From the President’s Desk

by Linda Hensel, CPG

Celebrating our 40th year as an AIPG Section (1977-2017)...

I send my best to all of you this summer 2017. I invite you all to participate in our remaining two quarterly meetings as we continue to celebrate our 40th year as an AIPG Section. Please join us and make memories this year so that all will have wonderful lasting impressions of this special year in the life of the Michigan Section.

The theme of my newsletter article for this quarter is participation. I considered running for Section office for several years in the late 2000’s. I felt I wanted to contribute to our section by becoming an officer as I wanted to give of my time and do my part. It has been a particular pleasure for me to work with the other members of the Executive Committee these last four years since I was elected in fall 2013. We have worked together very closely and gotten to know each other better. The joy of participation is working together for the good and betterment of any organization. I think the officers of this organization will all agree that we continue to work hard and maximize what we do for the benefit of the Michigan Section and its entire membership. We may disagree on some points but in general our focus to better the organization also benefits us together as a board and individually as members of the board. This benefit bolsters our creativity and our drive to keep striving and moving forward. I marvel at the great ideas generated and how the board has implemented these ideas during my tenure and in previous tenures of the Executive Committee. The old adage is true; it is better to give than receive. However, I know that we also have received much from our experience on the Executive Committee because of working toward a common goal to continue to improve the Michigan Section each and every year. One’s tenure on the Executive Committee of the Michigan Section will be part of your legacy and the imprint you make on our world and on yourself.

Please consider running for office this fall 2017. It will be well worth the effort for the results that will be realized.

Please enjoy the rest of our summer and take some time to enjoy the outdoors and nature.

Andrew Mozola Scholarship

The 2017 recipient of the newly-established Andrew Mozola scholarship was Katelyn Kring, a junior in geological engineering attending Michigan Technological University.

Technical Workshop

The 2017 Risk Management Workshop held at the Ralph A. MacMullan Center was another great sold-out event.
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Continuous Improvement in the Mining Industry

This summer I had the opportunity to work for a mine as its Continuous Improvement Intern. Continuous Improvement is the incremental improvement of processes. These improvements create more efficient workers and satisfied customers, producing higher quality goods. It eliminates waste, increases profits, streamlines work, and values safety. As a geological engineering student, I was elated to secure a job in the industry I plan on working in after graduation. Continuous Improvement skills and topics are not something a typical Geological Engineering student comes across in his or her course of study, but these practical skills add value to an employee and are crucial to a successful company. Because of Continuous Improvement’s necessary pervasiveness throughout a mine, I interacted with personnel from every department of the company and gained a comprehensive understanding of how a heavy metal mine operates.

Continuous Improvement’s foundation at a mine is 5S, a simple lean manufacturing tool. 5S stands for Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, and Sustain. The first three steps are simple and revolve around organizing and cleaning work areas. At a mine these areas include anywhere from an office cubicle or conference room to a maintenance shop or truck wash. Once the first three steps are complete for an area, rules and visual standards should be posted. The final step, Sustain, is the most critical and difficult of the five. Sustaining 5S is best done through an auditing program, where areas are scored on a regular basis on standard criteria. 5S reduces the time and motion workers spend looking for tools and cleaning off work areas before beginning a task. Clean work areas are essential to maintaining a safe work environment and preventing slip and trip hazards. A strong, sustained 5S program creates a culture where employees take responsibility for their work area and are more productive. This summer I organized a celebration for an office that completed the first four 5S steps; charted 5S implementation data; and toured 5S areas to compile photographs for a before and after storyboard.

Once a mine implements 5S it can look at improving its processes. The people who have the best improvement ideas are the ones closest to the work. Developing an improvement suggestion system accessible to all employees, vendors, and contractors associated with the mine is integral in capturing ideas. Once an idea is suggested, it needs to be directed to a team who can evaluate and carry out a solution. Working closely with review teams at the mine, mill, and administration sites I tracked project updates, calculated annual savings and implementation costs, and developed charting tools to track the program. Communicating review team decisions to idea initiators and coordinating actions between team members is essential to making these improvements happen and reaping the benefits. This communication is also key to developing employee buy-in and sustaining the program. Every week this summer at least one new idea was submitted and reviewed. The ideas improved the environment, production, cost, quality, safety, and community relations.

A recent idea concerned the dust produced when filling a cement hopper to be taken underground daily. An employee noted the current task created a health risk for workers who monitor the hopper when it is being filled and an environmental hazard as the dust is released into the atmosphere. He submitted a short video of the current process to make it easier for the review team to visualize. He suggested adding a cover to the hopper to contain the dust. The mine review team immediately agreed the process needed improvement, and actions were taken. Supervisors spoke with operators about the process to receive their input, and engineers were sent to the area to review and design process improvements.

To further a culture of Continuous Improvement, a mine needs to invest in its staff. By providing Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Training to key employees from each department a mine can target high value projects and provide the resources necessary to solve its pressing problems. Green Belts are employees trained in Lean Six Sigma process improvement. Besides classroom training, to become Lean Six Sigma certified a person must complete an in-depth improvement project demonstrating competency in the methodology. This summer I developed training material and tools for employees to use when working on their Green Belt Certification Projects. These projects are following the DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, and Control) problem solving strategy to tackle complicated problems and save millions of dollars. By the year’s end these projects will improve core logging efficiency, maximize haul truck tonnage, and better dust control around the mill’s crushing circuit.

Without strong Continuous Improvement programs, a mine is stuck working inefficiently, without communication between levels of the organization. Beginning with 5S and building up to complex, multi-stage improvement projects, a mine can reduce costs, increase safety, and minimize environmental impacts.

Field Day

Once again, the Michigan Section worked with Western Michigan University and Stock Drilling to present the 5th annual summer Field Day to provide a venue for students to observe drilling and sampling techniques.

The event was held at Stock Drilling’s yard in Petersburg, Michigan on August 8. Student attendees had a chance to see drilling techniques using a Geoprobe and hollow stem augers, as well as wire line rock coring, a Shelby tube discussion, groundwater profiling, and an LIF demonstration and explanation.
Students got a chance to work with professionals to log borings, and collect soil and groundwater samples. AIPG provided lunch and bottled water for attendees.

Douglas Houghton Memorial

The Michigan Section contributed funds to the Douglas Houghton Memorial in Eagle River last year, and Brian Burke, our 2016 Section President, attended the ceremony commemorating our first state geologist. At that time, a historical marker plaque was at the location.

This summer, Adam Heft and Sara Pearson visited the location while planning potential field trip stops for 2018 and noted that a new monument had been placed on the location to commemorate his accomplishments.

To each of our new members, the Michigan Section Executive Committee would like to welcome you to our Section and encourages you to attend Section meetings and other events. You are also welcome to provide information for the Member’s Corner articles.

Where in Michigan? Contest

The May edition of the newsletter featured a photograph of Canyon Falls and the Michigamme Formation in the Sturgeon River gorge south of L’anse. Tom Sampson correctly identified the photograph and rock formation.

This edition features a new photograph at the top of the first page. The first person to correctly identify what the photograph depicts (feature name, location, and formation) will win AIPG swag! Submit your entry to the editor; only one per person per issue please.

CoreKids Program Thanks AIPG

Editor’s Note: The Michigan Section supports the CoreKids program and provided a donation of funds in 2017 as in past years. The following is an acknowledgement of this year’s donation and how it impacts the program.

CoreKids holds between 30 and 60 events a year in the classroom and at joint activities with our partners. The program has reached more than 70,000 students, teachers and members of the general public in the past decade! These events are held throughout the southern Lower Peninsula – with activities scheduled in the Bay City-Saginaw, Detroit, Lansing, Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids areas.
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The events are run by our WMU students. It is great practice for them to do public speaking in their own field and students always enjoy hearing from young people closer in age to them. Our students manage the classrooms and provide assistance to the children on the various hands-on and team activities that are part of our modules.

The CoreKids program promotes the earth sciences as an exciting career path. Our students discuss their research projects and professional goals with the children.

We are honored that you continue to support our program. Without support like yours, we simply could not carry out this mission.

2018 Section Secretary Election

It’s that time of year again. The Michigan Section AIPG Executive Committee is encouraging members to run for 2018 section secretary. We’d like to have at least two individuals volunteer to run for Secretary for next year. Don’t be shy; those of us on the committee don’t bite, and this is a great way to become involved with your organization and help guide the Section’s activities. If you are interested in helping out, please send a statement of interest and a short bio to Adam Heft (adam.heft@wsp.com) no later than Friday, October 27, 2017. The election for Secretary will open on October 30.

As a reminder, the duties of the Section officers may be found on the Section website.

2017 Technical Workshop

Once again, the Michigan Section’s workshop committee delivered a highly successful and completely sold out event with its 7th annual summer workshop at the Ralph A. MacMullan Center. This year’s theme was Environmental Risk Management – Characterization for Remedy Decisions.

Panelists Jon Allen and Dr. Peter Adriaens discussing Michigan’s water strategy and the subjects of remediation, resource restrictions, resource values, and Michigan’s resource inventory. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

The workshop kicked off with an interesting perspective on risk, economics, and Michigan’s water strategy. This discussion was led by Dr. Peter Adriaens, Professor of Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Finance and CEO of Equarius Risk Analytics and Jon Allen, Office of Great Lakes Director.

Attendees enjoying lunch on the lakeshore. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

How many conferences do you get to attend where lunch and dinner is served on the beach? The weather was perfect thanks to Sara Pearson having had a talk with mother nature ahead of the event to hold off any rain during the time spent outdoors.

Sara Pearson driving the marsh buggy during the evening field demonstrations. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

One of the “extras” that attendees received was a 40th anniversary Michigan Section AIPG T-shirt, which featured the special logo on the front and the Michigan bedrock map and Section logo in full color on the back. Everyone gathered outside on the steps during the afternoon break for a group photo wearing their shirts.

Tuesday afternoon’s technical sessions featured great case studies about characterizing and remediating large chlorinated solvent and petroleum product plumes in complex conditions. After spending the afternoon indoors, outdoor field demonstrations followed dinner. The demos included the pros/cons of sediment coring/sampling equipment, live imagery/data collection using a drone for environmental work, operation/use of LIF & MIHPT for in-situ delineation, augmented reality holographic conceptual site model (CSM) demo, and installation and sampling of soil gas wells.

Abigail Varner experiencing the augmented reality holographic CSM demonstration. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

Tuesday evening activities also included the social mixer which followed the demos, giving attendees the chance to network while enjoying refreshments and live music provided by the all-geologist band Waynesboro.

The band Waynesboro playing during the evening social mixer. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

Wednesday’s activities were packed with great technical sessions, an ice cream social with the exhibitors, a regulatory update, and raffle drawing, which included AIPG swag items and two $100 visa gift cards.
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Sara Pearson presenting the Mary Miller one of the two $100 gift cards during the raffle drawing. Photo courtesy of Adam Heft.

Once again, attendees had a great time and are already looking forward to next year’s workshop. The workshop is a great opportunity to earn CEUs, network with your colleagues, and hear the latest on current technology and regulatory status. Be sure to watch for the “Call for Abstracts” in November and send yours in! See you next June!

Did You Know?

This article is intended to remind members of various aspects of AIPG and benefits of membership. If there is something you would like to see featured in this column, please contact the Editor...

According to Section 1.2 of the AIPG Bylaws, the purposes of the Institute are to:

- Advance the geological sciences and the profession of geology.
- Establish qualifications for professional geologists.
- Certify the qualifications of specific individual Member geologists to the public.
- Promote high standards of ethical conduct among its Members and Adjuncts, and within the profession of geology.
- Represent, and advocate for, the geological profession before government and the general public.

2017 Golf Outing Wrap Up

May 16, 2017 started out with some lightning and a little thunder, but by the time we were playing golf the weather was just fine for our 13th Annual AIPG Michigan Section Golf Outing. Eighty-four players enjoyed a day of golf and camaraderie for this year’s event at Moose Ridge Golf Course. Proceeds of $4,372 from this year’s event go to support of our K-12 educational grants. The winning golf team, with an 11 under par 60, was the Nesa & Associates foursome (Abdul Abdul, Monty Fakhouri, Eric Khurana, and Nesa Abdul).

The Grand Prize, a 40” Samsung Smart TV was won by Kevin Larr. The 50/50 Raffle was won by Monty Fakhouri. Skill prize winners were Jeshua Hanson /Laura Lambert (Long Drive awards) and Bridget Klueger /Mike Marshall (Closest to Pin awards).

Team PM on the green. Photo courtesy of Stephen Zayko.

A very big thanks to our primary sponsor:
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Thank you to all our sponsors, without whom this event would not be possible. Additionally, thanks to the volunteers that make this event happen; Cheri DeLyon and Lori Near (Fibertec), for assisting with registration, Michigan Section President, Linda Hensel (Go To Consulting) for helping with our putting contest, Jennifer Lagerbohm (McDowell & Assoc.) for helping with the hole-in-one grand prize hole, and team photographs. Laura Lambert (ERG) also assisted with the raffles and awards presentation. I would also like to thank the staff at Moose Ridge Golf Course for the service provided for our event.

Thanks to all attendees, and we hope to see you all next year!

Bob Reichenbach, Golf Outing Chairman

Newsletter Notice via E-mail

Please be sure that you continue to receive the Section newsletters and other announcements. Submit an updated e-mail address to Adam Heft at adam.heft@wsp.com. If you move or change places of employment, don’t forget to send your new contact information to both the Section and to National. If you are not receiving announcements directly from the Editor, it is because your e-mail address is not up to date.

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality News

The DEQ is proposing an amendment to the Cleanup Criteria Requirements for Response Activity Rules, commonly known as the Part 201 Rules, for a single hazardous substance: 1,4-dioxane. This rule amendment will modify the cleanup criterion for 1,4-dioxane for the residential drinking water pathway only in the generic criteria table and the associated footnotes (R 299.44 and R 299.49). The Department issued an Emergency Rule on October 27, 2016 that established the 1,4-dioxane cleanup criterion for the residential drinking water ingestion pathway at 7.2 parts per billion, with the expectation that a comprehensive update to the Part 201 Rules for over 300 hazardous substances would be completed before the Emergency Rule expired.

Due to the impending expiration of the Emergency Rule and the anticipated timeline for the comprehensive Part 201 Rule amendment package, the DEQ has decided to move forward with this 1,4-dioxane amendment to preserve our ability to use the best available scientific information regarding 1,4-dioxane for the residential drinking water pathway at sites throughout the state.

The proposed rule amendment for the comprehensive Part 201 Rule package is forthcoming and will go through the Administrative Rule promulgation process as well. The comprehensive package will update the physical-chemical properties, toxicity data, and exposure assumptions for over 300 hazardous substances.

A copy of the 1,4-dioxane rule [2017-041 EQ] (see Pages 6, 18, and 23) is available on the Office of Regulatory Invention’s website.

Article provided by Sara Verbrugge-Pearson, CPG – MDEQ RRD Unit Supervisor
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Call to Members

Hey, all AIG members! The Section Executive Committee is requesting your help. One of the things that the Committee is planning to accomplish is the placement of geologic signs, similar to historical markers, at important locations around the state. The process will be slow, with only a few signs placed each year. The Committee is requesting your help with the identification of specific outcrops or other features of geologic interest at which to place the signs. Please submit your suggestions to the Editor at adam.heft@wsp.com with the name of the feature/formation, a photograph if possible, and a brief description of why you think the location would be important or of interest.

Interesting Geology Links

The Editor has received links to various interesting geology-related sites. Some of the more interesting links are included here. If you have any links to geology-related links that you would like to share, please forward them (with a citation, if applicable) to the Editor.

Thanks to Mark Francke of Central Michigan University for sharing via the “Earth Science Site of the Week” emails.

Earth’s oldest fossils found in Greenland: http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/01/science/oldest-fossils-on-earth.html?_r=0.

Regulatory Roundup

What’s the latest news from the capitol? Our state legislators are coming back from the summer recess. This report includes activities up until the summer recess began in June.

We encourage you to stay informed and get involved. The work we do is important and adds value to our quality of life here in Michigan. As professionals, we have the expertise to inform decisions made by policy makers. Both individually and as an organization, we can make a difference!

We have listed many new rules and regulations as well as bills up for consideration by the legislature with a direct link to the rule, regulation or bill and a brief description and status.

EMERGENCY RULES

2017-007 EQ – Oil and Gas Operations – Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals – R 324.208 mandates that oil and gas well permits shall terminate two years after the date of issuance unless drilling has begun or the well is in operation. In recent years, there has been an increasing number of legal challenges and economic factors that have delayed the start of drilling beyond two years after permit issuance. Many states and the federal government allow for extension of a permit for such reasons; whereas, Michigan’s current oil and gas rules do not. The inability to extend a permit can pose a problem for permittees. R 324.212 sets the amounts of single-well and blanket bonds for oil and gas exploration and production wells, gas storage wells, and associated injection wells and facilities. Part 615, Supervisor of Wells, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994, PA 451, as amended (NREPA) provides for the Supervisor of Wells (Supervisor) to claim a bond to cover costs incurred by the Supervisor to case, plug, or repair a well. The bond amounts were last set in 1996. Since that time, the costs to plug wells have risen by approximately 100 percent. A 2013 audit contained a finding by the Auditor General that “OOGM [since renamed OGMD, the Oil, Gas, and Minerals Division] had not pursued changes in legislation to update current well drilling laws related to surety bonds. Current bond amounts allowed by statute are not sufficient to cover OOGM’s cost of plugging a well. An increase in the required amount of the surety bond would help reduce OOGM’s costs to plug nonproductive wells.” R 324.1002(8) contains an obvious error. The rule was revised as part of a larger rule revision effective March 11, 2015. The revision changed subdivision numbering and R 324.1002(8) did not reflect that change. Specifically, the sub rule states in part “If sampling indicates a possible problem, then additional sampling for the water quality parameters established in R 324, 201(2)(j)(vi) may be required.” The cross-reference should be to R 324, 201(2)(j)(vi). Request for rulemaking filed on April 14, 2017.

NEW LAWS


Public Act 40 of 2017 - SB 129 Copper Mining Operations - Establishes separate regulatory program for small native copper mining operations. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 3118, 3121, and 63201 (MCL 324.3118, 324.3121, and 324.63201), section 3118 as amended by 2015 PA 82, section 9125 as amended by 2011 PA 214, and section 63201 as added by 2004 PA 449, and by adding part 634. Bill was passed by the Senate in March then and passed by the House on April 25, 2017 with a recommendation for immediate effect. Effective August 21, 2017.

BILLS INTRODUCED IN 2017

SB 61 Lead Action Level - Reduces lead action level. Bill was introduced by Senator Jim Ananich in January 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

SB 140 DEQ - Provide for Department of Environmental Quality budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year. Bill was introduced by Senator Michael Green in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Appropriations on May 23, 2017. Substitute bill S-1 was adopted on 4/19/2017.

SB 154 Water Resources Commission - Establishes water resources commission. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 3101, 3102, 3112, 3113, and 3120 (MCL 324.3101, 324.3102, 324.3112, 324.3113, and 324.3120), section 3101 as amended by 2015 PA 247, section 3112 as amended by 2005 PA 33, section 3113 as amended by 2004 PA 93, and section 3120 as amended by 2015 PA 82, and by adding section 3102a. Bill was introduced by Senator Jim Ananich in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

SB 156 Air Pollution Commission - Establishes air pollution control commission. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 5501 and 6522 (MCL 324.5501 and 324.6522), section 5501 as amended by 1998 PA 245 and section 5522 as amended by 2015 PA 60, and by adding sections 5501b and 5501d. Bill was introduced by Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

SB 227 Environmental Justice - Adopts plan for environmental justice. Bill was introduced by Senator Jim Ananich in March 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 264 Underground Storage Tanks - Modifies allowable expenditures for underground storage tanks in refined petroleum fund. Bill was introduced by Senator Mike Green in March 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

SB 306 Downtown Development Authorities - Modifies capture of certain mills for library. Bill was introduced by Senator Jack Brandenburg on April 20, 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

SB 307 Corridor Improvement - Modifies capture of certain mills for library. Bill was introduced by Senator Peter MacGregor on April 20, 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Finance.

SB 466 Right to Water - Creates human right to water act. Bill was introduced by Senator Coleman Young on June 15, 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Government.

SB 468 Brownfield Authorities - Modifies population threshold for Brownfield redevelopment authorities. Modifies population threshold for Brownfield redevelopment authorities. Bill was introduced by Senator Jim Stamas on June 15, 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Economic Development and International Investment.

HB 4120 Water Quality - Requires testing levels of lead and other contaminants in water supplied to public schools. Amends 1976 PA 399 (MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023) by adding section 7a. Bill was introduced by Representative Adam Zemke in January 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4123 Environmental Cleanups - Requires cleanup to residential and safe drinking water standards unless technically infeasible. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending section 20118, 20120a, 20120e and 20121 (MCL 324.20118, 324.20120a, 324.20120e and 324.20120) by adding section 20121 as added by 2014 PA 542 and section 20120e as amended by 2012 PA 190. Bill was introduced by Representative Yousef Rabhi in January 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4124 Water Quality - Provides for program for testing and removing lead in drinking water used by schools and child care centers. Amends 1976 PA 399 by amending section 2 (MCL 325.1002), as amended by 1998 PA 56 and by adding section 7a. Bill was introduced by Representative Sheldon Neeley in January 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4125 Water Quality - Requires testing for lead and copper in drinking water and specifies procedures. Amends 1976 PA 399 by amending section 2 (MCL 325.1002), as amended by 1998 PA 56 and by adding sections 7a and 7b. Bill was introduced by Representative Phil Phelps in January 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4175 Drinking Water - Creates a water emergency loan fund. Amends 1976 PA 399 (MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023) by adding section 11e. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4179 Drinking Water - Authorizes the use of the safe drinking water revolving fund for replacing lead or galvanized service lines. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 5401 and 54003 (MCL 324.5401 and 324.5403), as added by 1997 PA 26. Bill was introduced by Representative Holly Hughes in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.
HB 4189 Natural Resources - Clarifies no net loss of Department of Natural Resources hunting acreage and extends to commercial forest. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending section 504 (MCL 324.504, as amended by 2009 PA 47). Bill was introduced by Representative Pamela Hornberger in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4200 Air Pollution - Establishes air pollution control commission. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 5501 and 5522 (MCL 324.5501 and 324.5522), section 5501 as amended by 1998 PA 245 and section 5522 as amended by 2015 PA 60 and by adding sections 5501b and 5501d. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4201 Water Quality - Provides oversight over the safe drinking water act. Amends 1976 PA 399 by amending section 3 (MCL 325.1003). Bill was introduced by Representative Sheldon Neeley in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4202 Gas and Oil - Establishes oil and gas commission to oversee issuance of permits and promulgation of rules. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 62501, 62503, 62510, 62517, 62704, 62730, 62731, 62732, 62733, 62501, 62504, and 62514 (MCL 324.62501, 324.62503, 324.62510, 324.62517, 324.62704, 324.62701, 324.62730, 324.62731, 324.62732, 324.62733, 324.62501, 324.62504, and 324.62514), section 62501 as amended by 1998 PA 303, sections 62503, 62510, 62517, 62704, 62730, 62731, 62732, 62733, 62504, and 62514 as added by 1995 PA 67, section 61517 as amended by 1998 PA 215, and section 62501 as amended by 1998 PA 467, and by adding sections 61502b, 61502d, 61502b, and 61520b. Bill was introduced by Representative Jeremy Moss in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4206 Water Quality - Modifies process for collection of water. Amends 1976 PA 399 by amending section 7 (MCL 325.1007), as amended by 1998 PA 56. Bill was introduced by Representative Sheldon Neeley in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4214 Water Pollution - Establishes water resources commission. Amends 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 3101, 3102, 3112, 3113 and 3120 (MCL 324.3101, 324.3102, 324.3112, 324.3113 and 324.3120), section 3101 as amended by 2015 PA 247, section 3112 as amended by 2005 PA 33, section 3113 as amended by 2004 PA 91 and section 3120 as amended by 2015 PA 82 and by adding section 3102a. Bill was introduced by Representative Phil Phelps in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.


HB 4247 Property - Enacts prohibition on reserving mineral rights to property conveyed by this state. Amends 1984 PA 431 (MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594) by adding section 255. Bill was introduced by Representative Michele Hoitenga in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4255 Environmental Protection - Requires reduction of air emissions during certain months. Amends 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 5543. Bill was introduced by Representative Abdullah Hammoud in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4256 Air Pollution - Revises air quality index reporting and forecasting program and restricts emissions during thermal inversions. Amends 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 5543. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4281 Natural Resources - Provides for civil fines for providing false information on applications, reports or documents submitted to the Department of Natural Resources or Environmental Quality. Amends 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 1521. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in February 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4309 Environmental Protection - Prohibits use and sale of coal tar sealant or other high PAH sealant for pavement. Bill was introduced by Representative Kristy Pagan in March 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4339 Lead-free Pipes – Revises definition of lead-free pipes and pipe fittings to federal safe drinking water language. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform.

HB 4352 Environmental Protection – Adopts plan for environmental justice. Bill was introduced by the Representative Winnie Brinks in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4372 Water Quality – Requires testing for levels of lead and other contaminants in water supplied to colleges and universities. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4375 Water Ombudsman – Creates a water ombudsman. Bill was introduced by Representative Sheldon Neeley in March 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4378 Water Quality – Requires testing for levels of lead and other contaminants in water supplied to nonpublic schools. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4379 Water Quality – Requires testing for levels of lead and other contaminants in water supplied to hospitals. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4402 Inland Lakes – Exempts installation of stream gauges from permit requirements. Bill was introduced by Representative Donna Lasinski in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4437 Flint Supplemental – Appropriates funding for drinking water emergency. Bill was introduced by Representative Phil Phelps in March 2017 and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

HB 4540 Environmental Protection - Environmental protection; sunsets of lead-free pipes and pipe fittings to federal safe drinking water language. Bill was introduced by Representative Robert Kosowski in March 2017 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 4541 Water – Quality; safe drinking water act; extend sunset on fees for training programs for certified operators. Amends sec. 9 of 1976 PA 399 (MCL 325.1009). Bill was introduced by Representative Mary Whiteford in April 2017 and was passed in the House and concurred by the Senate on June 22, 2017.
HB 4570 Natural Gas Lines - Natural resources; gas and oil; operation of natural gas pipelines; require compliance with natural resources and environmental protection act. Amends sec. 3 of 1969 PA 165 (MCL 483.153). TIE BAR WITH: HB 4572 '17 Bill was introduced by Representative Tom Cochran in May 2017 and referred to Committee on Energy Policy.

HB 4571 Natural Gas Lines - Regulates siting, construction and operation of pipelines. Bill was introduced by Representative Kristy Pagan in May 2017 and referred to Committee on Energy Policy.

HB 4572 Pipeline Oversight - Provides regulatory oversight for pipelines used to transport crude oil or petroleum. Bill was introduced by Representative Yousef Rabhi in May 2017 and referred to Committee on Energy Policy.

HB 4583 Underground Storage Tanks - Establishes legacy underground storage tank cleanup program. Bill was introduced by Representative Mary Whiteford in May 2017 and referred to Committee on Energy Policy. The bill was passed in the House on June 20, 2017.

HR 61 Nestle - A resolution to urge the Governor and the Department of Environmental Quality to reject Nestlé Waters North America Inc.’s application for an increased water withdrawal. House Resolution introduced by Representative Robert Wittenberg on April 19, 2017.

HCR 6 Nestle Permit - A concurrent resolution to urge the Governor and the Department of Environmental Quality to reject Nestlé Waters North America Inc.’s application for an increased water withdrawal. House Concurrent Resolution introduced by Representative Terry Sabo on April 19, 2017.

BILLS UP FOR LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION FROM 2016

SB 1157 Pollution Prevention - Prohibits use and sale of coal tar sealant or other high PAH sealants for pavement. Bill was introduced by Senator Rebekah Warren in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Transportation.

HB 5856 Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - Eliminates ability to capture future special millages. Passed in House and was referred to the Senate Committee on Economic Development and International Investment.

HB 6024 Environmental Protection - Requires cleanup to residential and safe drinking water standards unless technically infeasible. Bill was introduced by Representative Jeff Irwin in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 6025 Environmental Protection - Provides process for development of cleanups criteria and extends sunset. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 6027 Environmental Protection - Requires permits for industrial facility within certain distance of residential or other uses to have vegetative buffer or buy-out of dwellings. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

HB 6028 Air Pollution - Creates ombudsman for air quality. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

HB 6038 Environmental Protection - Creates commission of environmental quality. Bill was introduced by Representative Stephanie Chang in November 2016 and was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

Employment Opportunities

To serve our members, and provide added value, the Michigan Section Executive Committee has decided to allow ads for employment or other opportunities to be posted in the Section newsletters. Employment ads will run for one edition unless renewed. There is no cost to our members or sponsors for this service. Send your employment opportunities to the Editor.

Summary: The Director of Environmental is responsible for the development and management of the Environmental Department. The Director assists in corporate planning, business development and manpower coordination and management. Works with the continuously expanding team of professionals providing services in Southwest Michigan and Northwest Indiana.

Essential Functions:
- Manage technical personnel including assignments of personnel and priorities
- Mentor, set performance standards, and review performance of all technical staff
- Assist in business development efforts for the environmental markets including Benton Harbor, Kalamazoo, and Allegan/Grand Rapids
- Monitor performance and direct necessary corrective actions on each project from the standpoint of client satisfaction, profitability and timeliness
- Project management of selected projects including budgeting, scheduling, client contact and technical control
- Develop and implement technical standards to ensure the technical adequacy and consistency of all work performed
- Coordinate design and construction activities to assure that field designs are technically adequate and that design errors discovered in the field are not repeated on future jobs

Required Skills & Behaviors
- Proven record of developing client relationships and a book of business
- Excellent communication, organization and writing skills
- Strong management and leadership skills
- Ability to balance a broad scope of activities
- Broad computer knowledge and Microsoft Office products

Organizational Relationships
- Reports to President and Regional Directors

Director of Environmental Services

Location: Allegan or Portage

Director of Environmental Services

Location: Allegan or Portage

Director of Environmental Services

Location: Allegan or Portage
Required Education/Experience:
- Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Geology, or related field
- Knowledge of Indiana and Michigan Environmental regulations
- 10+ years of experience in the environmental field

Preferred Education/Experience:
- Master's degree in Business, Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Geology, or related field
- 5+ years of experience consulting, managing projects and staff

Travel:  Local travel required

To apply: please email resume to hr@wightman-assoc.com.

2017 Michigan Section Executive Committee
Here are the current officers of the Michigan Section.  Be sure to talk with them at the Section’s events when you see them...

Comming Events
September 12, 2017: Joint Michigan Section AIPG/ MAEP meeting, Lansing Brewing Company, Lansing.  Matt Rybar of Alpha Consulting will be speaking about “What Can Drones Do For You?  The Game of Drones - & Draughts.”
Location:  Lansing Brewing Company, Lansing.
Dinner:  Strolling Dinner (various buffet stations).
Schedule:  Cash Bar 5:00-6:30 PM, Strolling Dinner 6:30-7:30 PM, Speaker 7:30-8:15 PM, Social 8:15-9:00 PM.
Cost:  Students free, Members $50.00, Non-members $75.00.
RSVP by November 28, 2016:  RSVP for the meeting on the MAEP website at: http://www.maep.org/event-2621954/Registration.

Member’s Corner
The Member’s Corner includes information about the Section’s membership.  This is your chance to provide information on where you are and what you are doing.  Simply send the information to the Editor for inclusion in this section.

No Member’s Corner articles were received for this edition of the newsletter.

Coming Events
September 14, 2017: Ohio Section AIPG autumn meeting and dinner presentation, La Scala Italian Bistro in Dublin, OH.  Meeting details may be found at: https://www.aipg-ohio.org/eventdetails.php;  RSVP to: aipgohio@gmail.com.

October 10-12, 2017: ITRC training, “Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Fundamentals of Screening, Investigation, and Management,” Ann Arbor, MI.  Registration and program information is available at: https://www.regonline.com/ITRC-PVI-MI.


September 23-26, 2017: 54th Annual AIPG Meeting, Nashville, TN.  Complete meeting and registration details were included in the April, May, June 2017 issue of TPG.

November 30, 2017: Michigan Section AIPG Annual Meeting, Weber’s Inn, Ann Arbor.  Speaker and topic TBA.  This meeting will be free to all AIPG members!


Fall 2018:  55th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in Colorado Springs, CO.

Fall 2019:  56th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in the Northeast Section; location TBD.

Fall 2020:  57th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in California; location TBD.

Fall 2021:  58th Annual AIPG Meeting to be held in the Michigan Section; location TBA.