



Professional Engineers  
and Geoscientists of BC

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August 30, 2013

The Honourable Bill Bennett  
Minister of Energy and Mines  
and Minister Responsible for Core Review  
Parliament Buildings - Room 301  
PO Box 9060, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2  
[MEM.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MEM.minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Bennett:

**Re: 2013-14 BC Government Core Review**

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As Chief Executive Officers of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) and the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP), we would like to congratulate the government on undertaking the Core Review process in a focussed and time limited way. Along with others, APEGBC and the ABCFP have previously worked closely with government in providing input to revisions of the program delivery model for regulation in the natural resource sector. We look forward to the opportunity to be part of the stakeholder consultation which will be undertaken this fall and winter. In particular, we believe the government may want to extend the application of Professional Reliance - the practice of accepting and relying upon the decisions and advice of professionals who accept responsibility and can be held accountable for the decisions they make and the advice they give.

This definition was advanced in a document entitled "Professional Reliance in Forest and Range Management in BC-From Concept to Practice", a document prepared in 2006 by the APEGBC, ABCFP, the College of Applied Biologists (CAB) and the BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA) in response to British Columbia's transition from a prescriptive to a more "results based" regulatory regime for natural resource management. This report was prepared with the financial and technical support of the BC Ministry of Forests. At that time, the government identified professional reliance as a key consideration in protecting the public's interests while moving to this type of results based regulatory regime.

Our two associations believe that professional reliance is a fundamental concept to be considered when seeking efficiencies and timeliness in the permitting and regulation of a range of development activities in the natural resource sector. The Forest and Range Practices Act is an example of a results based regulatory approach that can be applied elsewhere in the natural resource sector while delivering the kind of natural resource management that government, industry and the public expect (see Forest Practices Board Bulletin, Volume 14 Professional Reliance in BC Forests). Our two associations believe that there are many additional areas where such an approach can be applied, and we look forward to early discussions about the mechanism for our organizations to participate in the Core Review.

Sincerely,

Sharon L. Glover  
Chief Executive Officer, ABCFP

Ann English, P.Eng.  
CEO & Registrar, APEGBC