



# ◆ RPG News ◆

*The Official Publication of the Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists*

Protecting the Public's Health, Safety, and Welfare

Spring, 2007

**Members of the Board:** John W. Green, President (Environmental); Everett J. Ferris, Vice President (Government); Maureen K. Corcoran, (At Large); Ed Hollingsworth, (Mining - Mineral Extraction); and Darrel W. Schmitz, (Academia).

## *For Your Information*

*From the Director,  
Rick Ericksen*

**A**nother new year and some new and not so new guidelines related to changes to the Registered Professional Geologists Practice Act and Board Rules that were legislated by the state's legislature. The changes that you all should now be familiar with include the following:

1) Renewals for RPGs and GITs are now on an annual basis and no longer on a biennial, quarterly basis. All renewals are due on or before January 1 of each year. We will continue to send out renewal letters approximately 60 days prior to expiration. With the change now implemented, we sent out renewal letters noting the new renewal date the first week of October, 2006. Your account was credited depending on when you last renewed. If you have not yet renewed please contact the Board immediately.

2) The Board's Rules were also revised last year to reflect changes to the RPG law. The more significant changes are related to fee payments and additional guidelines related to statements contained on geologic work products including reports, maps, etc. For details concerning the fees that were approved by the Board after being adopted please visit the Board's web site at: [www.msbrpg.state.ms.us](http://www.msbrpg.state.ms.us). The Board's Rules are near the bottom of the first page under the topic heading of "Important Documents and Other Archived Information."

**O**f related interest, during a recent Board meeting, the Board adopted the following policy in order to be consistent with its legislation and Board Rules — applicants for RPG who have allowed their registration to lapse will be required to pass the Practice of Geology examination prior to the Board considering them for reinstatement as a RPG. Applicants, if not subject to existing reciprocity/comity agreements the Board has in place with Arkansas, Georgia, or Alabama, are required to show proof that they have successfully passed both of the ASBOG examinations, i.e. the Fundamentals of Geology and the Practice of Geology examinations.

It is important that all registrants, enrollees, and also those who are neither, be aware and adhere to the following requirements that are contained in both the RPG law and the Board's Rules concerning geologic work and work products. Specifically, "...11.05 a) Geological work performed by an employee or a subordinate of a registered professional geologist..." is exempt from registration provided "...that the work nor the work related products do not state, portray or infer by any manner or suggestion whatsoever that the employee or subordinate is in responsible charge of the geology or geologic work. Any such geological work and/or work products must be conspicuously signed and sealed by the supervising registered professional geologist of that employee or subordinate..." An example of what **should not** be included on or affixed to such work products includes the following or similar statements by others who are either GITs or non-registrants: "Geology by John Q. Doe." The statement "Geology By John Q. Doe," or similar statements, is (are) misleading and even though the required inclusion of the stamp, signature, and statement of the supervising RPG may be present the statement is in violation of both the RPG Act and the Board's Rules. Alternative language may be used for these cases and is provided in the following Board Guidance Documents, 2007-01.

### **BOARD GUIDANCE DOCUMENT 2007-01**

The Board, in order to educate and inform those who may be involved in signing and sealing documents, as well as employees who may be GITs or perhaps non-registrants, would be well advised to review the following, Board Guidance Document 2007-01. The following is intended to provide guidance when documents are required to be signed and stamped by a RPG.

#### **Maps, Illustrations, and Similar Products:**

- 1) Registrant's typeset name should be immediately followed by a comma, one blank space, and the designation "RPG", with no periods.
- 2) The seal(s) of registrant(s) is (are) to appear on all maps etc. (jpg or similar digital format) located near the typeset name of the registrant.
- 3) Maps which have been previously produced and whose stock is, from time to time, replenished from the original digital versions should be updated with the information contained in 1) and 2).
- 4) If the author(s) is (are) not registrants then the name of the registrant who supervised and assumes responsibility for that work should be typeset in the same font size and in the general vicinity of the typeset name(s) of the

author(s) of the map, illustration, etc. Information related to this entry should, in the same font, include the following: "I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents", (see Rule 10.0 of the Board and Board Guidance Document 2000-02) followed by the registrant's name, a comma, one blank space, and the designation RPG with no periods along with their seal in close proximity to the registrant's name.

As noted above, if the author(s) is (are) not a registrant(s) but is (are) a Geologist In Training (GIT) with the MSBRPG it is suggested that immediately following the GIT's name a comma, one blank space, and then the designation GIT with no periods be printed.

#### Reports, Bulletins, and Other Similar Products:

- 1) Title page - Author(s) [registrant(s)] should have their typeset name followed by a comma, one blank space, and the designation RPG without periods.
- 2) Seal of the registrant to appear near their name (jpg or similar digital format) provided that the typesetting space allows room for same.
- 3) If the author(s) is (are) not registrants then the name of the registrant who supervised and assumes responsibility for that work should be typeset in the same font size and in the general vicinity of the typeset name(s) of the author(s) of the map, illustration, etc. Information related to this entry should, in the same font, include the following: "I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents", (see Rule 10.0 of the Board and Board Guidance Document 2000-02) followed by the registrant's name, a comma, one blank space, and the designation RPG with no periods along with their seal in close proximity to the registrant's name.  
As noted above, if the author(s) is (are) not a registrant(s) but is (are) a Geologist In Training (GIT) with the MSBRPG it is suggested that immediately following the GIT's name a comma, one blank space, and then the designation GIT with no periods be printed.
- 4) If condition 3), immediately above, cannot be met because of space constraints in or on the document, the name of the registrant who supervised the work shall appear on the very next page of the report, bulletin, or other similar document as follows: the first line of text should contain the following information: "I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents", (see Rule 10.0 of the Board and Board Guidance Document 2000-02) followed by the registrant's name, a comma, one blank space, and the designation RPG with no periods along with their seal in close proximity to the registrant's name

#### Additional Guidelines for Pamphlets, Maps, Illustrations, etc.:

- If the document is a pamphlet, open file report, etc. that contains maps, illustrations, cross-sections, etc. which are bound with the text, it is not required that each of those documents follow the protocol set forth under **Maps, Illustrations, and Similar Products** section of

these guidelines provided that the title page and ensuing page, if required, containing the required RPG statement ("I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents", see Rule 10.0 of the Board and Board Guidance Document 2000-02), registrant's name, a comma, and the designation RPG. If possible, however, it is suggested that the same protocol be followed as if these were individual, unbound maps per the guidelines noted in **Maps, Illustrations, and Similar Products** section of these guidelines, space permitting.

- If the maps, cross-sections, and/or similar documents are contained within a pocket of the report (not bound to the text of the document), it is suggested that each map, illustration, X-section, etc. follow the protocol contained in the **Maps, Illustrations, and Similar Products** section of these guidelines.
- Pursuant to Board Guidance Document 2000-02 which addresses issues related to open file reports or other similar documents which are produced in limited numbers, it is recommended that documents be signed and sealed/stamped individually if the number of copies are limited (25 or less copies is a suggested number). Reports reproduced in large numbers may carry with the report a certifications page containing the signature (if appropriate to that document), date and seal of the geologist in charge, as well as the statement (if appropriate) contained in Rule 10.02, as follows: "I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents".

When the preceding conditions exist it is suggested that a uniformly placed stamp of the registrant be placed under which the next line including the statement "I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents", next a typeset line for the signature of the registrant and underlying that line is the typewritten name of the registrant, and the next line is the typeset date similar to the following example.



OR



I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents

*John B. Doe*

John B. Doe, RPG  
April 15, 2004

(Note: If the registrant signs over seal then the information to the left of this note, except for the date, is not required)

#### Requirements for Supervisory RPGs in Responsible Charge, GITs, and non-registrants:

In addition to the preceding guidelines, the following shall serve as additional guidance by the Board concerning stamping/sealing and signing geologic materials.

In lieu of the language "...I have reviewed this document in sufficient depth to accept full responsibility for its contents...", the following language may be alternately utilized

1) "This report prepared under the supervision (and control) of John Q. Smith, RPG"

2) "This map prepared under the supervision (and control) of John Q. Smith, RPG"

Also, if the RPG in responsible charge wishes to acknowledge contributions from others that are either GITs and/or non-registrants, the following are examples of language that should be used in those acknowledgments:

3) "This map prepared under the supervision (and control) of John Q. Smith, RPG with contributions from Frank Q. Public, GIT No. 1234 and Jill S. McCarthy"

4) "This map prepared under the supervision (and control) of John Q. Smith, RPG. Compiled by Frank Q. Public, GIT No. 1234 and Jill S. McCarthy"

Note: Parenthetical language in items 1) through 4), although recommended by the Board, is left to the discretion of the supervisory RPG who will be stamping and signing the material(s). Also in the examples above, if a person is not a RPG or GIT with this Board, they may use their job classification or other valid, title certification, provided it is not in violation of the RPG Act, i.e. Compiled by Frank Q. Public, GIT 1234 and Jill McCarthy, Environmental Scientist.

Failure to comply with the RPG Act and/or Board Rules may lead to disciplinary action by the MSBRPG pursuant to Board Rule 12 and may include suspension or revocation of one's registration and fines pursuant to § 73-63-51(2) that states that "any person convicted of a violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or by imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months, or both, for each violation. Each day of a continuing violation is a separate violation."

#### **Other Important Activities of the Board:**

Legislation was passed during the 2006 Session of the Mississippi State Legislature and subsequently signed by Governor Haley Barbour that created the Mississippi Building Code Council. One of the members of that Council is the MSBRPG. The MSBRPG became involved in this council because many of the naturally-occurring phenomena that may impact man-made structures, utilities, and other infrastructure are related to geology. One of the many significant impacts from these types of events includes the effects of the next earthquake associated with the New Madrid Fault Zone. The MSBRPG has attended meetings of the Council and will be requesting from its membership experts to potentially appear before the Council to present information concerning geology - geologic hazards and how building codes, when properly conformed with, may minimize loss of property and life. For additional information concerning

the Board's involvement please feel free to contact the Board's Director Rick Ericksen.

In addition to the Building Codes Council, the MSBRPG has continued its involvement with the Mississippi Department of Health's Waste Water Advisory Committee. The Committee has spent a considerable amount of time and effort refining the Onsite Waste Water legislation that includes the certification of engineers, soil scientists, and geologists as site evaluators. During this 2007 session the bill was successfully passed in the House and was sent to the Senate where it died in committee. The Waste Water Advisory Committee intends to yet again re-introduce this legislation during the 2008 session with hopes that it will eventually be approved by the Legislature and Governor.

Lastly, the MSBRPG has continued its involvement as a member of the Mississippi Water Resources Advisory Council by providing its geologic input on the water resources of this state. This Council's enabling legislation was up for sunset during the 2007 session and was passed out of both houses and at this writing is waiting on approval by the Governor.

Until next time,



Rick L. Ericksen, RPG, CPG  
Executive Director

#### ***In Memory***

It is with deep respect and sympathy to the families, loved ones, and friends that we note the passing of the following RPGs:

**Gene Anthony Radzewicz**, RPG 0312, Natchez, Mississippi

**Marvin L. Oxley**, RPG 0393, Jackson, Mississippi

**Irby Dean Redditt**, RPG 0466, Fairhope, Alabama

#### ***RPG Newsletter Going Paperless***

We need to hear from those of you who wish to continue to receive a printed copy of the RPG Newsletter. With yet another postal price increase looming on the horizon in mid-May, along with the increased cost associated with the actual printing and labor, we have elected to send only a limited number of copies of the Newsletter out through the postal service. To make your election to receive the RPG Newsletter electronically simply DO NOTHING! When a RPG Newsletter is released, you will receive an e-mail and direct link to the Newsletter that will be on the Board's web site. For those of you that want to continue to receive a mailing of the RPG Newsletter, please either call or write the Board with your election.

#### ***Ballot for Voting on Nominees to the Board***

The Board's Nominating Committee has officially nominated three (3) individuals to be considered by the registrants. The nominees will be ranked by the

number of votes cast for each and that list will be presented to Governor Barbour for his selection.

The sector that will have a vacancy at the end of June, 2007 is for the Mining-Mineral Extractive Sector. Currently, Mr. Ed Hollingsworth has served in that position for nearly the past four (4) years. Mr. Hollingsworth has agreed to allow his name to be placed in nomination for another four (4) year term. Per the RPG Act, each sector that will be having a vacancy must have three (3) nominees. With that said the following are the biographies of the Nominating Committee's three (3) nominees:

#### **L. Edward Hollingsworth - Brandon, Mississippi**

- 1) **Date of Birth:** November 5, 1954
- 2) **Degree(s):**  
B. S. In Geology, 1978, University of Alabama
- 3) **Work History:**  
Petroleum Geologist, Independent, 1996 to present, Jackson, MS  
Geologist, Moon & Hines Oil and Gas Exploration, Inc., 1983-1996, Jackson, MS  
Geologist, Pruet Production Co., Inc. 1981-1983, Jackson, MS  
Geologist, State of Alabama Geological Survey & Oil and Gas Board, 1979-1981, Tuscaloosa, AL  
Logging Engineer, Dresser Atlas, 1978-1979, Houma, LA

4) **Professional Publications:** 2 publications

- 5) **Professional Memberships and Offices Held:**  
Mississippi Geological Society (Treasurer 2002-2003; 1999-2000; Secretary 1998-1999)  
American Association of Petroleum Geologists

6) **Professional Certifications, Registrations and Licenses:**  
Mississippi RPG No. 0079

- 7) **RPG Related Activities:**  
Mississippi State Board of Registered Geologists 2003-2007 (Vice President 2005-2006)  
Geologic Task Force 1996-1997

#### **W. Lester Aultman - Clinton, Mississippi**

- 1) **Date of Birth:** March 3, 1943
- 2) **Degree(s):**  
University of Southern Mississippi, B.S. Geology  
University of Southern Mississippi, M.S. Geology, 1975
- 3) **Work History:**  
Consultant, Kelton Co., Jackson, MS, 1982 to present  
Consultant, Pelto Oil Co., Jackson, MS, 1980-1982  
Midroc and Watkins, Jackson, MS, 1977-1980

Pruet and Hughes Co., Jackson, MS, 1974-1977  
Gulf Oil Company, Jackson, MS, 1973-1974

- 4) **Publications:**  
"The Subsurface Jurassic Bay Springs Sandstone," 1976, G.C.A.G.S. Transactions

- 5) **Professional Memberships and Offices Held:**  
American Association of Petroleum Geologists, 1973 to present  
Mississippi Geological Society, 1973 to present  
Mississippi Geological Society, Treasurer, 1976-1977  
Mississippi Geological Society, Vice President, 1977-1978 & 1994-1995  
Mississippi Geological Society, Program Chairman, 1987-1988  
Mississippi Geological Society, President, 1978-1979 & 1995-1996  
Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, Secretary, 1992

6) **Professional Certifications, Registrations and Licenses:**  
Mississippi RPG No. 0005

- 7) **RPG Related Activities:**  
Board Member, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists, 1997-2003  
President, Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists, 2001-2003

#### **Jamie Crawford - Jackson, Mississippi**

- 1) **Date of Birth:** July 3, 1952
- 2) **Degree(s):**  
B.S., Geology, 1983, Millsaps College  
M.S., Geology, 1989, University of Southern Mississippi
- 3) **Work History:**  
MDEQ/Office of Land and Water Resources, Assistant Director/Director, Jackson, MS, 2002 to present  
MDEQ/Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Administrator (Hydrogeologist), Jackson, MS, 1993-2003  
MDEQ/Office of Land and Water Resources, Hydrogeologist, Jackson, MS, 1985-1992

4) **Professional Publications:** 2

- 5) **Professional Memberships and Offices Held:**  
Mississippi Geological Society  
Ground Water Protection Council, Board of Directors, 2004 to present  
The Underground Injection Practices Research Foundation, Board of Directors, 1998-2000

6) **Professional Certifications, Registrations, and Licenses:**  
Mississippi RPG No. 0188

- 7) **RPG Related Activities:**

**Next Offering of the ASBOG® Examinations**

The Fall ASBOG® exam date is set for September 28, 2007 with August 7, 2007 as the deadline for payment of examination fees. Please be aware that you may only take one examination, i.e. the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) or the Practice of Geology (PG) examination during a scheduled exam offering. *Before you can place an order for either examination you must have a complete application on file with the Board.* Failure to have the necessary information on file will disallow you from sitting for either exam. If you have any questions contact the Board! If you are taking the FG exam as an "exit" exam with the University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, the University of Southern Mississippi, or Millsaps College, the requirement for the Board's receipt of an application as an enrollee (GIT) is waived.

**REMEMBER THE DEADLINE FOR EXAM ORDERS IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2007.** Please visit the Board's web site for an exam application or call the Board for additional information.

**ASBOG® Annual 2006 Meeting**

The Annual 2006 meeting of the Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) was held in Park City, UT from October 31 - November 5, 2006. In attendance was the Board's director Rick Ericksen.

During the annual meeting Director Ericksen gave a presentation to the ASBOG Delegates concerning the potential for ASBOG forming a foundation to help fund the activities of the organization. The number of states that are members of ASBOG now number 28 and in addition, one U.S. Territory is also a member, Puerto Rico.

It was also announced by the Executive Committee of ASBOG that the fee for the Practice of Geology examination would be increased in 2008. With the administrative fee charged by the MSBRPG the examination will be \$225.00 per exam.

**MSBRPG Ad Hoc Advisory Committee News - Third Annual Legislative Day at the Capitol Held and Gem and Mineral Show**

Dear Friends and Colleagues:  
As a professional geologist, it is sometimes easy to question the need to meet with those who govern us. However, when you stand face to face and talk to those who write our laws you see the importance of these relationships and of sharing information. Knowledge is a powerful tool and when people are informed about a subject, a profession, or a person, better decisions are made – and better laws are written. That is why on January 30<sup>th</sup> the Advisory Committee to the MSBRPG and the Lower Mississippi Valley (LMV) chapter of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) sponsored a booth in the rotunda at the State Capital for a third consecutive year. The Committee and AEG members met with many of the Legislators on an individual basis and were

introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Masterson and in the Senate by Senator Chaney. Simply by making a presence at the Capital during the last few years, many relationships have been developed that have and will continue to benefit the geologists of Mississippi. The profession of geology has made its mark at our State's Capital – let's make sure it does not turn into an ichnofossil.

In other Committee news, on February 24 and 25, the Advisory Committee and members of the LMV chapter of the AEG sponsored a booth at the Annual Gem and Mineral Show at the Trade Mart Building at the State Fair Grounds in Jackson. Our goal in this event continues to be one of educating children and adults about geology as well as identifying rocks and minerals, and learning about Mississippi's geology through the eyes of its citizens. As always, both of these events are refreshing opportunities to meet people, see old friends, and make new ones. It is always rewarding to share information about something you enjoy, whether it is your profession or a hobby. Let me take this opportunity to encourage you to join us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those involved in making these events possible: Rick Ericksen, Jay Ferris, Johnny Green, Danny Harrelson, Howard Johnson, Julie Kelly, Carol Lutken, James May, Ron and Laura Tarbutton, Evelyn Villanueva, Ken Ruckstuhl, and Winston Russell. I would also like to thank the URS Corporation, Environmental Management Services (EMS), and the LMV chapter of the AEG for their support. The Advisory Committee to the MSBRPG thanks each of you for the opportunity to serve the Board and our fellow geologists.

Submitted by Michael J. Wright, RPG  
Chairman, MSBRPG Ad Hoc Advisory Committee

**IMPORTANT - TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE A MAILED, PAPER COPY OF THE RPG NEWSLETTER**

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, if you wish to continue receiving a mailed copy of this newsletter please either call or write the MSBRPG and make that election. If we receive no correspondence or phone call from you, your RPG Newsletter will appear on the MSBRPG web site and you will receive an e-mail notice of its availability when electronically published.

***Please notify the Board if you have recently moved or changed employment - include your e-mail address with your new information!***

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR CHOICE BELOW - VOTE BY CHECKING ONLY ONE NOMINEE - RETURN THIS ENTIRE PAGE TO THE BOARD AT: MSBRPG, PO BOX 22742, JACKSON, MS 39225



Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists, Lower Mississippi Valley Chapter

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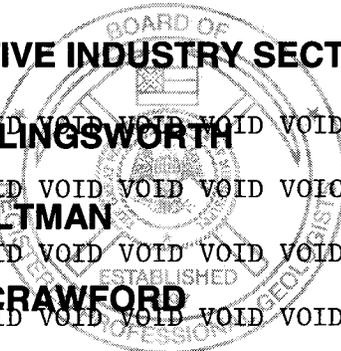
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BALLOTS POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 18, 2007 WILL NOT BE COUNTED

The LMV Section will be sponsoring the 51st AEG Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA in September, 2008 at the Marriott Hotel. The successful operation of an annual meeting of this magnitude requires a great deal of planning, organization, and coordination. The Meeting Planning Committee's activities include the following areas: Field Trips, Outstanding Environmental Engineering Geology Project, Poster Sessions, Publicity, Short Courses, Sponsors, Spouse Activities/Hospitality Room, Student Coordination, Symposia, Teacher Workshops, and Technical Sessions. Your assistance is welcome if you would like to participate in this event. Drs. Darrell Schmitz and James May, both of which are past president's of the AEG are co-chairing this meeting. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer to help with the 2008 Annual Meeting please contact the LMV Section Chair, Evelyn Villanueva at 601/415-0005. To learn more about how to become a member and membership benefits of the AEG please to to <http://www.aegweb.org>

REPORT RPG LAW VIOLATIONS, IT'S YOUR ETHICAL OBLIGATION!



MSBRPG P.O. Box 22742 Jackson, MS 39225-2742

In This Issue.... From the Director, New Stamping and Signing Guidance Document, Geologists with MSBRPG and AEG Host Third Annual State Capitol Legislative Day, Voting for New Board Member, etc.