



# Summer 2008 Newsletter

## Illinois Chapter and Illinois-Indiana Section of the AIPG

American Institute of Professional Geologists

July 2008

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- Call for Nominations
- Water Supplies in Haiti
- Changes in the Geosciences

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## Next Meeting – October 15, 2008

The Illinois-Indiana Section of the AIPG is pleased to announce that the fall meeting will be held at the Morton Arboretum on October 15, 2008. This will be an evening meeting to accommodate everyone's busy schedules, with a start time of 6 PM and wrapping up at about 9 PM. As with our previous meetings, there will be no charge for AIPG members (non members are asked for a donation). Snacks will be provided, along with a cash bar for refreshments.

Our fall meeting includes not only our two featured speakers but also technology and vendor presentations. We are honored to have the international President of AIPG, Mr. Dan J. St. Germain, as one of our guest speakers. His presentation will be on *The Future Direction of AIPG*. We are also honored to have Dr. Neil Sturchio, head of the Earth and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) as a guest speaker. He will discuss his ongoing work with environmental isotope forensics of perchlorate. The technology featured by invited vendors highlights standard of practice and some cutting edge techniques related to environmental and geological projects. More information on the technology program is provided later in this newsletter.

With this lineup of guest speakers, technology, easy access, a friendly evening meeting time and the great price (free!), there's no reason not to attend! Plus, Morton Arboretum is likely to be in full fall color, so the already outstanding venue will be even more attractive. At recent meetings we've been pleased to have to break out extra chairs due to higher than expected turnout, so don't miss out!

**Date and time:** October 15, 2008; 6:00 to 9:00 PM

**Location:** The Morton Arboretum, 4100 IL Rt. 53, Lisle, Illinois. Visit [www.mortonarb.org](http://www.mortonarb.org) for directions.

Send your R.S.V.P to David Pyles at 630/325-1300 or [davidP@KPRGinc.com](mailto:davidP@KPRGinc.com).

## Call for Nomination for AIPG Section Officers

Being an active member of AIPG offers many opportunities to enhance your professional career as a geologist. As a professional your continued education and technical growth never stops. It is important to maintain your skills and keep up to date with scientific advancements, changes in regulations, ethical practices, and new technologies that are introduced to the geological sciences. It is important to network with other members of your profession for your personal advancement as well as for advancement of the discipline. Volunteers for the Executive Committee and the Board are needed to continue to make this happen for all.

Nominations for the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary who will comprise AIPG's Executive Committee are now being requested from the membership. Nominations may also be made to serve on our Section Board which assists the Executive Committee. The term of each officer position is two years.

Please send your nominations to David Pyles at [DavidP@KPRGInc.COM](mailto:DavidP@KPRGInc.COM). Nominations are due no later than August 15, 2008. Election Balloting will occur in September with the newly elected officers slated at the Fall Section meeting held on October 15, 2008 at the Morton Arboretum. We encourage you to get involved with AIPG.



The AIPG Section officers at the Spring Meeting

*“(The Spring 2008 Section meeting was) close to standing room only, and next time we will book a larger room.”*



Fall Colors Morton Arboretum

## Record Attendance at Spring Meeting

The Spring 2008 Illinois and Indiana Section meeting at *The Morton Arboretum* in Lisle, Illinois on April 9<sup>th</sup> garnered a record turnout – over 60 geologists, scientists and engineers! We were close to standing room only, and next time we will book a larger room.

Our keynote speaker was Mr. Gregory W. Dunn, Program Manager of Illinois EPA Voluntary Site Remediation. He gave a

presentation on regulatory updates 740/742, vapor intrusion, community right-to-know, and Site Remediation Program (SRP) status. The regulatory update – and especially the vapor intrusion review – generated intense interest and a lively question and answer period.

The second guest speaker was Mr. James Adamson, Hydrogeologist at V3

Companies of Illinois. Mr. Adamson’s presentation, *Haiti: Finding Water Where There was None*, dealt with his team’s efforts to provide drinking water to an impoverished area of Haiti. Adamson described some first class geologic and hydrogeologic work employed to uncover much needed water resources. An article summarizing his work is featured later in this newsletter.

## Proposed Groundwater Standards for Illinois

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has made a proposal to the Illinois Pollution Control Board (PCB) to amend the Illinois Groundwater Standards under 35 IAC Part 620. The Illinois PCB has accepted the Illinois EPA’s request for hearings on the proposed rules. The hearings were scheduled for June 18 in Chicago and July 16 in Springfield. The proposal includes new standards for 4 inorganic compounds, 30 organic compounds, and 8 explosive contaminants. The Class I Groundwater Standard proposed for perchlorate is 0.0049 mg/L. Many of the proposed standards catch Part 620 up to TACO (Part 742), but there are 16 proposed Groundwater standards which are not currently addressed in the TACO regulations. Visit <http://www.ipcb.state.il.us/> for more information.

## IDEM RISC Technical Manual Revisions Under Way

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management has been working with industry groups to revise the 2001 RISC Technical Guidance Manual. It includes a new

Technical Impracticability chapter and a new appendices addressing Land Use Controls, Vapor Intrusion, and Plume Stability. The default closure tables are also being revised. The IDEM is anticipating the release of the revised document

later this year and hopes to have a final document in early 2009.

The IDEM has held several stakeholder meetings; the most recent was held on July 16 in Indianapolis. More stakeholder meetings are anticipated by the IDEM.

## Fall 2008 Meeting Features Technology

### October 15, 2008 –Please RSVP!

In addition to the guest speakers scheduled for our fall meeting, we will showcase technology from invited vendors, who will demonstrate their capabilities as laboratories, remediation contractors, drillers, and equipment suppliers. This is a great opportunity to network with vendors and with other geosciences professionals.

## Changes in the Geosciences

By Jeff Groncki, Malcolm Pirnie, Inc (CPG-11118)

Recently a number of articles have been published in The Professional Geologist (TPG) and other newsletters related to changes in the geosciences. The purpose of this article is not to simply identify changes in the geosciences; instead, the focus is the identification of a role that AIPG members can take to embrace and facilitate change and promote AIPG.

In the January/February issue of TPG, Patrick Leahy cited an aging work force and a decrease in undergraduate enrollment as a wonderful opportunity for geoscientists in the future market. He further stated that a recent survey by the American Geological Institute (AGI) indicated potential employers are looking for candidates with strong backgrounds in fundamental geologic principles. By developing a strong foundation in the fundamentals of geology, future professionals will be able to more easily adapt to the changes in the current areas of practice and emerging markets. Leahy identified the role that professional and scientific societies (AGI and AIPG) can play in cultivating new young professionals in the geosciences. Specifically, one of the primary opportunities for AIPG is to support academia in attracting and retaining high quality students by getting involved.



Another article, by Kenneth Hnottavange-Telleen in the March/April issue of TPG, forecasts growth in existing service areas and development of emerging markets resulting from changes in the socio-political climate as we strive for a sustainable earth. The article forecasts growth in water supply, coastal environment, coastal infrastructure, facility siting, landfills, catastrophic risk evaluation, policy analysis, deep geophysics, reservoir characterization, airborne geophysics, and remote sensing. It also identified emerging market sectors related to carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas consultancy.



In the April 2008 issue of *Explorer*, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists newsletter, there

is detailed discussion of the immense supply problem for geologists. The high demand for geologists in the field of petroleum geology is reflected in a reported 35% increase in salaries over the past three years; the article reports that there is no end in sight for this boom. This document also states that the largest group of professionals is represented by those having more than 20 years of experience.



The combination of the decreased undergraduate enrollment, an aging workforce, growing pay for geologists, and evolving market sectors for geoscientists puts AIPG in a position to facilitate change and expand the role of geologists in society, while at the same time strengthening AIPG's position as a voice for geologists.

I encourage everyone to get involved with AIPG and help with outreach activities at all levels within academia (grade school through university level) to inform a new generation of potential geologists of the diversity, availability, and positive outlook for career opportunities in the geosciences.

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*"...aging work force and a decrease in undergraduate enrollment (is) a wonderful opportunity for geoscientists in the future market."*



Teaching the next generation...

## **IDEM Asks for Comments on Approach to Codifying Remediation under new 329 IAC 17**

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250) and Mark Howell, Earth Expl. Inc. (CPG-9563)

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management has asked for comments on "Development of New Rules Concerning Environmental Assessment, Cleanup, and Closure of Contaminated Environmental Media". The rulemaking would establish consistent general standards, goals, and preferences under which the assessment, cleanup, and closure of contaminated soil, sediments, or water can be performed. The rulemaking would codify the use of a risk-based cleanup methodology that presently has Non-Rule Policy status under Indiana's RISC program. Their intent is to establish consistent general standards, goals, and preferences for the assessment, cleanup and closure of contaminated media. IDEM asked for suggested language for the draft rule, and public comments on alternative ways to achieve the purpose of the rule, and the fiscal impact of the rule. The comment period expired on July 11, 2008. Contact Lydia Kuykendal at the Rules, Outreach, and Planning Section at (317) 234-5345 for more information (800-451-6027 in Indiana). Keep an eye out for the proposed rules.

## **Illinois HB4762 Stalled. Wait until Next year?**

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Professional Geologists strongly supports the passage of HB4762. **Representative Angelo Saviano** (77<sup>th</sup> District, Chairperson, Regulation and Registration Committee) has sponsored the bill for us. The purpose of House Bill 4762 is to allow college students to take the Geology Fundamentals Exam for professional licensing in Illinois during their senior year. The bill would also reduce the number of Board Members needed for a quorum on the Professional Geologist Licensing Board. The Governor has failed to fill the vacancies on the Professional Geologist Licensing Board and so the quorum will be a majority of the currently appointed Board Members. The bill has made it through the House and reached First Reading in the Senate on May 21, 2008 and was referred to the Rules Committee on May 22, 2008. **Senators Michael Nolan** (22<sup>nd</sup> District) (Elgin) and **William Delgado** (2<sup>nd</sup> District) (Chicago) are sponsoring our bill in the Senate. Thanks!

## **AIPG Supports Central Great Lakes Geologic Mapping Coalition Funding for FY2009**

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The Illinois Chapter of the Illinois-Indiana Section has contacted US Representatives and Senators from Illinois to support funding in the form of \$5 million for the Central Great Lakes Geologic Mapping Coalition in the House Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill in FY2009. The Coalition, made up of the state geological surveys of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin in partnership with the United States Geological Survey (USGS), provides detailed geologic maps of the land surface and shallow subsurface. These maps provide critical information for promoting sustainable economic development while protecting water quality and public safety in our state.

Geologic mapping is basic to all of the areas in which geologists are involved in providing service to the public. Geologic mapping affects commercial and industrial business siting, residential, municipal, and industrial water supply, land development, commercial and industrial property/business transfer, safe building and plant design, environmental cleanup, retail underground petroleum storage tank management, waste storage and disposal siting, environmental impact statements for federal projects, aggregate mining, building stone mining, industrial mineral mining, coal exploration and mining, mine subsidence, petroleum exploration and production, natural gas production and storage, carbon sequestration, earthquake and other natural hazard studies, wetlands protection, and scientific studies at Illinois Universities. This important and basic mapping work can only be done by the state surveys in cooperation with the USGS.

Despite matching funds from each state, the Coalition's efforts have been limited by a federal allocation of just \$500,000 annually since FY2000. The FY2009 President's Budget does not include funding for this program. In response to our letters, Senators Barack Obama (IL), Dick Durbin (IL) and Dick Lugar (IN) and others have contacted the Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and other agencies in support of this bill. Thanks!

**AIPG Illinois-Indiana Section Officers****Executive Committee**

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**Vice President:** Open

**Treasurer:** Ramona Cornea, LandTech, Inc., CPG-8983, [r.cornea@comcast.net](mailto:r.cornea@comcast.net)

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## EPA Proposes New Requirements for Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is proposing new federal requirements for the geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide through underground injection. The proposed rules should hit the Federal Register soon. There will be geologic siting requirements that include the identification of formations suitable to receive the injected fluids and confine the fluids for the long term, protecting the lowermost underground source of drinking water (USDW).

A detailed geological assessment is essential to evaluating the presence and adequacy of the various geologic features. Permit applicants will be required to submit data to demonstrate that the injection zone is sufficiently porous to receive the carbon dioxide without fracturing and extensive enough to receive the planned amounts. The USEPA reports that theoretically there is adequate capacity to sequester one-thousand years of emissions from nearly 1,000 coal-fired power plants; thus it can be expected that this technology will be an important one in the portfolio of options deployed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

## Illinois EPA Closes in on Vapor Intrusion Rules

By Martin Hamper, ARCADIS (CPG-10250)

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency continues to work with industry groups and the general community on the development of vapor intrusion regulations for 35 IAC Part 742, Tiered Approach to Corrective Action Objectives (TACO). There will be additions to the TACO lookup tables for indoor vapor intrusion. The only inhalation pathway will become "outdoor" inhalation thus some values will change in the table. The new indoor inhalation pathway will include residential and industrial commercial remediation objectives for soil, groundwater and soil gas. There will be specific rules guiding building design for vapor intrusion mitigation. The draft rules will hit the Pollution Control Board later this year.

## Combined USEPA Screening Levels

By Erik Spande, CH2M HILL (CPG-9904)

Default screening tables and a risk evaluation calculator are available from the USEPA and Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The "[Regional Screening Levels for Chemical Contaminants at Superfund Sites](http://epa-prgs.ornl.gov/chemicals/index.shtml)" screening level/preliminary remediation goal website was developed with Department of Energy and ORNL under an Interagency Agreement as an update of the EPA Region 3 RBC Table, Region 6 HHMSSL Table, and the Region 9 PRG Table. The web site contains tables of risk-based screening levels—calculated using the latest toxicity values, default exposure assumptions and physical and chemical properties, and a calculator where default parameters can be changed to reflect site-specific risks. Guidance, user's guides, FAQs, and table downloads in Excel and PDF formats are available at the web site. <http://epa-prgs.ornl.gov/chemicals/index.shtml>

## Water in Haiti – Opportunity and Hope

By James Adamson and Stuart Dykstra, V3 Companies of Illinois, Ltd.

Nouveau Kiskeya has become synonymous with the words “hope” and “change” in northwest Haiti. Nouveau Kiskeya, meaning “new Haiti” in Creole, is an innovative mixed use land-development project underway on the north coast of Haiti. The key to Nouveau Kiskeya’s success was clean water, which was needed for the development and the people of the area.



The Author in Haiti

In May of 2007, we found water—clear, clean, and plentiful—in spite of many who doubted it could be done. The discovery has instantly delivered pride to the people of northwest Haiti and is propelling the project forward.

Haiti shares the island of Hispaniola with its larger neighbor to the east, the Dominican Republic. Haiti was once considered the jewel of the Caribbean, but now is viewed by many as a hopeless case with one of the worst water indices in the world. The best word to describe northwest Haiti is poor; there is little economic activity, no utility or sanitation services, and no infrastructure. Disease is rampant, infant mortality is high and modern sanitation is nearly non-existent. Clean water is at a premium—especially in northwest Haiti, which is considered to be one of the driest areas of the country.

We were brought into the project with one objective – to find enough clean water for development and the local community. We immediately conducted months of geologic research which included a visit to the USGS library and hundreds of phone conversations with Caribbean and Haiti geology authorities. We also obtained high resolution imagery of the area to analyze the landscape for geologic features. The

research left us with mixed emotions; we were optimistic about groundwater prospects based on our research but many of the experts that we talked to wished us luck but dismissed the idea of finding quality groundwater. We were also discouraged by the reports and stories of horrific living conditions and poverty that blanketed Haiti. Everything we read encouraged us to think that Haiti was an awful place, with a hopeless outlook, and a dispirited population.

We packed up all of our field equipment, dusted off our Brunton compasses and rock hammers, and headed to Haiti to start our field work. We arrived in Haiti only to find a beautiful country with people that radiate happiness and hospitality despite their extremely impoverished conditions. All of the people we met were open and welcoming and gave us complete freedom to wander their land. Grasping what we were trying to do, they appeared to be truly honored to work with us and be part of the search.

We spent nearly six weeks conducting a geologic survey of an area greater than 200 square kilometers. We conducted geologic transects, observed springs, rock outcrops, fault lines and stream cuts. Road limitations provided us with about 150 km of rugged hiking in heat that often exceeded 100 degrees. Whenever we stopped to rest, the local people would offer what they had to eat and race to bring us hand woven chairs. When it would rain, they would scramble to offer us cover. Ultimately, we didn’t like this special treatment but it was humbling to see their hospitality despite their living conditions.

Work continued in the office analyzing all of our geologic maps and field data to target some drilling locations. The geology of the area is complex; the northwest of Haiti is one of the most tectonically active areas of the Caribbean. Faults strike through the landscape exposing confusing unconformities, anticline structures had to be interpreted and the varying rock formations had to be characterized and understood.

From all of our research and field data we developed cross sections and a conceptual geologic model of the area. We determined that a steeply dipping Eocene aged fractured limestone unit was the most likely strata to contain water. It is positioned above relatively impermeable layers of Cretaceous andesite and conglomerate. Further, the nature of some regional faulting and intrusive dikes hinted that groundwater could be held from immediately discharging to the ocean.

There was another challenge to finding this water; a very

## Water in Haiti – Opportunity and Hope

thick unit of clayey marl lied above our target aquifer unit. This marl presented a huge challenge because its vast thickness and the underlying steeply-dipping limestone. Our data indicated that horizontal differences of 100 feet could attribute to an extra 300 to 500 feet of drilling length to reach the aquifer. We only had 320 feet of drill stem, so we had to carefully and precisely choose a location. There were very few locations that met our criteria and all of them required that a road be built for drill rig access.

We took a deep breath and chose our final recommended drill site. We suddenly felt the pressure when road building began and the project team purchased the well site property. It took three days for the drill

rig to reach the site and the driller thought we were crazy and told us we would not find water here. As a naked observer, his reason was justifiable since we were very high on the landscape in a location that even made us question the existence of water. But we went in, trusting all of our interpretations, rock measurements, and extrapolations for what was beneath us. We were nervous but confident.



It took three days to drill. Every day attracted a crowd reaching up to 100 people that circled around the drill rig. Enterprising women set up a food vending area where they made and sold coffee, fried bananas, bread, and spicy peanut brittle. During the drilling, locals would constantly study our facial expressions and try to interpret whether things were promising or discouraging.

After about 300 feet of nerve wrecking drilling things started changing. We had encountered our targeted limestone unit and were very excited. Suddenly, we lost circulation of the drilling mud as we had hit a crack in the limestone below. We had found the water!

We soon began airlifting the water from the borehole and the crowd could not believe that it was groundwater. Some thought it was just water that we

used for the drilling, but water kept coming and coming. Rivulets gathered to form a small stream that flowed into fields around the well. The celebration exploded upon our initial smiles and acknowledgment of success.

Women danced and chanted in Creole, people clapped while others watched in awe as water shot from the well. The drilling-team director, a 20 year veteran of such work in Haiti, said it was the best well he had drilled. Turning to us he said, "We have changed northwest Haiti forever." The news of the discovery had reached out within minutes to people all over Haiti and the U.S.

Locals anxiously diverted the flowing water to their fields; women and children immediately collected their buckets



and jugs to replenish their supply. People started washing their faces in the flowing water. It was clear that the celebration was more than the promise of a better way of life. There was a deep sense of pride that water was found in their own area. The celebration went on and on, the experience was of the richest for us and unforgettable to everyone present that day.

The completed test well is a small diameter well that just penetrates the aquifer and yields 620 gallons per minute (gpm). The test well came to represent much more as the project proceeded. Even though it was intended to be exploratory, it required significant investment and risk to complete. It became a verdict of whether we had done our job.

The work is just beginning. We now have a 26 gpm pump installed and have constructed a 6,000 gallon reservoir to provide water to approximately 1,000 locals near the well. The aquifer is carefully being studied to determine sustainable yields and a 15 km pipeline is planned to deliver water to Nouveau Kiskeya and the local communities along the way.

Nouveau Kiskeya has large hurdles ahead but the promise of a changing Haiti is there. The project's backbone is a beautiful country and beautiful people, and now there is some water to contribute to the success of the project, the country, and people of northwest Haiti.

## Illinois Chapter and Indiana-Illinois Section of AIPG

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

Indiana-Illinois Section:

<http://www.aipg.org/Section/IL-IN/IL-INaipg.htm>

Illinois Chapter:

<http://www.aipg.org/StaticContent/anonymous/sections/ILchapter/ILchapteraipg.htm>

## April 2008 Earthquake in Southern Illinois

By Erik Spande, CH2M HILL (CPG-9904)

As reported by the [Illinois State Geological Survey](#), the Mt. Carmel area of Illinois experienced a 5.2 magnitude earthquake on April 18, 2008. The earthquake was felt in 18 states and the epicenter of the earthquake was located in the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone. This area was the location of previous magnitude 5 earthquakes in 1968 and 1987. The 1968 magnitude 5.3 earthquake was the largest recorded in the central United States since 1895. ISGS geologists provided data to the Governor's office, Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), and the public through press interviews and continuous updates to the ISGS Web site.

## Tritium in Groundwater

Erik Spande, CH2M HILL (CPG-9904)

The [Illinois Environmental Protection Agency](#) has been monitoring tritium leaking into groundwater from spills at several nuclear power generating plants in the state—Byron, Dresden and Braidwood. The Agency has kept the public informed by posting links to its web page for fact sheets, news releases, other Illinois EPA documents, as well as links to other sites regarding tritium. Violations notices have been issued for the Braidwood facility (December 16, 2005 and February 28, 2006), and the Agency is working to correct the situation. Illinois EPA is also working with Exelon to remedy the tritium plumes at the Dresden and Byron facilities.

### *About the Illinois Chapter of the Indiana-Illinois AIPG Section..*

The Illinois Chapter of the Illinois-Indiana Section of the AIPG was established in October 1999 to serve as an advocacy group for all professional geologists in the state, and specifically for Licensed Professional Geologists and their practice in the State of Illinois.

You may wish to visit the national AIPG web site at [www.aipg.org](http://www.aipg.org).

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