



Publication Date: February 27, 2019

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

**Will Conduct a Policy and Administration
Committee Meeting on:**

Thursday, March 14, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**John Muir Room
801 K Street
Suite 2016
Sacramento, CA 95814**

For questions or comments regarding this Agenda, please contact the Board office by telephone at (916) 322-1082, or via email at smgb@conservation.ca.gov. This Notice, the agenda, and all associated staff reports can be accessed at the Board's web site at: <http://www.consrv.ca.gov/smgb/>.



PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

1. **Call to Order (Landregan)**
2. **Roll Call and Declaration of a Quorum**
3. **Review of the Agenda (Landregan)**
4. **Chair's Report (Landregan)**
5. **Public Comment Period**

This time is scheduled to provide the public with an opportunity to address non-agenda items. Those wishing to speak should do so at this time. All persons wishing to address the Board are encouraged to complete a speaker card and present it to the Board Secretary. Speakers are limited to three minutes except by special consent of the Chair.
6. **Consent Items**

All the items appearing under this section will be acted upon by the Board by one motion and without discussion; however, any Board member wishing to discuss a particular item may request the Chair to remove the item from the Consent Calendar and consider it separately.

 - A. Consideration and approval of Minutes of the November 28, 2018 Policy and Administration Committee Meeting.
7. **Action Items**
 - A. Discussion of the Board's 2019-2020 Work Plan.
8. **Announcements and Future Meetings**
9. **Adjournment**

THE STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

A. THE BOARD

The State Mining and Geology Board (Board) serves as a regulatory, policy, and hearing body representing the State's interests in geology, geologic, and seismologic hazards, conservation of mineral resources, and reclamation of mining lands.

The Board (Board) was established in 1885 as the Board of Trustees to oversee the activities of the State Mineralogist and the California Division of Mines and Geology (now the California Geological Survey). It is the second oldest Board in California. Today's Board has nine members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate, for four-year terms. By statute, Board members must have specific professional backgrounds in geology, mining engineering, environmental protection, groundwater hydrology and rock chemistry, urban planning, landscape architecture, mineral resource conservation, and seismology, with one non-specialized member representing the general public.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Board is to provide professional expertise and guidance, and to represent the State's interest in the development, utilization, and conservation of mineral resources, the reclamation of mined lands, and the development and dissemination of geologic and seismic hazard information to protect the health and welfare of the people of California.

Statutory Authority

The Board operates within the Department of Conservation, under the Natural Resources Agency, and is granted certain responsibilities and obligations under several statutes: Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections: 660-678 and 2207, 2621-2650 (the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act), and 2710-2796 (Surface and Mining Reclamation Act).

Surface Mining and Reclamation Act

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) Public Resources Code Sections 2710 et seq. and its regulations at 14 Cal. Code of Regulations Section 3500 et seq., provide a comprehensive surface mining and reclamation policy to assure that adverse environmental impacts are minimized and mined lands are reclaimed to a usable condition. SMARA also encourages the production, conservation, and protection of the State's mineral resources. Under these statutes and regulations, the Board represents the State's interests in the development, use and conservation of the State's mineral resources, and the reclamation of mined lands as authorized by law.

In April of 2016, Governor Brown signed two bills to implement "top to bottom" reforms of SMARA. AB 1142 (Gray) and SB 209 (Pavley) effectively update and improve certain provisions of the Act, giving the Board more authority to oversee and implement SMARA.

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act

Under this Act, Public Resources Code Section 2621 through Section 2630, and its regulations at 14 California Code Regulations Section 3600 et seq., the Board is authorized to represent the State's interests in establishing guidelines and standards for geological and geophysical investigations and reports produced by the California Geological Survey, public sector agencies, and private practitioners. The Board also is authorized to develop specific criteria through regulations to be used by Lead Agencies in complying with the provisions of the Act so as to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Seismic Hazards Mapping Act

Under this Act, Public Resources Code Section 2690 through Section 2699.6 and its regulations at 10 California Code of Regulations Section 3720 et seq. the Board is authorized to provide policy and guidance through regulations for a statewide seismic hazard mapping and technical advisory program to assist cities, counties, and State agencies in fulfilling their responsibilities for protecting the public health and safety from the effects of strong ground shaking, liquefaction or other ground failure, landslides and other seismic hazards caused by earthquakes, including tsunami and seiche threats.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is the California counterpart to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). CEQA requires California state and local agencies to determine the significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible.

California Endangered Species Act, Fish and Game Code 2050 et seq., makes it illegal to “take” state-listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species, except as authorized by California Department of Fish and Game.

Fish and Game, Code Section 5650 makes it illegal to permit the passage of any substance deleterious to fish, plants, or bird life to the waters of the state, unless authorized by regional board waste discharge requirements or a federal permit for which Clean Water Act, Section 401 state certification is issued.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act is based on the Water Code 13000 et seq. and regulates the discharge of waste that could affect state waters subject to waste discharge requirements (WDR). One of six Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB) reviews a mining proposal, holds public meetings, and requires a separate reclamation bond.

B. GENERAL PROCEDURAL INFORMATION ABOUT SMGB MEETINGS

The Board is governed by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act that requires the Board to (1) publish an Agenda at least ten days in advance of any meeting; (2) describe in the Agenda specific items to be transacted or discussed; and, (3) refuse to add an item no later than 10 days prior to any meeting and republishing of the Agenda.

Persons are invited to visit the Board web site at <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/smgb>. The Board Agenda will be available approximately 15 days prior to the scheduled meeting. The Executive Officer’s Report and other Agenda material and reports will be available approximately one week prior to the scheduled Board meeting, and also are available at the Board’s office during public business hours 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday (except holidays).

A Closed Session may be called by the Chair to discuss litigation and other matters for which closed sessions are authorized under the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

Agenda items are subject to postponement. Interested and affected persons may contact the Board’s office in advance of the meeting day for information on the status of any agenda item.

Board meetings are open to the public and are held in barrier-free facilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For additional information or assistance, contact the Board’s office.

C. SUBMITTAL OF DOCUMENTS ON BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

The Board encourages parties to submit comments, written material, or technical reports to include plans, specifications, maps, cross sections, boring or trench logs, and diagrams prior to the publication of the Executive Officer's Report. This ensures that the submittal can be included in the Agenda material for the Agenda item in question. To ensure that Board members have an opportunity to fully study and consider the items on the Agenda, all such material concerning any matters on the Agenda should be submitted at least three (3) days prior to the meeting date to the Board office at 801 K Street, Sacramento, California, 95814, or by electronic mail to the Board's Executive Officer with a subject line identifying the Agenda item name and number. The Board encourages electronic or flash-drive submission of large quantities of documents. Timely submitted written material will be provided to the Board along with the full Agenda materials, and will be uploaded to the Board web site at <http://www.consrv.ca.gov/smgb/> for the Agenda item in question, along with any Supplemental Executive Officer Reports. Documents submitted to the Board less than three (3) days prior to the meeting shall be considered "late submittals." Because it can be difficult for Board members to carefully review and consider late submittals, the Board retains discretion to determine whether or not it will consider late submittals at the meeting.

Late submittals for general public comment will be provided to the Board along with the full Agenda materials, but will not be uploaded to the Board web site. Copies of documents submitted for general public comment at least three (3) days prior to the meeting will be available in the meeting room, generally at the entrance to the room. The Board regulations pertaining to specific adjudicatory proceedings supersede general statements in these notes regarding Board procedures, including the time requirements for submission of written materials to the Board (Refer to Section E). If considered, late submittals will be circulated to the Board during the meeting.

All Board files and documents considered by the Board pertaining to the items on this Agenda are made a part of the administrative record for the respective Agenda items.

D. ORAL COMMENTS DURING SMGB MEETINGS

Speaker Cards: All persons desiring to address the Board are requested to fill out a speaker card. Cards normally are provided near the entrance to the meeting room. Please fill out a separate card for each item on which you intend to speak, and present it to the Board Secretary prior to the item being heard by the Board.

Unless otherwise specified in the public notice for a specific item, the Board wishes to limit oral presentations from all parties to three (3) minutes or less per individual. The Board Chair reserves the right to shorten or lengthen the general three (3) minute limit period depending on time constraints and other factors relating to the particular matter being heard.

Providing and operating projectors and other presentation aids are the responsibilities of the speakers. Owing to software and hardware compatibility issues, provision and operation of laptop computers and projectors for presentations generally will be the responsibility of the individual speakers. To ascertain the availability of presentation equipment, please contact the Board office at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting.

