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Blackburn, Thomas

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From: Kocher, Terrie
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 10:27 AM
To: Blackburn, Thomas
Subject: FW: 16A-4710 Continuing Education

2009 MAY 13 PM 1:47

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul La Pierre [mailto:paul@landdimensions.com]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 11:17 AM
To: ST, ENGINEER
Subject: Re: 16A-4710 Continuing Education

To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the opportunity to review the proposed legislation for continuing education for professional engineers. I am a PA licensed professional engineer as well as a NJ PE and NJ licensed land surveyor. The NJ land surveyor license has required continuing education for several years.

My review of the proposal leaves me with the opinion that it is a formidable document and achievement of a goal set by the Pennsylvania PE's. I have one concern and request of reconsideration by the legislature and/or PE board.

The current proposal requires all continuing education hours/credits to be applied toward the renewal period during which the course(s) were taken. No carry over of excess credits are currently allowed. NJ land surveyors allow up to eight (8) hours of excess credits to be carried over and applied to the subsequent renewal period. Twenty four hours does not seem like a lot during a two year span. However, I will now be required to perform 48 hours of continuing education in a two year period for my two licenses. Scheduling, finances, course location, personal matters and many other reasons at times works out to one's benefit to take additional credit hours since the reverse can occur and scheduling does not permit to obtain 24 hours during a renewal period. I have found the availability to be able to bank an additional 8 hours for the upcoming renewal period to be of great assistance and less stressful in meeting these requirements.

I would appreciate your consideration of allowing at least eight (8) hours of excess continuing education taken in addition to the current period requirement to be carried over to the subsequent renewal period.

Also of note, New Jersey will require only 36 total hours of continuing education for joint (PE & PLS) license holders if or when NJ institutes continuing education for engineers.

Thank you.
 Paul D. La Pierre

Pa PE No. PE033057E

Paul D. La Pierre, PE, PLS, PP
 Land Dimensions Engineering
 6 East High Street
 Glassboro, NJ 08028
 856-307-7800 ext 104
 FAX 856-307-7805

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5/11/2009