

Western States Seismic Policy Council
2012 Lifetime Achievement Award in Seismic Risk Reduction
Jonathan G. Price



Dr. Jonathan G. Price, Nevada State Geologist and Director of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, has been selected to receive the 2012 WSSPC Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his public policy advocacy and his indefatigable support of seismic safety in Nevada and across the nation.

Jon received a Bachelor of Arts in Geology and German at Lehigh University, and a Master of Arts and Doctorate in Geology from the University of California, Berkeley. Jon's early career was as a geologist with the Anaconda Mining Company in Nevada. After a stint as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Geology at Bucknell University, Jon joined United States Steel Corporation as an exploration geologist. In 1981, Jon went to work for the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology and worked his way up from Research Associate to

Program Director of Mineral Resources and Director of the Texas Mining and Mineral Resources Research Institute.

Since 1988, Dr. Price has served as Nevada State Geologist and Director of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology. He has steadily enhanced the Bureau and developed it into one of the most respected state geological surveys in the country, with major contributions in both applied and basic research. When the magnitude 6 Wells earthquake struck in 2008, Jon and his staff engaged their state, federal, and university partners in post-earthquake investigations that were a model of thoroughness. The resulting publications by his staff and many others will serve as a benchmark for such investigations in the intermountain West for many years to come.

Jon was instrumental in founding the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council in 1992. He has served on the Council's Board since its establishment and became Secretary in 1996, a position he continues to hold. Jon was also one of the founding members of the Nevada Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee established in 2003, and has served as Chair of the Committee since its inception. Under Jon's direction, the Committee has assisted Nevada in securing almost \$10 million in federal funding for hazard mitigation projects and preparation of Hazard Mitigation Plans for Nevada counties. Because of the Committee's efforts, Nevada is one of only ten states with an Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Jon's devotion to the seismic safety of Nevada is matched by the service he has provided to the nation as a whole. He has provided his expertise as a member of numerous National Academy of Sciences boards and studies, and has been an advisor to the U. S. Geological Survey; in particular as a member of the congressionally established Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee. During his time on the committee, Jon sought to improve the delivery of USGS information to the public and to critical users like emergency managers.

Jon served as WSSPC Chairman from 1998 to 2002, and was the first recipient of the WSSPC Leadership Award. In that capacity Jon contributed much energy and many hours to keep WSSPC running smoothly and to help it grow and become more effective. His commitment to WSSPC is rooted in the belief that public policy can have a major impact on local hazard reduction. Jon has participated in all major activities of the WSSPC Basin and Range Province Committee, the Post- Earthquake Technical Information Clearinghouse Workshop, and two Basin and Range Seismic Hazard Summits. Jon was an active participant at both Summits leading the policy discussions and authoring subsequent policy recommendations which have been adopted. In addition, Jon has steadily promoted research on seismic hazards in the Basin and Range Province through participation in national organizations and committees, such as the Association of American State Geologists, the U.S. Geological Survey's Advisory Committee for the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program, and the National Science Foundation's EarthScope Science and Education Committee.