



LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

Update on Geoscientist Licensing in Louisiana from Bill Meaney

- The Louisiana legislature has extended the “grandfather” window under the Professional Geoscientist Act to December 31, 2014.
- As of late September over 1726 “grandfather” applications had been received. Of those, 640 applicants had completed their application process online. The Board has granted 118 licenses through 9/22 and a number more since that date.
- The LBOPG website is now operational and those who earlier filed pre-application forms to satisfy the previous grandfathering deadline can now complete their application process.
- Application fees submitted with pre-application forms last year or online applications this year will be applied to the applicant’s first year’s license. The date an applicant’s application is approved will become their annual license renewal date.
- The online application process is easy but some questions have arisen. If an applicant encounters a problem, please call the phone number provided on the website.
- I have discovered that the website prefers some internet browsers over others. If you have a problem, try another browser. Internet Explorer seems to be compatible whereas Firefox is not.
- There are several potential problems which delay the review and/or subsequent approval of an application. Applicants should:
 1. Read the Act (there is a link on the LBOPG website) to verify that they actually qualify to apply,
 2. Make sure that their transcripts are in fact forwarded to the Board by the respective college or university,
 3. The same goes for references,
 4. Make sure their references meet the necessary qualifications (they must be geoscientists who are either licensed or qualified to apply for licensing), and
 5. Be careful in describing their work experience to emphasize actual geological experience, not their employment history and/or job position(s).