

Western States Seismic Policy Council XIX Annual Conference

November 4-7, 1997
Victoria, British Columbia

The mission of the Western States Seismic Policy Council is to provide a forum to advance earthquake hazard reduction programs throughout the Western Region and to develop, recommend and present seismic policies and programs through information exchange, research and education.

WSSPC's goals are to promote regional cooperation and the interaction of the members' Emergency Management Program and Geoscience Program representatives to cultivate, develop and recommend seismic policies; to raise the overall awareness among all parties of earthquake hazards and methods to mitigate the associated risks; to serve as a resource for earthquake related materials, information and activities, in coordination with others; to provide advice to all policy implementing bodies on issues and research related to earthquake hazards.

WSSPC Annual Conference Policy Sessions

To further the mission of WSSPC, we have structured the conference sessions around the development of seismic policy. What is seismic policy? First perhaps we need to define "policy" or "government policy." The dictionary defines it as a principle, plan, or course of action as pursued by government. Following the dictionary definition using the word "principle," government policy could be defined as the philosophical basis for laws and regulations adopted by government. Seismic policy would then be such government policy that relates to earthquake hazards and mitigation. Each policy session will have brief presentations by the speakers and extensive time for participants to discuss and attempt to develop policy alternatives that address these issues.

WSSPC Annual Conference Schedule of Activities

(Times of sessions and invited speakers may change)

Tuesday, November 4

4:00 p.m. Conference Registration Begins

6:30 p.m. Meet and Greet and Exhibitor Fair

Wednesday, November 5

7:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Opening Session
Steven Ganz, Western States Seismic Policy Council

Lorayne Frank, Utah Division of Emergency Management, and WSSPC Chair
Robert Volland, Federal Emergency Management Agency
Representative of the British Columbia and Canadian Government

9:00 a.m. **Policy Session #1 · Building Codes and Seismic Zonation**
What are the effects of seismic zonation on communities and can we build safer and more hazard resistant communities with stricter building codes?

Dennis Gage, Insurance Services Organization
Ron Lynn, Clark County Planning Department
Robert Olshansky, University of Illinois
Representative of the Government of Guam

- 12:00 p.m. Buffet Lunch and Exhibitor Fair
- 1:30 p.m. Keynote Address
Robert Page, United States Geological Survey
- 1:30 p.m. **Policy Session #2 · Hazard Loss Estimation and Scenario Development**
Looking at the newest technologies and methodologies for estimating hazard losses and developing scenarios.
- James Davis, California Division of Mines and Geology
Craig dePolo, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
David Gronbeck-Jones, British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program
Gil Jamieson, Federal Emergency Management Agency, HAZUS
Vic Levson, British Columbia Geological Survey
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Social, Exhibitor Fair and Poster Session

Thursday, November 6

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Policy Session #3 · Earthquake and Hazard Insurance
A survey of the current state of hazard insurance, including the ramifications of all-hazards insurance, mandatory insurance and other aspects of insurance policy.
- Jim Ament, State Farm Insurance
Richard Andrews, California Office of Emergency Services
Michael Armstrong, Federal Emergency Management Agency
James Davis, California Division of Mines and Geology
Representative of Insurance Institute for Property Loss Reduction
- 11:30 a.m. Field Excursion on Vancouver Island
- 6:00 p.m. Conference Banquet and WSSPC Awards in Excellence Ceremony

Friday, November 7

- 7:00am Breakfast
- 8:00am WSSPC Committee Meetings
- 10:30am WSSPC Business Meeting and Policy Development Session
- 12:30pm Lunch and Meal Roundtable Discussion
- 2:00pm Earthquake Program Development and Information Sharing
- 4:00pm Conference Adjourns

Ocean Pointe Resort and Victoria, British Columbia

The WSSPC Annual Conference will be held at the Ocean Pointe Resort in Victoria, British Columbia. The facility is located in the heart of Victoria on the harbor, walking distance to downtown and offers panoramic views.

Conference Proceedings

In an effort to add value to the conference, WSSPC will be issuing a "proceedings" volume before the event. Papers from the session speakers will be compiled and distributed to all attendees (before the conference). This volume will serve to prepare participants and will be an excellent addition to your library.

Field Excursion

WSSPC will be hosting visits to interesting seismic sites on Vancouver Island. The tour will take conference attendees to geologically interesting sites. Lunch will be provided during the field excursion. This event is sponsored by Emergency Preparedness Canada. Space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come first-served basis.