

January 28, 2013

The Honorable Chris Edwards, Natural Resources Ways and Means Subcommittee Co-Chair
The Honorable Ben Unger, Natural Resources Ways and Means Subcommittee Co-Chair
c/o Linda Gilbert, Legislative Fiscal Office
900 Court St. NE, Room H-178
Salem OR 97301

Subject: A Letter in Support of the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

I am writing to you to express my support for the continued funding of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. I am an independent, consulting structural engineer and have had the pleasure of working with a number of individuals at DOGAMI over the past 19 years.

I specifically want to illustrate DOGAMI's vital role in protecting the safety of Oregonians by briefly discussing two DOGAMI-related projects that I have been directly involved with, their successful efforts to enhance minimum geological-related building code requirements for many of Oregon's buildings, and the wealth of information that they provide that is invaluable to practicing building design professionals.

The two projects that I was involved directly with DOGAMI are: The Seismic Rehabilitation Task Force, which was created by Senate Bill 1057 in 1995, where DOGAMI played a leading role, and Oregon Seismic Resilience, which was created by House Resolution 3 in 2011, and is currently on-going. These two efforts required significant research assistance and expert opinion by DOGAMI staff. Without their expertise in a number of areas, these projects would not have been completed to the depth and level of comprehensiveness that they were. Secondly, DOGAMI's efforts to strengthen geological and geotechnical-related building standards through legislative language that is now found in the Oregon Structural Specialty Code will save many lives in areas prone to a number of seismic-related hazards, particularly near the Oregon coast. Lastly, DOGAMI has been providing vital seismic-related geological and geotechnical-related information on the Web that building design professionals such as myself may use to gain more knowledge about these types of hazards (such as soil liquefaction and landslides) at a particular building site in Oregon.

While I recognize that funding for vital public services in Oregon is spread very thin, and many causes are worthy of funding, the role DOGAMI plays in so many areas of public safety cannot be overstated. Please maintain a level of funding that will allow DOGAMI to continue to provide a level of vital services that we have come to expect and require in order to protect the health and welfare of all Oregonians.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Bugni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Bugni" clearly distinguishable.

David Bugni, P.E., S.E.

Structural Engineers Association of Oregon, Past President

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