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Blackburn, Thomas

From: Kocher, Terrie
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 4:07 PM
To: Blackburn, Thomas
Subject: FW: Pennsylvania PE Continuing Education Requirements

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

From: Patrick Barry [mailto:pjbarry@alblades.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 3:10 PM
To: ST, ENGINEER
Cc: kknorris@nysspe.org; 1895pjb@roadrunner.com
Subject: Pennsylvania PE Continuing Education Requirements

Gentlemen/Ladies

I recently read your Summer 2009 newsletter and paid particular note of the proposed continuing education regulations that are currently under consideration in Pennsylvania

In addition to being licensed as a Professional Engineer in PA, I am also licensed in NY and MD. In NY, we have had to comply with continuing education requirements since 2004, and I have no argument with that as I am a strong proponent of continuing education.

Of particular concern to me is the third bullet of the first column on Page 3 of the above referenced newsletter which states, in part, "if an out-of-state licensee wants to attend an out-of-state course that has not already been preapproved by the board, it will be incumbent upon the licensee to ensure the course has been approved prior to attending the course."

I understand the intent, but I can envision where that provision will become very onerous not only for the licensee, but also for the board. What if I were licensed in five different states (not too far-fetched as I am already licensed in three) that all had the same provision? I'd have to contact the four "foreign" boards about every month to get pre-approval for a class where I typically get about 3 weeks prior notice.

If that provision were to remain in place, I would guess that your Board will be inundated with pre-approval requests from licensees not only from NY but also OH, WV, VA, MD, DE, NJ, etc. How quickly would you be able to act on an individual request?

My concern - and hence the purpose of this letter - is to make sure that the continuing education sessions that I attend and receive credit for in NY will also be acceptable in PA.

May I respectfully suggest that the Pennsylvania Board accept the courses that have already been pre-approved by the Boards of other states. In other words, if it's acceptable to NY's Board, then it should be acceptable to the Board in PA, or Ohio, or Kansas, etc.

Thank you for your consideration and feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

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