



INSITE

ESI – U.S. Senate Productivity Award Winner for Virginia

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



NOTICE TO ALL DPE/DPE ELIGIBLES

You are in compliance with your 2011 education requirements if your name appears on the completion lists on our website www.esinova.org.

Go to the education page on our website and click on the link for each jurisdiction pertaining to you. If you are in one or more jurisdictions, you will need to check each jurisdiction list.

The due date for completion of online Policy & Procedure classes has been extended to December 23, 2011.

IF YOUR NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE COMPLETED LIST(S) AFTER DECEMBER 29, 2011 YOU NEED TO CONTACT ESI IMMEDIATELY.

NEW ENGINEERS?

Do you have a new employee? If so, consider enrolling that employee in the **Land Development Engineering (LDE)** program. It is an excellent means of educating your colleagues on the intricacies of land development in Northern Virginia, whether for DPE purposes or just being a qualified engineer.

ESI PEER REVIEW SCHEDULING

Background: The ESI Peer Review Program has been in place since the beginning of the Public/Private Partnership in 1987. Initially, the program only involved Designated Plans Examiners (DPEs) or those eligible to be DPEs. In fact, serving Peer Review continues as a requirement to maintain certification as a DPE. The Peer Reviewer is a critical part of the process in all jurisdictions.

Value: Peer Reviewers participate in both the Minimum Submission Review and sometimes in the Team Peer Review phases of plan submission. It is very valuable to have a “disinterested” party taking an objective look at a plan when it is being reviewed for meeting the minimum criteria for submission. As we all know, there is no perfect plan, all projects are different and organizations communicate project designs differently. The Peer Reviewer provides insight into how good the plan is communicated and how well it conforms to current requirements and practice. The collaboration that occurs among the submitting engineer, the ESI Staff Engineer, the Peer Reviewer and jurisdiction reviewers leads to better plans being submitted, time to approvals being shortened and ultimately cost savings for both the public and private sectors. The Peer Reviewer benefits by seeing how other

organizations are solving design challenges, communicating solutions, etc., so serving Peer Review has some training benefit as well.

Compensation: Professionals who serve as Peer Reviewers are compensated for their time. Compensation is based upon the raw hourly rate for an employee of a specific organization. The raw hourly rate is calculated by dividing the annual salary by 2080 (man-hours in a year). ESI pays the Peer Reviewer's organization based upon the compensation agreement in the contract ESI has with each jurisdiction. ESI maintains meticulous records starting with the time sheet submitted by each Peer Reviewer though to final payment to the parent organization. Only the time actually reviewing a plan is compensated (in some cases some travel time is also compensated.)

Participation: All DPEs and DPE eligibles are expected to participate in Peer Review annually. The standard varies depending on the jurisdiction. With the lack of plan submissions, ESI has not always been able to provide sufficient opportunity each year to have all DPEs serve the full requirement. In 2012, participation will be conducted in a similar manner to jury duty. We will ask for all DPEs and eligibles to commit to two or more Peer Review sessions each year. If there is a plan scheduled for review that period of time, the Peer Reviewer will be expected to conduct that review and receive compensation as described earlier. If however, no plan is scheduled, the Peer Reviewer will be notified and excused. The Peer Reviewer will be credited with meeting the requirement for the sessions regardless of conducting a review or not.

In jurisdictions where there is no DPE program, professionals may volunteer to serve as Peer Reviewers and be compensated for that service if, (1) they are a DPE in good standing in Fairfax, Prince William or Loudoun County, or (2) they complete an ESI provide course on Peer Review, or (3) they

have sufficient experience to validate the course. Information on the latter two processes will be published in early January.

Scheduling: Scheduling participation in Peer Review for the different jurisdictions will be available online by going to <http://esinovatrainng.webex.com> after December 20, 2011. Specific instructions on how to schedule participation using the site will be provided directly to those eligible the week of December 20th. But in general, the scheduling process will be like enrolling for classes. Each Peer Review session will be listed on the website by jurisdiction. Only two Peer Reviewers (first enrollee is the primary with the second enrollee serving as the alternative) can "enroll" for each session. A waitlist capability is also available. There will be an AM session and a PM session in each jurisdiction. If the session is not available, a "full" indication will be shown. Email confirmations of the commitment and email reminders will be provided. Cancellations can be made up to 48 hours prior to the scheduled session. The confirmation email will provide the ability to place the scheduled session into an Outlook calendar if so desired.



OUTSTANDING MEMBER AWARDS

The following ESI members were recognized at our General Membership meeting on December 8, 2011, for special achievements throughout this year:

PRIVATE INDUSTRY

Quality Designated Plans Examination (Fairfax)

Matthew Koirtyohann – Urban Ltd.

Quality DPE Submissions (Loudoun)

Charles Lucas, III – Bowman Consulting Group

Quality Plan Submission (Alexandria)

Mark Liberati – BC Consultants, Inc.

Quality Plan Submissions (Leesburg)

Paul Swartz – Bowman Consulting Group

Quality Plan Submission (Fauquier)

Scott D. Gookin – Bohler Engineering

Quality Plan Production (Fairfax)

Bohler Engineering

Charles P. Johnson & Associates
Urban, Ltd.

Walter L. Phillips, Inc.

Quality Plan Production (Loudoun)

Urban, Ltd.

Quality Plan Production (Leesburg)

Bowman Consulting Group

Quality Plan Production (Fauquier)

Urban, Ltd.

PUBLIC SECTOR

Quality Plan Review

Daphne Kott – City of Alexandria

Judy Cronauer – Fairfax County

Sylvia E. (Beth) Young – Fauquier County

John Johnston – Town of Leesburg

Anita Tierney – Loudoun County

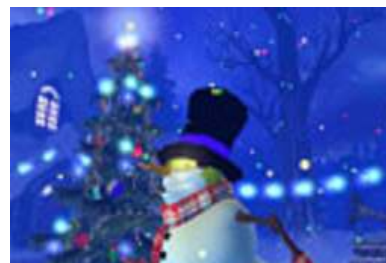
Recognition in Education

Shaukat Faheem



ESI LOUDOUN COUNTY PAY AS YOU GO DEPOSIT CHANGE

A few months ago, the Pay As You Go (PAYG) deposit for plans being submitted in Loudoun County was raised from \$2000 to \$2500. Whenever the majority of plan submissions require more than the initial deposit, it becomes a burden on ESI and the applicant to seek additional funds and the accounting charges are increased. During the summer months Loudoun County agreed to an increase in the deposit to offset these problems. As always the unused portion of the deposit is returned. It appears that the deposit increase was not widely communicated so ESI continues to get plans submitted with checks for the lower deposit. In all submission cases, it is always the best practice to go to the ESI website (www.esinova.org) and obtain the application form provided there in the appropriate jurisdiction. Using older applications that may be on file elsewhere may result in delays.



EDUCATION COLUMN

There have been some changes to the way in which our education programs are being conducted and managed. As most of you may know, we no longer use the Meridian-based Knowledge Center service for managing our classes and administrative issues, such as transcripts and annual education requirement completion.

We are now using an adaptation of our online live instruction program, Webex, for enrollment in BOTH traditional classroom and live online classes, as well as recorded classes such as Policy & Procedures (P&P) updates. The AY2012 Catalog of Classes is in a format similar to what you have been seeing during recent years, but the online enrollment procedure will appear to be different. While Webex is designed for live e-meeting collaboration, it has been modified to enable enrollment in classroom sessions, as in the past through the Knowledge Center, as well as the occasional live online sessions (most notably the annual P&P classes). The main requirement for members to successfully enroll is to **PAY ATTENTION TO THE INSTRUCTIONS** provided for enrollment. Live e-meeting sessions will be so identified; otherwise all classes are to be considered conventional classroom sessions, which are typically held at the ESI Chantilly facility (any other locations will be noted as such).

One of the difficulties we had at the end of AY2011 with members accessing the recorded P&P sessions was failure to follow instructions. For example people were sending the quiz results directly to me, even though the instructions said to mail the .xls file to a jurisdiction specific ESI address. These mailboxes were set up especially to process quiz results and tabulate outcomes for assigning credit for completing the classes. We endeavor to be as accurate, detailed and specific as possible in our instructions to make the process manageable and “user friendly”. However, the individual member has a

responsibility to comply with the procedure.

With respect to meeting annual educational requirements, there is now a list available of all members by jurisdiction who have completed their annual electives and P&P classes. The links are on the Education page of the ESI website. If your name does not appear on the list, you are not in compliance and need to contact the staff. Likewise if you need a copy of your transcript, also contact the staff.

The AY2012 Catalog of Classes has those offerings that were recommended by the Focus Group for which we were able to find instructors. We had a particularly difficult time this year securing individuals who were willing to commit to the preparation and conduct of our Professional Development classes. Fortunately, we were able to produce an adequate number of sessions to accommodate our membership both for DPE/Eligible certification and PE licensing. Word to the wise: enroll early to insure you have enough electives to satisfy your annual requirements. Also, please consider stepping up to be an ESI instructor. Even if you have had no experience teaching, we will help you through the process of learning the techniques and developing your class. It is an excellent opportunity to share your experience and knowledge with your peers and contribute to the professional community.

We are constantly seeking input for new class subjects. Regardless of the time of the academic year, you can always suggest a class and an instructor (or volunteer yourself!), which we can add to the curriculum.



