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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

Testimony of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers to the IRRC Subject: State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists Regulation 16A-4710 Final Annex; Continuing Education - Final October 4, 2010

The Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers (PSPE) is an association made up of licensed engineers in all disciplines of engineering. Our members work in all fields of practice including government, construction, academia, industry and consulting. PSPE has represented the interests of engineers in Pennsylvania since 1934. The Society has 22 local chapters located throughout the Commonwealth and is an affiliate of the National Society of Professional Engineers. PSPE supports the State Registration Board's continuing Education regulation 16A-4710 Final as presented.

PSPE has been afforded the opportunity to comment on this regulation by the Board and believes that the Final version demonstrates the Board's diligence to implement the regulation in a manner that is appropriate and expeditious. Earlier versions of this continuing education regulation were not all that well received by the Society. Those previous versions, however, were based upon Act 170 of 2006. When the Legislature enacted Act 25 of 2010, many of the more contentious issues of the regulation were sufficiently clarified in statute. In fact, Act 25's continuing education section is largely based on the Model Regulations published by the NCEES (the organization made up of state licensing boards for engineers and surveyors). As a result, issues that might more typically be addressed in regulation are now contained in the statute itself.

One important feature of Act 25 is the effective date for when licensees must meet these continuing education requirements. Even though the law was enacted in May of this year, licensees are still expected to meet the continuing education requirements during this current licensing cycle. To that end, PSPE endorses the concept of a 6 month grace period for licensees that are not able to obtain all 24 PDHs by September 30, 2011. The grace period reflects a desire to regulate licensees in a manner that is fair and compassionate, but at the same time enforces the intent of the Legislature that all practicing engineers, land surveyors and geologists must demonstrate their commitment to continuing professional competency.

Thank you for consideration of these comments.

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Shomper, Kris

From:

John Wanner [john@wannerassoc.com] Monday, October 04, 2010 3:53 PM

Sent:

To:

IRRC

Cc:

Jennifer Summers Comments from PSPE re: State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, et. al.

Subject:

regulation 16A-4710 concerning continuing education

Attachments:

PSPE Testimony to the IRRC.JPG

See attached testimony. John D. Wanner, CAE **Executive Director**

PA Society of Professional Engineers

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