



American Institute of Professional Geologists Michigan Section

June, 2007

From the President's Desk

As many of you know, recent efforts to balance the State's budget have resulted in significant cuts or the outright elimination of many State programs as well as the consolidation of governmental departments. As concerned citizens and taxpayers we recognize that tough decisions are required in such troubled economic times. However, we as residents of the State and as professional geologists, acting as stewards to the environment, should be alarmed by the recent 70 million dollar raid on the State's Refined Petroleum Fund (RPF).

You may recall that the theme for this year AIPG Michigan Section is "Geologists Role in Protecting and Preserving the Public Welfare and the Environment". This theme tie bars directly to the objective of the RPF that states...

The objectives of this part are to address certain problems associated with releases from petroleum underground storage tank systems, to promote compliance with parts 211 and 213, and to fund environmental and consumer protection programs necessary to protect public health, safety, or welfare or the environment due to the sale, use, or release of refined petroleum products.

The objective of the RPF is also consistent with that of \$675 M Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) bond fund, which was passed with resounding public support by the voters to protect the environment and natural resources that are of paramount public concern in the interest of the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the state.

Here are some alarming statistics regarding Michigan's Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program (Source: DEQ Remediation and Development Division; DEQ Storage Tank and LUST Programs Statistical Reports 10/06; U.S. EPA Performance Measures Reports 4/06: 10/06).

- 20,528 – Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) currently in use
- 9,117 – Confirmed tank releases need to be addressed

- 4,200 – DEQ estimates 4,200 releases are orphan sites (sites with no viable/liable party to perform cleanup)
- \$1.5B+ - State funds needed to address orphan sites
- \$400K – Average cost to remediate/clean up a tank release
- 307 – New releases reported in FY2006
- 277 – Tank releases cleaned up in FY2006 (decreasing due to lack of funding)
- 12,012 – Tank release cleaned up at 9,008 sites since 1998
- Only California and Florida have more open LUST sites than Michigan

A Michigan gasoline fee of 7/8 cents per gallon collects approximately \$56M a year, which is deposited directly into the RPF. Of that, only a portion is appropriated annually to the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program and over \$30M is redirected for other uses. A combination of left over Michigan Underground Storage Tank Financial Assurance (MUSTFA) funds and un-appropriated 2005 RPF funds increased the RPF to over \$100M, its highest amount since MUSTFA insolvency in 1995. However, in May 2007, \$70M was redirected by the legislature to address the state budget deficit.

This begs the question, if this is truly the findings and declaration from our legislature, how is their reallocation of RPF moneys justified? Should we as citizens and voters allow the legislature to act beyond the will of the people to provide short term budget fixes that forsake the long term interests of the state?

With nearly half of Michigan's population relying on clean groundwater for their drinking water source, and the importance of maintaining our natural resources to support our lucrative travel and tourism industry, contamination from Part 201 and Part 213 LUST sites remains a substantial statewide problem. What is the ultimate cost to Michigan in terms of jobs, industry and our profession?

I believe it is prudent to remind our legislature of the established will and precedent set by the citizens of this state to openly preserve and protect the environment and natural resources when choosing how to balance the budget. I would use this opportunity as a call to action for our members to contact their respective State Senator and Representative and let them know that the reallocation of RPF monies is bad for Michigan.

Scott A. Cesarz, CPG
AIPG Michigan Section President.

Coming Events

July 26, 2007: AIPG Chapter meeting: Landfill Tour (**Space is Limited**) followed by Waste Management presentation and dinner at adjacent golf course facility

Location: Meet at Woodland Meadows Golf Course, 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne, MI 48184 (Near US-275 exit 20)

Landfill Tour: Woodland Meadows (Waste Management) Landfill (3:30 PM to 5:00 PM). Meet promptly at 3:30 PM at Woodland Meadows Golf Course Parking Lot and carpool to adjacent landfill for tour. Tour space limited to the first 30 registered.

Dinner: Buffet dinner at Woodland Meadows Golf Course facility.

Schedule: Drinks: 5:30 Dinner: 6:30 Awards & Speaker: 7:30 to 9:00. Prize Raffle.

Cost: Students \$25, Members \$35, Non-members \$40.

RSVP by July 20th: Telephone or e-mail registration with Name, Company, Address, Phone, Fax, and Amount Due to AIPG-Michigan Section, c/o Jason Lagowski, Secretary, 248-994-4049 or jason.lagowski@arcadis-us.com no later than July 20, 2007. Reservations not cancelled by July 20th will be billed. Checks to AIPG-Michigan.

Students attending the meeting and looking for full-time employment after graduation or a part-time summer

position can bring several copies of their résumé. Leave one résumé at the sign-in desk upon arrival. Résumés obtained at the meeting are available to AIPG members seeking job candidates by contacting Kevin Lund, lundk@michigan.gov.

June 23, 2007: AIPG National Executive Committee. Everyone is invited to meet with the Executive Committee. Details to be announced.

MBGS tentative/upcoming field trips: Salt mine trip – May 5, 2007; Baraboo – with Robb Gillespie, Possibly 3rd weekend in Sept. 2007, Friday – Sunday Coyote Creek in Diamondale. Check at www.mbgs.org for details.

October 7-11, 2007: AIPG National Meeting. “Geology: The Foundation for the Environment and Resources.” Registration and details at mi.aipg.org/New2007Conference.html

Call For Papers

I will get right to the point – I need your help getting our Call for Papers (CFP) circulated in order to assure that we have a sound Technical Program to support the Annual Meeting in October. We can publish our CFP in countless periodicals at great expense, but we will get the greatest response by utilizing our personal networks to invite colleagues to submit abstracts. With that, I ask that each of you go to the section website www.mi.aipg.org/2007%20Ann%20Mtg/2007Conference.html, download the CFP, and email it to professional colleagues and acquaintances, requesting that they consider participating in this meeting. If you are able to contribute an abstract, please do so. The overall success of this meeting will in part be determined by the content of the Technical Program, your help is needed to assure our success. Thank you.

Eric Wallis

AIPG Michigan Section Officers Kevin Lund, Past-president, 888-417-4440 (klund@g-eri.com); Scott Cesarz, President, 734-397-3100, (scesarz@manksmithgroup.com); Tim Woodburne, Vice President, 616-364-8491 (twoodburne@preinnewhof.com), Sara Pearson, Treasurer, 616-356-0253, (pearsons@michigan.gov); Jason Lagowski, Secretary, 248-994-4049 (jason.lagowski@arcadis-us.com).

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Circulation of the Michigan Section Newsletter is to over 330 members, a number of prospective members, several geology departments, and companies for a total over 500. Distribution is by USPS and e-mail notice of web posting. Copy in PDF format is posted at <http://www.mi.aipg.org>.

Newsletter Sponsors and Advertisements: The Sponsor section is \$15 per name or column inch for copy ready art. Copy preparation at an additional charge is available.

Professional Postings: The Professional Posting section, where you may advertise positions, is \$10 per column inch.

Seeking Employment: Members seeking employment may submit a 50-word listing at no charge.

Articles: The newsletter will feature topics on a quarterly basis, and will have a quarterly deadline for submissions. If you have ideas for topics or articles, query us or submit it!

Authors' opinions in articles are not necessarily the opinions of the Michigan Section or National Headquarters of the AIPG.

CPGs Interested in Section Office

I am writing this column to encourage you if you are interested in becoming an officer in the Michigan Section. This column outlines the process to become an officer in AIPG and some of the benefits an officer of AIPG Michigan Section receives.

The election for Secretary for Michigan Section will be at the November/December meeting this year. This position is a four year commitment as an officer and member of the Executive Committee of Michigan Section. The annual commitments are secretary for the first year, treasurer for the second year, vice-president in the third year, and president in the fourth year. To be an officer of Michigan Section, you must be a CPG certified by the American Institute of Professional Geologists.

The officers are the leadership of the Section. They decide the meeting venues, speakers and the topic to be discussed for the meeting, the Section finances, and management of the Section. Additionally, the Section sends the vice president to the annual meeting each year. At the annual meeting the vice president represents the section and provides an update to the National Committee on the activities of Michigan Section. This year the annual meeting is in Traverse City hosted by Michigan Section. In 2008, the vice president will be sent to Flagstaff, Arizona. Future possible locations include Florida in 2009, California in 2010, and Alaska in 2011.

If you are interested in becoming the next Secretary of Michigan Section, please forward a curriculum vitae and a statement of purpose in writing indicating your reasons for wanting to become the next Secretary to twoodburne@preinnewhof.com by the end of October 2007. Each statement of purpose will be included in the October 2007 newsletter for the benefit of the other members. The election for the next Secretary will be at the November/December meeting. You will introduce yourself to the Section at the November/December meeting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 616-364-8491.

Tim Woodburne, CPG
Vice-president of Michigan Section

2007 Annual Meeting Update

The 2007 Annual Meeting is getting closer, and the planning committee is continuing to refine the details for the meeting to make this an event to be remembered. The most up-to-date information will be posted on the Michigan Section website at:

<http://mi.aipg.org/New2007Conference.html>. Please note that there will be information regarding updates and changes to the program published in the last few issues of TPG. The most significant change at this point is that the Keynote Address for the meeting has been moved from before the technical sessions Monday morning to be part of the evening at the Dennon Museum that same day.

There are several people signed up for the meeting at this time, and if you plan to attend a particular event, you may want to consider signing up soon. Some events may have a maximum number of attendees, and space on the field trips in particular is filling quickly.

The Planning Committee is still looking for potential sponsors, advertisers, and exhibitors. This is a great opportunity for your firms to get exposure to several hundred of our colleagues from around the country, and to show their support for AIPG. We would also appreciate the efforts of all our members in helping get companies to step forward in this endeavor. When you talk with your vendors about projects, ask them whether they have received information about the meeting and whether they would consider being a sponsor, exhibitor, or advertiser. AIPG does a lot for its members; now is the time to give something back. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Ed Everett, Ty Black, or myself.

The Call for Papers has been sent out, and is also posted on the Michigan Section website. **WE NEED PEOPLE TO PRESENT PAPERS AT THE MEETING.** As of the beginning of June, we have only one abstract that has been submitted, although there have been several others that have provided titles of talks they plan to give. If you or a colleague is interested in presenting a technical paper at the meeting, please refer to the Call for Papers for details. Questions may be directed to Eric Wallis or Dawn Prell. Please pass the word about the Call for Papers.

As always, anyone interested in helping out the Planning Committee would be welcome to attend the planning meetings. The schedule for the meetings through July is posted on the website. We are looking for volunteers to help out during the annual meeting (moderators for the technical sessions, people to man the registration table, etc.).

Please contact me or another member of the Planning Committee if you are willing to help out during the meeting, or if your company is willing to provide support.

Adam W. Heft, CPG
2007 General Chairman



Lawrence M. Austin, CPG
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AIPG Section Meeting Announcement

July 26, 2007

"Innovations and Advancements in Solid Waste Management"

Featured Speaker: **Mr. Eric E. Wallis, CPG**

Senior Manager for WM Groundwater Protection Programs

Discussion: The main speaker theme for this year is "Geologist's Role in Protecting and Preserving Public Welfare and the Environment". Waste Management will discuss the technical considerations associated with the Woodland Meadows landfill and provide an overview of innovations in the industry that are changing the way solid waste is managed and how landfills are viewed by the public. Innovations that will be discussed include remote groundwater monitoring, the RD&D rule, airspace utilization, bioreactors, gas management and utilization, leachate recirculation, waste stabilization, alternative final covers, and end-use planning.

Location: Meet at Woodland Meadows Golf Course, 39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne, MI (Map attached. Near US-275 Exit 20, east of Ypsilanti.)

Cost: Students \$25.00, Members \$35.00, Non-members \$40.00*

Dinner: Buffet Style: Sliced Roast Sirloin. Chicken Piccata, Vegetable Lasagna, potatoes, vegetables, salad, bread, coffee, tea, soda and dessert.

Time: Landfill Tour 3:30 to 5:00 pm, Cash Bar 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm., and Speaker 7:30 pm followed by Q&A

*Registration payable at the door by cash or check; however, prepayment is preferred and speeds things up at the door. *Please Note: Cancellations made within 24 hours of the meeting and/or "No Shows" will be charged and expected to pay the registration fee.*

Landfill Tour Portion of Meeting is limited – Register Early

Guest Speaker: Eric E. Wallis is a AIPG Certified Professional Geologist, Past President and active member of the AIPG Michigan Section. He has a BS, Geology from Central Michigan University and an MS, Geology from Western Michigan University.

RSVP: Jason Lagowski, Secretary, 248-994-4049 or jlagowski@gza.com no later than July 20, 2007.

AIPG Section Meeting July 26 , 2007

Woodland Meadows Golf Course
39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne, MI 48184

