cost of a Masters of Science Degree in Environmental Policy and Management or can serve to offset elective credits in other Masters programs at APU.



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To find out the details, go to <http://www.apu.edu/TransferCredit/accepted/graduate/internal-policies/abc-env-prof.htm> or visit the ABCEP website: www.abcep.org.

Some information on APU:

- It is the first, fully online university to receive the Sloan Consortium's (Sloan-C) Ralph E. Gomory Award for Quality Online Education (2009) and two-time recipient of the Sloan-C Effective Practice Award (2009-2010).
- APU has more than 150 degree and certificate programs as well as online courses to help with certifications and professional development in subjects ranging from Environmental Hazard Mitigation and Restoration (Grad Cert); Environmental Planning and Design (Grad Cert); Environmental Policy and Management (Capstone, MS); Environmental Risk Assessment (Grad Cert); Environmental Science with four concentrations (BS), Environmental Sustainability (Grad Cert); Environmental Technology (Undergrad Cert), Fish and Wildlife Management (Grad Cert, Undergrad Cert), Transportation & Logistics, Business Administration, Information Technology, and many others.
- APU's combined undergraduate tuition, fees and books are roughly 20% less than the average 4-year public university's in-state rates, helping to maximize your tuition assistance program. (The College Board, *Trends in College Pricing 2011*, October 2011.)
- APU will carefully evaluate prior learning, including eligible on-the-job learning, for the award of academic credit.

This gives you another excuse to apply for your CEP today.



Saying what we mean

An indefinite series of essays about words and phrases that do not necessarily mean what we say

Fifth in a series by Owen L Schmidt

Mitigated FONSI

If action is proposed that may have significant adverse consequences, a Federal agency might choose to mitigate those adverse consequences to the point where they are no longer significant. If so, the agency would find those mitigated consequences to be *not significant* in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and no Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be necessary.

In this way it is said agencies prepare a *mitigated FONSI* — where the mitigation moderates or obviates the adverse environmental consequences such that they are no longer predicted to be significant. But it is not the FONSI that is mitigated. It is the intensity of the adverse environmental consequences that is mitigated.

We don't necessarily mean what we say, and we don't necessarily say what we mean.

What we mean to say is that the proposed action (or alternative action) has been changed in ways such that the adverse environmental consequences are no longer forecast to be significant. Thus, an EIS will not be prepared.

We might mean to say that the FONSI relies upon mitigation in order to support the finding of non-significance — a mitigation-reliant FONSI. Or maybe a mitigation-dependent FONSI.

The phrase “mitigated FONSI” does not appear in NEPA or the NEPA regulations. In fact, the practice of avoiding an EIS by changing actions in order to head off significant consequences was officially disallowed in CEQ's *40 Questions* guidance. What CEQ said in their 1981 guidance was that only when mitigation is integrated “from the beginning” is it possible to “rely on the mitigation measures in determining that the overall effects would not be significant.” See CEQ, *Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's National Environmental Policy Act Regulations*, 46 Fed. Reg. 18,026 (Mar. 23, 1981), Question 40.

Even prior to the 40 Questions guidance, and ever since

then, case law had recognized the practice and allowed it. See, for example, *Friends of the Payette v. Horseshoe Bend Hydroelectric*, 988 F.2d 989, 993 (9th Cir. 1993) (Corps' conclusion that mitigation was adequate so that wetlands were not affected significantly on a hydroelectric project in Idaho was not arbitrary or capricious) (“We can consider the effect of mitigation measures in determining whether preparation of an EIS is necessary.”); *Surfrider Foundation v. Dalton*, 989 F.Supp. 1309, 1320 (S.D. Cal. 1998) (Marine Corps EA/FONSI adequate for military housing project at San Mateo Point, Camp Pendleton) (Before addressing specific alleged deficiencies in USMC analysis, it is important to recognize that an agency may issue a FONSI when potentially significant impacts can be mitigated by specific remedial measures. So long as significant measures are undertaken to mitigate the project's effects, it is not necessary that they completely compensate for adverse environmental impacts *Friends of Endangered Species v. Jantzen*, 760 F.2d 976, 987 (9th Cir. 1985)).

Finally, CEQ sanctioned the practice in their January 2011 guidance memorandum. “Agencies may also commit to mitigation measures to support a mitigated FONSI, so as to complete their review of potentially significant environmental impacts without preparing an EIS.” This amended their previous guidance. CEQ Guidance memo dated January 14, 2011, “Appropriate Use of Mitigation and Monitoring,” pages 2-3.

To properly invoke mitigation in order to find non-significance, the mitigation must be certain to occur, assessed for its effectiveness, and reasonably support a finding of no significant impact. See, for example, *San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*, 657 F.Supp.2d 1233, 1245-46 (D. Colo. 2009) (preliminary injunction granted against U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over oil and gas activities on the Baca National Wildlife Refuge) (“An agency's decision to forego issuing an EIS may be justified by the adoption of appropriate mitigation measures. *Nat'l Parks and Conservation Assoc.*, 241 F.3d at 733-34. The proposed mitigation measures must be developed to a reasonable degree; a perfunctory description or mere listing of mitigation measures, without supporting analytical data, is not sufficient to support a finding of no significant impact. *Id.* at 734 (citations omitted). In other words, ‘[w]hen the adequacy of proposed mitigation measures is supported by substantial evidence, the agency may use those measures as a mechanism to reduce environmental impacts below the level of significance that would require an EIS.’ *Nat'l Audubon Society v. Hoffman*, 132 F.3d 7, 17 (2d Cir.1997).”); cf., *O'Reilly v. United States Army*



Solar Power in the Mojave Desert

Harold Draper
Vice President NAEP

In the Ivanpah Valley, California, in the Mojave Desert, an ideal site for generating solar power also turned out to be an ideal site for desert tortoises, which are an endangered species. Tortoises occur primarily on flats and alluvial fans adjacent to the mountains with soils ranging from sand to sandy-gravel, characterized by scattered shrubs and abundant interspace for growth of herbaceous plants. They occur in creosote bush, alkali sink, and tree yucca (Joshua tree) areas, places that are also ideal for new renewable power plant sites. Desert washes and other areas with deep soil provide sites for the tortoises to burrow and escape the desert heat. The 3,572-acre Ivanpah site, located on federal land to the east of Mojave National Preserve and to the south of Stateline Wilderness Area, was the subject of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued in August 2010. During the EIS process, the expected power output of the project was reduced ten percent due to a redesign that reduced the project footprint by 12 percent and the number of 460-foot power towers from seven to three. A Biological Opinion was issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service on October 1, 2010, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued its Record of Decision on October 7, 2010. A 30-year right-of-way grant was issued to BrightSource Energy.

Consistent with the Biological Opinion, BrightSource proceeded to fence the construction area and remove tortoises for relocation to a nearby site on BLM property. The tortoises

were placed in an on-site quarantine area for disease testing. However, construction monitoring of perimeter fence installation around Units 2 and 3 in the winter and spring of 2011 indicated that these portions of the project might contain more desert tortoises than anticipated in the 2010 biological opinion. The BLM requested revised consultation. The revised biological opinion, dated June 10, 2011, reiterated the need to fence the construction area, collect tortoises, and relocate elsewhere. It also required the rearing of young turtles and turtles from eggs until they were a size of 120 mm in length and five years of post-release monitoring. The company was also required to fence I-15 in the translocation area to a standard that would exclude turtles. As compensation for the 3,572 acres of public land lost to the solar facility, the California Energy Commission required BrightSource to acquire and restore good quality desert tortoise habitat at a ratio of 2:1, and to take actions on that newly acquired property to improve habitat quality, which could include restoration of closed roads, tortoise exclusion fencing along I-15 and US 95 and around the towns of Nipton, California, and Primm, Nevada, and elimination of invasive plant species. An interest-bearing account was also established to bankroll a management fund for the new properties.

The project was anticipated to increase the number of common ravens, a potential tortoise predator, at the project site. Brightsource was also therefore required to contribute to a

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Saying What We Mean

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Corps of Engineers, 477 F.3d 225, 234 (5th Cir.2007) (where “feasibility of the mitigation is not self-evident” district court did not err in determining that EA did not provide rational basis for determining that agency had complied with NEPA). The Tenth Circuit has noted that mitigation measures may be relied on for a finding of no significant impact if they are imposed by statute or regulation or submitted by an applicant or agency as part of the original proposal, i.e., the mitigation measures must be mandatory. *Davis*, 302 F.3d at 1104.)).

CEQ added the twist in their 2011 guidance that the mitigation should be monitored in some cases “to ensure that mitigation commitments are actually implemented.” Agencies

“should ensure that the monitoring program tracks whether mitigation commitments are being performed as described ... (i.e., implementation monitoring), and whether the mitigation effort is producing the expected outcomes and resulting environmental effects (i.e., effectiveness monitoring).” CEQ Guidance memo dated January 14, 2011, pages 8 and 11.

There are no mitigated FONSI, but there can be mitigation of adverse environmental consequences. If we said the adverse environmental consequences have been mitigated to less than significance — we would say what we mean. And if we make the mitigation certain to occur, assess the mitigation for its effectiveness, and monitor it to assure that it works — we would mean what we say.

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Solar Power

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management fund to reduce the numbers of common ravens in the area.

Another Mojave Desert solar project with tortoises present is the K Road Power project, a 350-MW photovoltaic generating station proposed for the Moapa Band of Paiute Indian Reservation on I-15 in Nevada. This is the subject of an EIS completed on March 16, 2012. The K Road project would be located on 2,153 acres of reservation land. During an October 2010 desert tortoise survey, up to 103 turtles were estimated to occur on the area to be disturbed. Similar to the Ivanpah project, the March 7, 2012, Biological Opinion requires the tortoises to be relocated and all construction activity to be monitored by desert tortoise biologists. The project includes a 6,000-acre desert tortoise relocation area to the north of the I-15 and an additional 5,000 acres south of I-15 for desert tortoise relocation if needed. The EIS looked at the impacts of an alternative site on the same reservation, but this site was estimated to have the same or greater effects on the desert tortoise.

But these projects are not all that is underway in the desert tortoise habitat. To date, 13 solar projects have been approved in California and Nevada, and more are under development. Another one on I-10 in California, the Palen project, is awaiting a decision by BLM. Under development on the reservation to the south of K Road Project is a concentrating solar project, Moapa Solar. Also to the south of K Road, another concentrating solar plant is under development on BLM land by BrightSource as the Apex North East Las Vegas project. Power line projects and pipeline projects will also likely have cumulative effects on the tortoise habitat.

Only time will tell whether the tortoises survive solar power or whether solar power survives the tortoises.

K Road Power:

<http://projects2.pirnie.com/MoapaSolar/index.cfm?fuseaction=FEIS>

Ivanpah Solar Electric:

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/energy/fasttrack/ivanpahsolar/fedstatus.html>

Palen Solar Power:

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/energy/fasttrack/palen/fedstatus.html>



EIA Campus

EIA Campus is now online! EIA Campus provides online courses for Environmental Impact Assessment professionals in the US and worldwide. These courses are taught by Dr. Larry Canter, a leading expert and seasoned educator with over 40 years in the EIA field. Each course offers video instruction by Dr. Canter, bullet points, reference documents and review that Dr. Canter uses in the onsite courses he teaches to US agencies, consulting companies, and international governments each year.

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NAEP President Thanks the Outgoing Board Members

The NAEP is fortunate to have had these people serve us as Directors during their tenure on the Board. These are our leaders and the people who make the Association the exciting place to join. These leaders have been responsible for advancing the Association through some tough times.

The NAEP is a demanding organization. That demand is based on an overall desire for excellence in the professions. Our members are the best in the nation. Every year the membership chooses their representatives to the Board of Directors. We have been very lucky over the history of our organization to have committed individuals serve the NAEP as Directors.

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Board as this "graduating class" of Directors made their mark on the Association. Each of these members has not only taken on the mantle of responsibility as a director, they have also assisted in the operation of NAEP through participation in various Committees and task forces during their tenure. As you read their short biographies, you need to realize these are only snapshots of the person.

Each of these people has become a friend to me as they served their terms. Each has contributed much more than was requested. Each of them has left their mark on NAEP and we are the better for their service.

I will miss them at our quarterly meetings, but each one still serves in a capacity after this elected position. The ship that is NAEP sails smoothly because of their contributions.

Thank you all,

Paul B. Looney, CEP
President NAEP

Judith Charles



Judith Charles
Independent Consultant
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Judith provides more than 20 years experience in natural resources management and the environmental sciences. She has worked for Rutgers University, the Narragansett Bay Commission (a non-profit public corporation), and as a consultant for small companies and large corporations such as SAIC and Tetra Tech, Inc. Judy has worked as a soil scientist, chemist, agricultural consultant, and marine scientist. She has more than 15 years experience as a project manager preparing environmental documents under NEPA and the California Environmental Quality Act. As an environmental planning consultant, her clients have included the U.S. Department of Defense — Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Army; U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Park Service, other federal and state agencies, local governments, school districts, water districts and the private sector.

Judy has been a member of NAEP since 2003 and was a member of the California Association of Environmental Professionals (Cal AEP) from 2003 to 2009. As a Board member of Cal AEP's Channel Counties Chapter, Judy served on the Membership Committee and edited the Chapter's newsletter. She also organized an advanced NEPA workshop for the 2007 Cal AEP State Conference in Shell Beach.

Judy was elected to the NAEP Board in 2009 for a 3-year term as an at-large Board member. In this capacity, she participated in the selection process for a management company to work with the NAEP Board. She also assisted fellow NAEP Board members, Roger Turner and Marie Campbell, with the NAEP and Cal AEP Chapter liaison process. Judy served as NAEP's Energy and Environmental Policy Committee Chair from 2009 to 2012. She was track chair for energy and environmental policy sessions for the 2009 to 2012 NAEP annual conferences. For the 2012 Annual Conference, Judy worked with



Board Members

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Dr. John Perkins organizing an Energy Bootcamp, which consisted of two sessions focusing on our national energy economy and outlining a broad framework of factors that impinge upon renewable energy projects. She and Lisa Mahoney are currently co-chairs of the restructured Environmental Policy Committee, which includes those professionals interested in NEPA, energy, environmental policy, transportation, sustainability, and environmental health and safety.

While an NAEP Board member, Judy shared the responsibility of helping build a more effective organization to serve NAEP membership. Of key importance to the NAEP leadership in 2009, was the selection of a management company to work with the Board. By participating in this selection process with Ron Deverman and Paul Looney, she learned more about non-profit management companies as well as the financial goals and strategic plans developed by the existing NAEP Board. Judy also helped with the Marketing Committee. As Chair of the Energy and Environmental Policy Committee, Judy continued to broaden the interests of NAEP while at the same time managing a committee on a national level and keeping current on energy issues and environmental policy. She is impressed with the dedication of her fellow board members and with their allegiance to the environmental profession.

Ron Deverman NAEP Immediate Past President



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Ron Deverman is Associate Vice-President for HNTB, a national engineering, architecture and planning firm, managing environmental impact assessment projects for

transportation infrastructure improvements such as transit, passenger and freight rail, roadways, and bridges. Ron has 28-years experience in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) with special expertise in community impact assessment, cumulative effects analysis, and federal environmental regulations, such as the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

His education includes a BS in civil/environmental engineering from the University of Illinois in Urbana, an MA in literature and creative writing from the University of Illinois in Springfield, and post-graduate studies in NEPA and related environmental studies. Ron is the Immediate Past President of the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP). He has also chaired their national NEPA Symposium, NEPA Working Group, Transportation Working Group (co-founder), and 27th Annual Conference (Dearborn, Michigan), among other positions of leadership. He is a Past President of IAEP, the Illinois chapter of NAEP, founded in 1975 as one of the original three chapters of NAEP. Ron is a regular contributor to the national journal, *Environmental Practice*, published by Cambridge University Press.

Ron is also a published poet and has spoken nationally on many subjects, including key competencies for environmental professionals, environmental stewardship, and preserving the quality of place. He has recently spoken at national environmental conferences on the themes, "Reclaiming Our Environmental Imagination" where he incorporated the writings and poems of numerous authors and poets, including his own work, and "Valuing the Sacred" an article on environmental ethics as seen from Christian and Islamic perspectives. His co-author for "Valuing the Sacred" is Dr. Ali Mohamed Al-Damkhi, an Environmental Studies Professor for Kuwait University.

Ron comes from generations of farmers in Illinois' heartland and has farmed for a living. In 2009, the U of I Alumni Association awarded Ron the John Knoepfle Creative Writing Award for Poetry, a particularly memorable award as John Knoepfle has been a life mentor to Ron since his days at the university. "Since becoming a member in 1990, NAEP has provided me with excellent professional development opportunities, relationships lasting a lifetime, and the exposure to creative, cutting edge methodologies and ideas that continue to boost my career in the most successful and positive ways."

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Board Members

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Charles Eccleston



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Charles is an environmental/energy consultant, author, and trainer with 25 years experience in NEPA and environmental policy issues. He is recognized in Marquis' Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the World for his achievements in NEPA and environmental policy assessment. Charles has published 70+ professional articles and papers, and eight books ranging on subjects as diverse as NEPA, EIA, environmental policy, and the new ISO 50001 energy management standard. He has served as an elected NAEP Board member for three terms.

Much of his work now involves improving the legal and public defensibility of EISs by identifying flaws before the EIS is publicly issued. Having read Mandelker's book, *NEPA Law and Litigation*, from cover-to-cover, he taught himself NEPA case law. He now provides senior-level advice and reviews to ensure that EISs are scientifically defensible, and comply with all regulatory, legal, and case law requirements. Charles recently completed two different projects involving potential lawsuits; in one he identified 8 critical flaws in an agency's EIS; one of these flaws involved an error in the way the agency had computed CO₂ emissions. Currently he is assisting an Asian country in developing an environmental policy.

In 2009, he was elected into the International Organization for Standardization's (AKA ISO) energy management task

group. This task group is responsible for developing an international ISO 50001 Energy Management System (EnMS) standard for managing generation/use of energy around the world. ISO is continuing to develop other energy management standards.

Charles has been a member of NAEP since 1989. He frequently presented papers and taught NEPA workshops at the annual conferences. In 1998, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) requested that NAEP provide recommendations for actions that could be taken to improve the effectiveness of NEPA. He was asked to join a special NAEP committee established to develop these recommendations. At a 'scoping' meeting in Washington D.C., he suggested that there could be many advantages to integrating NEPA with the newly issued ISO 14001 Environmental Management System (EMS). Dr. Jim Roberts, the NAEP president at that time, asked him to develop a specific approach for how this might be done. Charles spent the next six months hammering out an integrated strategy for NAEP peer review. The NAEP Board of Directors approved the strategy and issued it to the CEQ with a recommendation that it be promoted to all federal agencies. This led to a string of efforts and publications over the next decade in which Charles continued to broaden the original approach, finally cumulating in an approach for integrating any international environmental impact assessment (EIA) process with an EMS, and the goal of sustainable development. Today his integrated EIA/EMS sustainable development approach has been adopted by various agencies in other nations.

In the early and mid 90s, he served for four years as Chairman of NAEP's Tools and Techniques Committee. This work led to the development of five published tools and techniques for improving preparation of EISs. More recently, he served as chairman of the NAEP Environmental Policy Committee for 3 years. He has received two NAEP awards for outstanding performance and leadership for his efforts.

When asked what he has gotten out of NAEP he is quick to reply that "This is where I learned NEPA. And I have made many long lasting friendships with NAEP members."

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Board Members

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Joseph F. Musil Jr., PE, PP, LEED+AP Our former Treasurer



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Joe started his 38 year career as an environmental professional in 1974 when he entered the first graduate level Environmental Engineering classes being offered at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (then Newark College of Engineering) in Newark, NJ. Since then Joe has worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (as a Sanitary Engineer), U.S. Small Business Administration (as one of 55 National Procurement Center Representatives), various Local Government and Municipal Authorities, and most recently as a Regulatory Compliance Specialist with Urban Engineers in Philadelphia, PA.

Joe helps clients get their projects approved by preparing local Land Development Plans, Wetlands and Waterfront Development Permit Applications and preparing Federal Agency required "National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)" environmental assessments/studies.

Joe joined the NAEP through his affiliation with the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Professionals where he served as PAEP's Chapter Representative on the NAEP Board. Joe has also served as the NAEP's National Secretary and ended his three year term of office on the National Board as our National Treasurer. He has been an active NAEP General Member for over 12 years.

As I approach my 4th decade as an Environmental Professional, I am happy to see more people, companies and public agencies recognize the benefits of Professional Associations such as the NAEP. This is one of the few multi-disciplinary groups where we can find experts who recognize how we are all interconnected and how our projects are interrelated to each other. I am also amazed that project proponents/developers continue to ask why they have to consider alternatives that avoid, minimize or mitigate for impacts on cultural resources, endangered species, or open waters/wetlands. After more than 40 years of the ESA, NEPA, NHPA and wetland protection requirements we are still being asked, "Why do I have to do that?"

Welcome to Our Incoming Treasurer

Crystal Lawson, NAEP Treasurer



Crystal Lawson
HSE Specialist
Chromalloy
Dallas, Texas
Phone: 972-804-2730
crystal.lawson@me.com

Crystal Lawson has more than 9 year of experience as an Environmental Professional, specializing in both Environmental Compliance and Environmental Due Diligence. Ms. Lawson has also worked in the Natural Resources field and the Cultural Resource Management field. Being a jack of all trades within the environmental industry, Ms. Lawson has a wide variety of skills and experience that encompasses clients ranging from real estate development to the oil and gas industry.

Ms. Lawson has been a member of the North Texas Association of Environmental Profession since her beginnings in this industry. She became the Facility Director for NTAEP in 2009-2010 and has been the president since 2010 to 2012. Ms. Lawson has been a member of NAEP since 2008 and has been the NTAEP Chapter representative since 2009. Ms. Lawson is also a member of ASTM and is currently part of the ASTM E50 task group working on the revisions for ASTM 1527-05. Ms. Lawson is also a member of the Society of Texas Environmental Professionals (STEP) in both Fort Worth Texas and Dallas Texas. Additionally, Ms. Lawson is also an EnviroMentor with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Ms. Lawson has a dedication to the environmental industry that propels her to be involved in regulations and different organizations that will help shape the future of our industry. While serving on the Board for the NTAEP, Ms. Lawson has helped the organization move to a more centrally located area that increased membership and decreased cost. Her energy and focus will bring the same dedication and enthusiasm to NAEP.



The Board in Portland

Harold Draper
Vice President NAEP

Your NAEP Board met in Portland, Oregon, on May 25, 2012, the day following the successful 37th Annual NAEP conference, and the Board used the occasion to celebrate a renewed and energized association. The Board welcomed the newly elected board members, Courtney Arena, David Dickson, and Ji Lin Sun, to the meeting. NAEP also has a new treasurer, Crystal Lawson, to serve on the Executive Committee with returning President Paul Looney, Vice President Harold Draper, and Secretary Robert Morris. Because of the new people, NAEP's association executive provided an orientation for new board members, covering standard operating procedures and legal obligations of a board member.

Conferences

The 2012 conference in Portland attracted 420 registrants, one of the largest ever for an NAEP conference. The previous record was a joint conference with the Association of Environmental Professionals in San Diego. The two pre-conference symposia on Visual Impact Assessment and NEPA were well-attended, with 168 registrants. Final financial results will be available at the July Board of Directors meeting in Kansas City.

It was reported that the website for the 2013 conference, <http://www.n-aep2013.org/>, is up and available to receive paper submissions. The due date for paper submissions is August 15, 2012, and the conference venue is LA Live in downtown Los Angeles. The dates are March 31-April 6, 2013. On Monday, April 1, 2013, a climate adaptation symposium is planned. Six to seven concurrent tracks are also planned. The theme is Walk the Talk: A Convergence of Environmental Professionals. Early planning is also taking place for the 2014 conference in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Association Finances

It was reported that the association projects finishing the year with a profit, due to sustained conference profits, the new webinar program, reduction of website costs, and increases in membership from 685 to 940.

Activities and Member Benefits

It was reported that the new webinar program continues to be a success. The three webinars since January were on Native

American consultation, renewable energy development projects, and CEQ guidance on NEPA review. Upcoming webinars are on water quality and the new Nationwide Permits, Section 4(f) of the DOT Act, and western water law. Chapters are taking advantage of this new member benefit.

Recent Environmental Practice issues on environmental justice (December 2011) and green infrastructure (March 2012) were well-received and are indicative that NAEP's journal is tracking current trends in the profession. The publisher of Environmental Practice, Cambridge University Press (CUP), reported that the perception of the journal is positive. In 2009 we eliminated the arbitrary printing of copies regardless of membership and we saved a lot of money. Now we have a true profit share based on our needs. It is expected that traditional institutional subscribers will continue to decline. However, the transition to the journal as a consortia access item will continue. There are 1,850 institutions covered by these subscriptions, plus it is given away to 2,500 additional third world country institutions. This is part of CUP's charitable mission. As journal publishing transitions into the digital age, electronic marketing efforts are increasing, and efforts are being made to improve journal branding. Digital marketing using business cards with a QR code was discussed.

Committee Realignment

The realignment of all committees and working groups to eight major groups was officially implemented. Some assistant chairs and subgroup chairs are still being selected. Overall, it is helped that there would be improved communications between the committees and the Board, and that the Board will be able to be more actively involved in assisting the committees. A quarterly call between committee leaders and use of on-line tools will be promoted. As a result of the recent conference, a new interest group on visual impact is being established.

Future Priorities

The Board spent time discussing the need to update the NAEP website and redesign it so that it is useful for members and committees. A short-term priority will be to get a NEPA forum up and running. A target date to accomplish this was set as the July Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be held in Kansas City on July 21, 2012, in association with the Chapters Retreat.



Please join us for the 2013 NAEP/AEP Joint Conference. The conference committee is hard at work planning what will sure to be an informative and engaging event for environmental professionals. The conference program will feature dynamic regional and national keynote speakers, and an all-day pre-conference symposium on climate change adaptation. Conference sessions will cover topics including NEPA and CEQA, Climate Change, Water Supply and Delivery, Air Quality, Energy and Alternative Energy Development, Marine and Coastal Issues, Habitat Mitigation, Transportation, Land Use, and Cultural Resources. There will also be numerous other conference and social events that will take advantage of the conference location, including a number of mobile workshops and a 5K run through some of downtown Los Angeles' top attractions.

The online abstract submission site is available and awaiting your input. The deadline for submission is August 15, 2012. It is earlier this year because the conference is earlier. So don't wait, get your submission in.

There are many opportunities for exhibitors and sponsors to become involved and it's a great opportunity to place your company in front of key decision makers in the environmental area. Don't wait! Sign up now.

Our conference will be held in an outstanding, state-of-the-art conference facility at the JW Marriott Hotel, located in the vibrant LA Live complex in downtown Los Angeles. The hotel and conference facility sport a front-row seat to some of Los Angeles' top attractions, include the Staples Center, the Nokia Theatre, Regal Cinemas, and a wide variety of shops and restaurants. In addition, despite the car-centered nature of greater Los Angeles, many world-class attractions can be reached via public transit which is easily accessible from the complex.

See you in LA in April. If you have questions, contact me.

Donna Carter
naepfl@verizon.net
863-949-0262

When you're ready to further develop your team
When you're ready to invest in your organization's future
You are ready for American Public University

American Public University is ready to help your team succeed. We're a nationally recognized university with certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees for environmental science, policy, and management professionals – completely online. So your employees can take classes on their own time. And people are taking notice. 99% of employers surveyed would hire one of our graduates again.*

When you're ready, visit StudyatAPU.com/NAEP



*APUS Alumni Employer Survey, January 2011-December 2011
We want you to make an informed decision about the university that's right for you. For more about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed each program, and other important information, visit www.apus.edu/disclosure.



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NAEP Announces 2012 Environmental Excellence Award Winners

President's Award —

Project Name: State Route 15 Mid-City Bus Rapid Transit

Award Presented to: Caltrans District 11, SANDAG, MTS, CH2M HILL, IBI Group, KTU+A

Caltrans – District 11, SANDAG, and San Diego MTS propose to construct bus rapid transit (BRT) stations and dedicated BRT lanes in the Mid City community of San Diego in order to facilitate efficient transfers with other local routes and enhance existing bus routes. Station design will be consistent with the existing architectural design elements and current character found within the project corridor. It is anticipated that the new transit service will transform the Mid-City community from an economically-isolated area to a highly-connected hub, with high-speed transit to downtown and other employment centers through Smart Growth philosophies. SANDAG and Caltrans initiated a community-based planning process with local stakeholders to determine the most effective location and design of the facility, to discuss associated key opportunities and constraints as well as the progress and design of the final alternatives.

The project's environmental public review process included a multi-media and multi-language format that provided video simulations and poster displays for all three build alternatives and translators in three foreign languages (Spanish, Somali, and Vietnamese). This project represents the constructive collaboration, active participation, and open communication with multiple agencies, stakeholders, and the community in order to produce the most effective transportation decision making.

Best Available Environmental Technology Award —

Project Name: Columbia River Crossing Hydroacoustic Impacts Analysis on Threatened and Endangered Fish

Award Presented to: Columbia River Crossing Team

The Columbia River Crossing project (CRC) is large and complex, with the potential for multiple years of in-water construction. The project spans the Columbia River, a migratory corridor for 13 ESA-listed fish species. Over 1,000 temporary steel piles will be required to install permanent drilled shafts and build the superstructures of the new bridges. Impact driver "proofing" of these temporary piles could result in injury or death of fish, and was considered the major impact to listed fish from the project. To determine potential hydroacoustic exposure,

the CRC team developed a hydroacoustics analysis method that accounted for moving and stationary fish in the project area by week of year and assumed construction techniques. Daily, weekly, annual, and total project exposure factors were calculated and applied as structured decrements against estimates of fish populations to assess potential weekly, annual and project effects. The CRC team modeled fish abundance by species, life-stage and statistical week for input to the exposure model. Draft exposure models were prepared to provide estimates of effects during preliminary design phases, through which construction techniques and the model were refined. The proposed design is now expected to impact little of any given run. By working closely with regulatory agencies, the CRC team was able to demonstrate that impacts were so low on an annual and cumulative basis that an in-water work window extension of approximately 12 weeks was granted, allowing construction to be completed several years earlier than it could have otherwise.

Conservation Programs Award —

Project Name: US 93, Hoover Dam to MP 17 Highway Widening Project Desert Bighorn Sheep Overpasses

Award Presented to: Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society, AMEC Environment and Infrastructure, Inc., FNF Construction, Inc.

The Black Mountains in northwestern Arizona are home to the world's largest herd of Desert Bighorn Sheep (DBS). The upgrade of US 93 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided highway would create a barrier to DBS movement and fragment the sheep population, leading to survival consequences as traffic volumes continue to rise and DBS attempt to cross the highway. Three wildlife overpasses were constructed to safely and effectively convey DBS and other wildlife across the highway.

Education Excellence Award —

Project Number: Refugee Training Project

Award Presented to: Farmland Foods Salt Lake City, UT

For this project Farmland Foods, Salt Lake City, teamed up with the local Catholic Community Services and set up training course that taught basic life skills to refugees that had recently

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come to the United States. One area taught focused on the importance of recycling, preserving our natural resources, and protecting the environment. This was in hopes of giving the refugees knowledge to take back to their families and communities. Many of them were not aware of what recycling was or why it was important. Farmland Foods taught 3 groups with approximately 8 refugees in each class.

Environmental Stewardship Award —

Project Name: East Fork Raw Water Supply Project

Award Presented to: North Texas Municipal Water District and Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.

In 2004, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) faced a critical raw water supply shortage. Water demands in NTMWD's rapidly growing service area north and east of Dallas, Texas, would soon outpace NTMWD's capability to meet them from their existing raw water sources. New surface water supplies planned at that time would not be completed in time to contribute to the solution.

NTMWD addressed this problem by developing an environmentally friendly, fast-track project that would yield the raw water supply needed to meet the increased water demand — the East Fork Raw Water Supply Project. The East Fork Raw Water Supply Project represents the largest water reuse project in the United States utilizing a constructed wetland to reclaim water for the purpose of augmenting a surface water supply source. Functionally, the project works as follows: NTMWD diverts treated effluent (return flows) from the East Fork of the Trinity River that have been contributed by NTMWD- or customer-owned wastewater treatment facilities into a 2,000-acre constructed wetland for removal of sediments and nutrients from the water. The wetland-treated water is then conveyed 43.5 miles to Lavon Lake for subsequent treatment and use by NTMWD customers. The East Fork Raw Water Supply Project is capable of providing over 102,000 acre-feet of water per year, enough water to serve 500,000 people. This is comparable to the yield of a new reservoir, but was completed at a cost of less than 25% of developing a new reservoir and in about 20% of the time. As such, the East Fork Raw Water Supply Project is a signature solution of innovation.

Environmental Management Award —

Project Name: Cove Point Pier Reinforcement Project

Award Presented to: Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP

This project combines the need for placement of dredged material associated with the Cove Point Pier Reinforcement Project (PRP) with the protection of Cove Point Marsh, a unique freshwater ecosystem along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. The beach separating the Marsh from the Bay was breached during a 4-day northeaster in 2006. In order to provide a placement site for the PRP dredged material, a placement site consisting of a salt marsh and armoring material was designed to seal the breach and repair the beach and dune system lost by the breach. The design also expanded to protect and enhance habitat for the federally listed northeastern beach tiger beetle, which was historically found on the beach. The Cove Point marsh protection placement project has three components: (1) repair of the 2006 breach that converted the former freshwater Cove Point marsh into a brackish water system, (2) a dredged material placement site, which includes a continuous containment structure, placement of dredged material, and creation of tidal marsh, and (3) a segmented breakwater and beach nourishment to protect the beach south of the placement site from shoreline erosion and to enhance habitat for the northeastern beach tiger beetle.

NEPA Excellence Award —

Project Name: I-70 Mountain Corridor Programmatic EIS

Award Presented to: Colorado Department of Transportation (Tony DeVito, Scott McDaniel, Wendy Wallach, Jane Hann, Sandi Kohrs, Vanessa Henderson, Tracey MacDonald, Kerrie Neet); FHWA (Monica Pavlik); Jacobs (Gina McAfee); CH2M Hill (Mandy Whorton)

The I-70 Mountain Corridor is a 144-mile-long interstate that stretches from the Denver metropolitan area to Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The corridor experiences many hours of congestion, particularly on weekends, as travelers access ski areas, hiking areas, and other recreational destinations in the Rocky Mountains. CDOT conducted a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to evaluate alternatives for a reconstruction project to add capacity and improve mobility along the corridor. The prior Tier 1 Programmatic Draft EIS (DEIS) had identified a Preferred Alternative that did not have the support of the majority of corridor stakeholders. Beginning in

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2007, CDOT initiated a collaborate decision making process to identify a new Preferred Alternative and to prepare a revised Programmatic DEIS, FEIS and ROD that includes capacity, travel mode, and general location for the reconstruction and widening of I-70, including an Advanced Guideway System.

The process used to complete the I-70 Mountain Corridor PEIS is a major achievement involving such national organizations as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and numerous state and local agencies and groups. It used very innovative approaches to collaborative decision making, reader friendly NEPA documentation, streamlined agency and consultant teams, environmental stewardship, and an unprecedented (on major highway projects) adaptive management approach to implementing a Preferred Alternative.

The first Tier 2 project to be developed for this corridor is the Twin Tunnels EA project, which is currently underway.

Planning Integration Award —

Project Name: PA Program Development and Project Delivery: Linking Planning, NEPA, and Design through an Integrated Partnership

Award Presented to: PennDOT and PA Metropolitan/Rural Planning Organizations

Pennsylvania Program Development and Project Delivery Process was redefined through and integrated partnership with

stakeholders across the state. The new process emphasizes the identification of issues early in the planning stages in order to influence project prioritization; have a better understanding of project scopes, schedules, and budgets; and improve predictability and efficiency in programming and project delivery. Implementation included updates to PennDOT policy, procedure, and guidance documents and the introduction of an automated screening tool which documents known land use, economic development, environmental, and engineering issues associated with proposed transportation improvements.

Public Involvement Award —

Project Name: South San Diego Bay Restoration & Enhancement Project

Award Presented to: Environmental, San Diego Audubon Society, San Diego Oceans Foundation, Ocean Discovery Institute and Coronado Rotary Club

This restoration and enhancement project created 280 acres of saltmarsh and upland transition habitat in South San Diego Bay. To accomplish this restoration project, tidal channels were created, uplands were excavated to elevations which would support salt marsh habitat, and a shorebird nesting beach was built. Volunteers planted salt marsh plants to provide habitat for the endangered Light-footed clapper rail. Overall, 768 volunteers, an estimated 1500 hours of volunteer time was utilized to remove over 46 tons of invasive plants and debris and plant thousands of salt marsh plants. We knew we had created something great, when in the middle of construction, 20 endangered birds nested on the newly created beach.

NAEP 2013 Environmental Excellence Awards Nomination Information

Submission deadline date is August 15, 2012

The National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) is seeking nominations for our annual National Environmental Excellence Awards. We are requesting nominations from you, your company, or agency describing outstanding environmental contributions from applicable projects and programs. It is not necessary for you or your organization to be a member of NAEP and nominations may include projects or programs recognized by others. The Environmental Excellence Award nomination(s) are to be submitted to the NAEP Awards Review Committee and must be received by August 15, 2012. Award Winners will receive a beautiful award plaque and an invitation to briefly address participants at the Annual NAEP National Conference. The 2013 conference will be held in Los Angeles, California, April 1-5, 2013.

If you have any questions please call Abby Murray at 856-470-4521.

The form can be found at the link below:

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/naep2013environmentalexcellenceawardnominationform.doc>



Member Spotlight: Bruce Hasbrouck



Bruce on site for a Crested Caracara survey in Central Florida.

Editor's Note: When we conceived of the Member Spotlight, the idea was to introduce the membership to themselves. From the start the idea was to provide the members with an understanding of the diversity of membership and our common ground. I believe it is working. Bruce and I have known each other since 1998. He is a committed professional and has been instrumental in many NAEP and FAEP advancements.

Bruce Hasbrouck has been a long-time member of NAEP (joined 1988) and has held numerous positions in the organization including two terms as President in 2000 and 2001. He has served on the Board of the Florida Chapter, has been President of FAEP, and is currently the NAEP chapter representative. He was one of the founding members of the Tampa Bay Association of Environmental Professionals (TBAEP) and has been President of that FAEP Chapter twice. He is a Certified Environmental Professional.

Bruce has a BS in Marine Biology from the University of South Carolina (USC) and an MS in Management from National-Louis University. He grew up in the hills of East Tennessee and spent a lot of time outdoors in Boy Scouts and extended family vacations. On a trip to Florida in 1970, his family stayed

in the Keys for a week camping right on the beach at Bahia Honda State Park spending all day fishing and snorkeling. After camping another week in the Everglades and one more at Fort DeSoto Park in St. Petersburg, he was hooked on Florida. "I used to watch Flipper in the 60's and always dreamed of living in Florida, having my own boat, and having a pet dolphin."

With his degree from USC, Bruce landed a job working for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in Key West, lived on the water, and started fulfilling his dream. The job entailed tagging 30,000 pink shrimp as part of an abundance and distribution study. In the early 80's shrimpers were using loran plotters to identify the spots that had the highest concentration of shrimp and were over fishing the resource. After tagging and releasing the shrimp, Bruce worked on different shrimp boats for one year logging the location of captured, tagged shrimp. He also measured and sexed shrimp from five-pound samples collected every four hours, not to mention he kept the samples and was very popular when he got back to shore. NMFS used these data to set a line in the Gulf of Mexico where shrimpers were not allowed to deploy their nets.

While Bruce didn't own his own boat (yet), he spent 10 to 14 days at sea for each trip. "I spent five years getting a degree and the crew members were elementary school drop-outs who were better marine scientists than I was." The amount of sea-life that was brought up in the nets from each tow was astounding. During the daytime the boat was anchored giving him a chance for wind surfing 40 miles out to sea, feeding dolphin frozen squid while underwater with them, and jumping on four-foot barracuda hanging out in the shade of the boat on hot afternoons in August.

After realizing shrimping and living in the Florida Keys didn't lend itself to a stable future, he started mapping wetlands for the National Wetlands Inventory in St. Petersburg. "That experience gave me a very good understanding of wetlands from a system-wide perspective." There were several opportunities during that job to branch out and apply aerial photointerpretation to other early GIS projects.

During a volunteer restoration project lead by Bruce, he got hooked by the concept of wetland creation and restoration. He changed jobs and started working with a company that de-



Bruce Hasbrouck

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signed, permitted, and created wetlands for large-scale projects; some that were more than 1,000 acres in size. During that time he had an opportunity to perform wildlife surveys, band burrowing owls, relocate gopher tortoises, and gain experience in other environmental consulting services.

Bruce joined HDR in 1988 and spent 16 years working on large-scale bridge projects throughout the southeast including demolition of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge and construction of the world's longest fishing pier. The demolition material was used to create artificial reefs adjacent to the bridge as well as in the Gulf of Mexico and provided more than 40 days of diving during the construction of the reefs. His practice grew to include wetlands work on landfills in Puerto Rico, several EIS roadway projects, water supply projects, and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project. "I was very fortunate to gain great exposure to big projects through my networking opportunities in NAEP."

While at HDR he was whole-heartily supported in his NAEP efforts. One such effort involved NAEP's National Involvement Initiative (NII). A recurring goal during the Board's strategic planning efforts was a larger presence in Washington, D.C. As President of NAEP, Bruce traveled to the capitol to meet with Senators and Representatives to discuss what an Environmental Professional actually does. After almost ten trips of several days each, he quickly learned that the legislators' staffs were the ones who understood the critical role we provide on each and every project. He also met with various agencies to promote public employee membership in NAEP.

Bruce chaired several committees as a Board Member from 1996 – 2004 including chair of the 1997 conference that had an 1100-page printed proceedings. He also chaired the Chapters 2000 committee that looked at the role of an NAEP chapter, NAEP itself, and what a model chapter would look like in the year 2000. "We wanted to embrace the variety in the different chapters rather than force conformance." During his terms as President, he was able to travel to most every chapter including Hawaii and several student chapter events.

In September 1997 a Bill was submitted to the Florida House of Representatives to create a licensure program for Environmental Professionals. Bruce helped write the Bill and was instrumental in securing the Bill's sponsor. He spent a lot of time in Tallahassee promoting the Bill and testifying to committees. The Bill was changed to Professional Biologist and Bruce secured a sponsor in the Senate. Unfortunately, after several years of effort, the Bills died in committee. However, the effort greatly increased the awareness of our profession.

He was provided an opportunity to start an environmental practice at a small, woman-owned transportation engineering company in 2005. While the geographical range of work at Fall-er, Davis & Associates, Inc. is much less than HDR, his team's breadth of practice is still broad and includes cities, counties, and the state of Florida among his clients as well as several utilities.

Bruce is married to Teri Hasbrouck, a fellow environmental professional. He has two grown boys and Teri has two grown girls. They just experienced their last kid's college graduation and enjoy the empty-nest living. "Being two scientists, our kids joke about our dinner conversations. However, they frequently remark how their significant others enjoy coming over for dinner and participating in our discussions." They enjoy boating, walking on the beach, and look forward to travel including increased frequency of extended trips on their boat.

He is the 2014 Annual Conference Chair and threatens to return as President in the future. He receives great satisfaction through involvement with the five student chapters in the Tampa Bay area and frequently provides the students shadowing opportunities with his staff. "The students are much more inclined to help them with a seagrass survey than watch me prepare another proposal, create a new scope of services, or generate another invoice." While the paper work is a critical part of the business, he still finds time to work on wildlife surveys or participate in public involvement.

"I am very fortunate to have been given wonderful guidance by my parents, tremendous opportunities from my employers, and great career enhancements through active involvement with NAEP, FAEP, and TBAEP."



Looking for Career Advice from Top Environmental Experts?

Register for a Complimentary Career Advice Three-Part Webinar Series

With the current economic conditions and job market, Environmental Professionals need to stand out in order to compete for jobs or to advance their careers. Recognizing this challenge, the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and American Public University (APU) are bringing together top academic leaders and subject matter experts to collaborate on a 3-part webinar series, helping educate environmental professionals on this highly informative topic of career preparation. Register today at www.studyatapu.com/NAEP-Webinars to learn critical skills that may help you shape the future of your career in this field!

NAEP and APU have selected some of the top environmental experts today to provide relevant and cutting-edge career advice that you can use to help you advance in your field. The caliber of the experts speaking at this webinar series really highlights both NAEP and APU as thought leader organizations in the environmental field as well as their legitimate interest and commitment toward helping drive professional advancements through career-relevant education.

Taking advantage of this career-advice webinar series is complimentary and is offered for registration on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees will need to register separately for each webinar. For more information, please refer to the webinar descriptions below.

Part 1 • Preparing to Stand Out — Call occurred on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 - the archive video of the presentation can be found at www.studyatapu.com/NAEP-Webinars

Long-time career professionals will share tips for navigating employment and application procedures for jobs in the federal and local government, as well as private and consulting firms. With the challenging economic environment today, employers have the opportunity to be extremely meticulous when it comes to selecting the perfect candidate from a pool of applicants that can often reach the 100's. Topics covered will include: simple application enhancements to help you stand out, resume submission best practices, self-assessment questions for finding the perfect job, relationship building tips, mastering the job interview, and demonstrating your qualifications beyond the resume and cover letter. Attendees will also get a "sneak peak" of the results of 2012 NAEP/ECC National Environmental Employer Survey revealing details on how best to enter or advance in an environmental career.

Part 2 • The Perfect Resume — Wednesday, July 18, 2012 - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

This resume-focused session brings experts to the table providing a deep dive on building a powerful resume. Attendees will hear perspectives from experienced HR and hiring managers as well as top career development experts in the industry who play active roles at the National Association of Environmental Professionals. Speakers will address the following: understanding the different needs between the federal and private sectors, documenting your key accomplishments, highlighting your daily responsibilities, appropriate use of language and grammar, using resume builder software and keywords, cover letter etiquette and formatting, and online resources for additional reference. An overview of the career services department at American Public University will also be provided.

Part 3 • Leveraging LinkedIn to Land Your Next Job — Wednesday, October 17, 2012 - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

Our tech-savvy panel will cover the ins-and-outs of how job hunters and employers utilize social media and how you can leverage LinkedIn to network your way to your next job. Topics to be covered include: strategies for job hunting, importance of networking, social media best practices, job boards and social media sites, how social media can help or hurt your search, participation in associations, chapters and communities, and managing your personal brand.

We invite you to join us to learn critical skills that will help you shape the future of your career in this field.

Register today at www.studyatapu.com/NAEP-webinars



Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

Central

June 28, 2012: The Central Chapter is hosting a lunch with Mr. Scott L. Kearney, P.E. with Wawa, Inc, who will be speaking about the expansion of the Wawa brand into Florida and the environmental concerns relating to the expansion. RSVP to Carolyn Malphurs at cmalphurs@mbakercorp.com. For information about these events and other Central Chapter news, please visit www.cfaep.org.

Northeast

For information about the Northeast Chapter, please visit www.NEFAEP.org.

Northwest

September 21, 2012: The Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals will host the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals 2012 Annual Conference on Friday, September 21, 2012 in Pensacola, Florida. Abstract Categories are Water Quality, Air Quality, and Land Use. We are seeking presentations that address the bulleted items under each category.

For information about the Northwest Chapter and our upcoming speakers for 2012, please visit www.FAEPNWFL.org.

South

July 18, 2012: Speaker: Dr. Carlos Coronado of the SFWMD. Topic: TBD – current Research. Location: The River Seafood & Oyster Bar, Miami. Champion: Chip Day.

August 15, 2012: Speaker: Dr. Dale Gawlik and Dr. Colin Hughes of Florida Atlantic University. Topic: Potential joint seminar on their current research (Avian/Wildlife Population Dynamics and Chemistry/Genetics in the Everglades). Location: Broward. Champion: Chip Day. For information about these events and other South Florida Chapter news, please visit, please visit www.sfaep.org.

Southwest

For information about Southwest Chapter news, please visit www.SWFAEP.org

Tallahassee

July 11th Networking Social 5:30-7:30 PM. Snacks Provided free for members and \$5 for nonmembers.

Ray's Steel City Saloon 515 John Knox Road Tallahassee, FL 32303-4117. RSVP to: slewin@cfl.rr.com

For information about these events and other Tallahassee Chapter news, please visit our webpage at <http://www.faep-tally.com>.

Tampa Bay

For information about these events and other Tampa Bay Chapter news, please visit www.tbaep.org.

Treasure Coast

July 14, 2012 The Treasure Coast chapter is offering follow up to its recent seagrass presentation with an in-water Seagrass Survey Workshop to be followed by a BBQ social. The workshop and social will be held at Coral Cove in Jupiter. Free for FAEP members with RSVP. RSVP: tcc.faep@gmail.com

For information about these events and other Treasure Coast Chapter news, please visit our link on the FAEP webpage at www.faep-fl.org or on the TCC home page at <https://sites.google.com/site/tccfaep/>.



Illinois Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

President: Robert Sliwinski, Vice President/NAEP Representative: Greg Merritt, Treasurer: Christopher B. Burke, Past President: Nathan Quaglia, Board Members at Large: Ron Deverman (NAEP Past-President), Suzanne Frances, Dr. James Montgomery, Patrick VerHalen, Dawn Consentino, Liz Pelloso

Newsletter Editor: Eric Sikora, Executive Administrator: Debra Hatchett, Website: www.iaepnetwork.org

Membership Update

IAEP currently has 157 members of which are 129 general, 9 national, 7 student and 12 are corporate.



Stasi Brown USACE

Recap of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Regulatory Wetland Update.

On May 2 at Cafe Zalute, Rosemont, Illinois, Stasi Brown from the USACE- Chicago District provided approximately 40 IAEP members with an update on the Regional Permit Program and Nationwide Permit Program. Additionally, information on which permits were still in effect and new categories were also presented.



IAEP Members learn about the new wetland updates

Recap of the USEPA Perspective of the New NEPA Efficiencies.

On May 16th at Café Zalute, Rosemont, IL, Ken Westlake, from USEPA provided 15 IAEP members a USEPA perspective of the CEQ NEPA efficiencies. Included was an announcement of the new NEPAAssist website.



Ken Westlake provides a USEPA perspective of the new NEPA efficiencies



Ron Deverman provides a consultants view of NEPA efficiencies



Lara Lasky from USEPA Region 5

Recap of Environmental Justice Toolkit and Mapping,

On June 15, 2012, Lara Lasky from USEPA region 5 presented the new EJView, environmental Justice Website and toolkit to 10 IAEP members. The website provides information on demographics, hazardous material sites and incorporates the new 2010 census data.



IAEP members learn EJView



IAEP

Continued from page 28

Recap of DuPage County Stormwater Ordinance Update

On June 20, 2012, DuPage County Department of Economic Development and Planning presented the new Update to the Floodplain and Stormwater Ordinance that regulates wetlands within the County to 30 IAEP members. This update affects all development within the County.



IAEP members learn about the new stormwater updates



DuPage County staff present the new stormwater updates

IAEP Student Research Grant Program

IAEP has awarded \$1,000 to Kathryn Rico from DePaul University for materials and mileage re-imbursement for her student research project entitled "Characterization of sediment in a restored freshwater wetland through analysis of select chemical and physical properties, source determination, and sedimentation rates". We wish her good luck with her research and we will post the introduction of her project on our website soon. Congratulations Kathryn!



Student Research Grant Winner:
Kathryn Rico and President Robert Sliwinski

IAEP Upcoming Events

July 11 – NEPAAssist Website Tutorial - lunchtime seminar— (Chicago)

July 25 – IDNR Coastal Management Program – lunchtime seminar (Rosemont)

September 7 –Golf Outing (White Deer Run Golf Course in Vernon Hills)

September 8 – Student Career Seminar (DePaul University - Chicago)



Please Donate to the James Roberts Scholarship Fund



You may not have known him.

Yet you were certainly influenced by him.

Honor his legacy.

*Donate to the James Roberts
Scholarship Fund TODAY.*

Jim Roberts travelled far and wide to espouse the worth of living an ethical life, including the way you performed your job. He lived the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice for Environmental Professionals.

NAEP has developed the James Roberts Scholarship Fund to assist promising individuals while they are still in school. This is your opportunity to preserve and extend the legacy of Jim Roberts.

All donations are tax-deductible. Go to NAEP.org and click Scholarship Foundations to make your contribution. You can also donate when you renew your NAEP membership.

Thank you,
Gary F. Kelman, Chair

James Roberts Scholarship Committee
Mel Willis
John Perkins
Bruce Hasbrouck
Teri Hasbrouck



Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

OBTAIN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CAREER DESERVES:

- *Do you have an environmental certification? Good*
- *Does this environmental certification measure your experience and depth of knowledge, not just facts? Yes*
- *Does this environmental certification include an objective peer review of your abilities? Yes*
- *Is your environmental certification accredited by a third-party certifying body? Yes*
- *Then your environmental certification must be a CEP from The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP).*



Certification is available in five areas:

- Assessment
- Documentation
- Operations
- Planning
- Research/Education

Beginning in 1979, experienced environmental professionals were able to become certified through a comprehensive peer review addressing years of experience, responsibility, and knowledge. Certifications are nationally-recognized and available for a wide range of eligible professionals including:

- Federal/state/local agency staff - Consultants - Researchers - Compliance managers
- Enforcement officials - Activists

Initially offered as a certification through the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) established organizational independence in 1993. In 1999 ABCEP became a nonprofit organization. In 2005, the ABCEP achieved accreditation by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB – www.cesb.org)

The ABCEP CEP brings heightened confidence in the professional quality of documents, evaluations, and decisions. Certified individuals satisfy the professional requirements outlined by the USEPA, ASTM, and other regulatory agencies, providing assurance to employers and customers. For the individual, certification increases opportunities for promotions, marketability, and career advancement. Certified individuals maintain their knowledge, experience, and credentials through continuing education, teaching, mentoring, publishing papers, and complying with the Code of Ethics.

Become a CEP-IT: The ABCEP offers mentoring and a CEP-In Training (CEP-IT) designation to junior and mid-level professionals developing towards CEP eligibility. The CEP-IT increases individual and firm marketability, enhanced career opportunities, and enhanced networking opportunities.

More Information: Contact ABCEP at office@abcep.org; www.abcep.org; or 1.866.767.8073 Do you have an upcoming meeting and need a speaker? Speaker opportunities by CEPs about ABCEP are available in certain geographic locations.



Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Northwest Chapter 2012 Annual Conference **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

The Northwest Chapter of the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals will host the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals 2012 Annual Conference on **Friday, September 21, 2012** in Pensacola, Florida. Abstract Categories are Water Quality, Air Quality, and Land Use. We are seeking presentations that address the bulleted items under each category.

ABSTRACT CATEGORIES:

1. Water Quality:

- Research and Development - should discuss current research and development being conducted or that has been conducted within the last 12 months. Presentation(s) should also discuss benefits of the R&D project and future objectives associated with it (i.e. implementation plan, future R&D).
- State Regulations
- Federal Regulations
- Overview of our current State and Local water quality conditions
- Water Quality improvement on our current conditions (solutions not just problems)

2. Air Quality:

- Research and Development - should discuss current research and development being conducted or that has been conducted within the last 12 months. Presentation(s) should also discuss benefits of the R&D project and future objectives associated with it (i.e. implementation plan, future R&D).
- State Regulations
- Federal Regulations
- Overview of our current State and Local air quality conditions
- Air Quality improvements on our current conditions (solutions not just problems)

3. Land Use:

- Overview of current land use practices, their potential detrimental effects on air and water quality, what methodologies (i.e. smart growth, low impact development, form-based codes), can be utilized for improvement.
- Transportation: Presentation(s) should give an overview of the future of transportation including transit, rail, and other modes of non- traditional transportation (i.e. single occupancy vehicles, etc.).
- Brownfields: Presentation(s) should describe the economic and environmental benefits of utilizing Brownfields. Case studies are acceptable and encouraged.
- Green Building Design: Presentation(s) should address the sustainable design and energy efficiency associated with green building design. Case studies are acceptable and encouraged.
- Alternative Energy Sources: Presentation(s) should address other sources of energy for use in comparison to the historical use of coal and nuclear.
- Biofuels: Presentation(s) should address alternative fuel sources in comparison to gasoline, research being conducted, etc.

CODE OF CONDUCT: All presentations should be scientifically-based, educational, and presented in a respectful manner. Presenters are expected to exhibit the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. Opinion presentations will not be considered.

Continued on page 33



PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Full Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Company or Organization: _____

Bio about Yourself: _____

Abstract Category: _____

Title of Abstract: _____

Abstract Overview: _____

Learning Objectives (please list no less than 3):

Abstract Submittal Deadline is COB Sunday, July 15, 2012.

Please submit abstracts to Mary Gutierrez at mary.community@cox.net or fax: 850-458-7944.

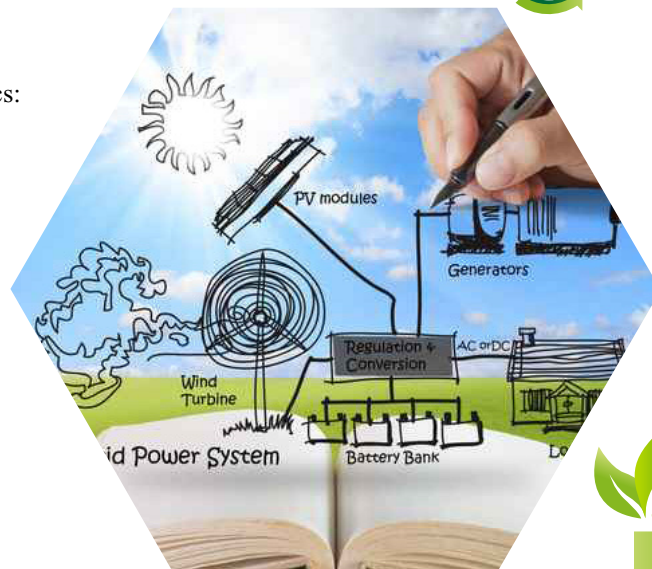
Summer2012

Basic NEPA Workshop

The Summer Basic NEPA workshop is designed to inform consultants, regulators, applicants, and industry professionals on NEPA practice. The curriculum will focus on the following topics:

- NEPA's framework
- Determining NEPA application
- Scoped content of NEPA documents
- Common NEPA mistakes and how to avoid them
- Integrating NEPA with other laws

AICP and MCLE credits will be available for the workshop.



2012 NEPA WORKSHOP SERIES AGENDA

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT: OVERVIEW AND REFRESHER

8:00 - 8:30	Registration
8:30 - 9:15	NEPA's overall framework
9:15-9:45	Determining whether NEPA applies
9:45 - 10:15	Deciding which type of NEPA document to prepare
10:15 - 10:30	Break
10:30 - 11:15	NEPA document preparation and review
11:15 - 12:00	Scope and content of NEPA documents: Purpose and Need and Alternatives
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Scope and content of NEPA documents: Affected Environment and Environmental Effects
2:00 - 2:30	Scope and content of NEPA documents: Mitigation Measures
2:30 - 2:45	Break
2:45 - 3:30	Integrating NEPA with other laws
3:30 - 4:00	Appeals and judicial review under NEPA
4:00 - 4:30	Review: common NEPA mistakes and how to avoid them

Register On-Line Only at **www.CalifAEP.org**

LOCATIONS AND COSTS

July 25	<i>San Joaquin College of Law, 901 5th Street, Clovis, 93612</i>
July 30	<i>ABAG Building Oakland, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, 94607</i>
July 31	<i>Marina Village, 1936 Quivira Way, San Diego, 92109</i>
August 1	<i>Cal State Dominguez Hills - 1000 E. Victoria Street, Carson, 90747</i>

CATEGORY	EARLY REG BY JULY 11	REGISTRATION BY JULY 18	LATE/ON-SITE AFTER JULY 18
Member/Sponsor Member	\$150	\$160	\$170
Non-Member/Public Sector	\$165	\$175	\$190
Non-Member/Private Sector	\$180	\$190	\$210
Group Rates (per person group of 3+)	\$170	\$180	\$200
New Member + Workshop*	\$290	\$310	\$330
*Includes \$10 discount on AEP 2012 CEQA Statute and Guidelines CD			
Student Member	\$15	\$20	\$25
Student Member + Workshop	\$50	\$55	\$60

Questions? Contact:
Lynne C. Bynder, CMP
lbynder@califaep.org

Registration is limited on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pre-registration is on-line only, fees must be paid in advance either by credit/debit card or check. Purchase orders are not accepted. On-site registration may be accepted if space is available. No refunds or cancellations accepted within 2 weeks of workshop date. Substitutions are permitted. **Fees include registration materials, handouts, continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks.**



Call for papers for publication in the scholarly journal:

Environmental Practice

The journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

EUROPEAN UNION ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE vol. 15 no. 1

As major world governments go, the European Union is a relatively new institution. As an entire continent moves from independent self-governance to an organization of pooled sovereignty, Europe will face unique challenges and innovations in the world of environmental policy, which will in turn have an effect on the policies of the global community.

This issue of *Environmental Practice* is dedicated to exploring the environmental policies of the European Union. We invite manuscripts that touch on an array of themes, including but not limited to: (1) member state interaction; (2) inter-state regulation; (3) natural resource allocation; (4) shared water and air policy; (5) sustainable consumption; (6) Europe's role in international policy; (7) global environmental movements, as they relate to the EU. Other issues are also welcomed related to environmental issues.

We welcome a variety of perspectives and submissions from scholars, practitioners, and students.

**Deadline for submittals is
August 1, 2012 to
dcarro17@depaul.edu**

**Sample issues of the journal
can be found at:**

[http://journals.cambridge.org/action/
displayJournal?jid=ENP](http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=ENP)

Guidelines for publication can be found at:
<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/>

The editorial office of
Environmental Practice is located
at DePaul University.

For questions, please contact
Dan Carroll, Managing Editor, at
773-325-2298, or by email at
dcarro17@depaul.edu