



**MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
BETWEEN
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
AND
THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS**

August 2013

Whereas,

The American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) was founded in 1963 to promote the profession of geology and to provide certification for geologists to establish a standard of excellence for the profession. AIPG presently has more than 6,000 members in the United States of America and abroad, and is organized into 36 regional Sections. The AIPG adheres to the principles of professional responsibility and public service and certifies the competence and ethical conduct of geological scientists in all branches of the science with members employed in industry, government and academia. AIPG emphasizes competence, integrity and ethics. AIPG is an advocate for the profession and communicates regularly to federal and state legislators and agencies on matters pertaining to the geosciences.

AIPG is a nonprofit organization whose policies are determined by its Executive Committee.

The purposes of AIPG include:

1. Advance the geological sciences and the profession of geology;
2. Establish qualifications for professional geologists;
3. Certify the qualifications of specific individual Member geologists to the public;
4. Promote high standards of ethical conduct among its Members and adjuncts, and within the profession of geology; and
5. Represent, and advocate for, the geological profession before government and the general public.

Membership classification includes Certified Professional Geologist (CPG), Retired, Honorary Emeritus Member, Affiliated Professional, Candidate for Certification, Young Professional, and Student. AIPG certifies professional geologists based on their competence, integrity and ethics. By means of a rigorous and thorough peer review process, the Institute investigates applicants who voluntarily apply for self-regulation through the Institute. This screening carefully evaluates their education, experience, technical competence, and ethical conduct. Continuing education is strongly encouraged but non mandatory as part of certification. Through agreements with



professional societies in other countries AIPG provides access to its Members to professional registration, certification or chartered status in those countries.

AIPG requirements for Certified Professional Geologist (CPG)

Applicants for certification must have a bachelor's degree or higher in the geological sciences with a minimum of 36 semester hours of geology courses plus 8 (eight) years of professional geological work experience. The members of the Section Screening Committee and National Screening Committee review and verify the applicants' education and academic record, professional experience and supporting sponsorship and verification forms for the following in their review of the applicants' qualification for award of CPG:

EDUCATION: 36 semester or 54 quarter hours in geological sciences with a baccalaureate or higher degree; certified copy of official transcripts must be sent by each college or university. Note to those who received degrees from non-U.S./Canadian universities and the school is unable to provide an acceptable transcript to submit a copy of diploma and a list of courses taken. The Screening Committee may ask the applicant to provide additional information or an equivalency evaluation.

EXPERIENCE: eight years beyond bachelor's degree, or seven years beyond master's degree, or five years beyond a doctorate degree.

SPONSORS: three sponsors required from professional geologists, two of whom must be CPG's.

And Whereas,

The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) is a not-for-profit organization that was established in 1981 and includes today 21 national association members.

EFG is a professional organization focused on the promotion of excellence in the application of geology and in raising public awareness on the importance of geosciences for the society. The EFG mission is to contribute to a safer and more sustainable use of the natural environment and to protect and inform the public by the following aims:

1. To represent the geological profession in Europe;
2. To safeguard and promote the present and future interests of the geological profession in Europe;
3. To promote best practice policies with regard to the responsible use of the Earth's natural resources; and
4. To contribute to European policies concerning natural resources and environmental matters such as protection and sustainability.

The European Geologist (EurGeol) professional title was created by the EFG to certify the ability to deliver a high quality of services within the practice of geology. Applicants to the



EurGeol title are submitted to a rigorous screening process to ensure their competence, integrity and ethical conduct. The process of vetting applications for the title is carried out for the Federation by its Licensed Bodies. National Licensed Bodies operating in Ireland, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom receive applications from their own members. Applicants from other countries apply to the International Licensed Body, which is supported by the EFG Brussels office. The EurGeol title is recognized in all European countries and so acts as a passport to professional practice in Europe, thereby encouraging free movement of professionals. The EurGeol title is recognized by international entities such as CRIRSCO (Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards) and PERC (Pan-European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee; the organisation responsible for setting standards for public reporting of exploration results, mineral resources, and mineral reserves by companies listed on stock markets in Europe). There are over 1,100 individual EurGeol title holders. An updated register of title holders is maintained on the EFG web site.

EFGs Requirements for European Geologist (EurGeol):

Applicants for the title of European Geologist must have followed and satisfactorily completed an educational programme at University level in geosciences with a minimum of four years and have been awarded a degree or equivalent qualification. The applicants must also have eight years of relevant professional work experience and demonstrate a clear commitment to professional ethics and to continuous professional development. An application for award of the title of European Geologist must be supported by two sponsors who have personal knowledge of the applicant and have known the applicant for at least three years. The sponsors shall normally be European Geologists and have held the title for at least three years.

The members of the Licensed Body Vetting Committee review and verify the applicants' education and academic record, professional experience and supporting sponsorship and conduct a Professional Interview with the applicant to examine whether the applicant has the range of relevant experience described in the application documents. In this interview the applicant must also demonstrate knowledge of the EFG's Code of Ethics and an understanding of the importance of Health and Safety procedures in the workplace.

Therefore,

Based on review of the requirement and processes for recognition and regulation of certification and/or licensure as professional geologists in the USA by American Institute of Professional Geologists and in Europe by the European Federation of Geologists, the requirements of each organization are mutually agreed to be comparable. AIPG and EFG reminds its members that the use of the title of "professional geologist" or "geologist" and the practice of geology may also be subject to the rules and regulations of individual states of the United States and Europe. Members are reminded to be familiar with those regulations.



By this mutual recognition of professional qualification, the American Institute of Professional Geologists' Certified Professional Geologist (CPG) and the European Federation of Geologists' European Geologists (EurGeol) shall be recognized as comparable between the two organizations in affording its respective CPG and EurGeol members discretionary privileges with each of the organizations. This mutual recognition may be terminated or voided should either organization significantly modify its certification standards. Applicants for certification from the other organization are still subject to review based on recommendations of sponsors, employment verification statement, and similar as indicated on the respective organizations application.

By this mutual recognition of professional qualifications the following agreements are acknowledged:

- a) The American Institute of Professional Geologists will accept applications for the title of Certified Professional Geologist (CPG) from members of the European Federation of Geologists who are registered as an European Geologist (EurGeol) with a single sponsorship affidavit from the European Federation of Geologists, in lieu of the standard application requirements

and

the European Federation of Geologists will accept applications for the title of European Geologists (EurGeol) from members of the American Institute of Professional Geologists who are Certified Professional Geologist (CPG) members with a single sponsorship affidavit from the American Institute of Professional Geologists in lieu of the standard application requirements.

The objective is to have an accelerated application process which will not require the submission of transcripts or certified record of employment. Each organization will provide an application to meet these objectives.

- b) In circumstances where a EurGeol is best qualified to sponsor an application for CPG, that sponsorship will be accepted by the AIPG, as if from CPG, subject to the EurGeol accepting full responsibility as if a CPG and in circumstances where a CPG is best qualified to sponsor an application for EurGeol, that sponsorship will be accepted by the EFG, as if from EurGeol, subject to the CPG accepting full responsibility as if a EurGeol.

Agreement accepted on the 6th day of August 2013



Signed

V. Van Minh

EFG President 2013

Date *August 8, 2013*

Signed

Ronald J. Wallace

AIPG President 2013

Date *August 6, 2013*