



- FROM THE PRESIDENT -

After so many great years of working with our first and only Executive Director, it was intimidating to think that we would have to find a new one. Would anyone apply and would anyone be qualified? Ultimately, 30 people did apply for the new ED position and I'm happy to say, we got the best. After interviewing five very qualified candidates from non-profit as well as environmental backgrounds, the Board unanimously selected Susan Hanf to lead the way. Trepidation has turned to excitement as we've realized that different professionals bring different skills to any position and that embracing the change is the right response. Susan brings new perspectives to NEBC that we're excited to advance. Please take the time to welcome Susan to NEBC. Or, if your membership is up, you might expect a call from her! Get your ideas on the table now, I can tell you the agenda is getting full.

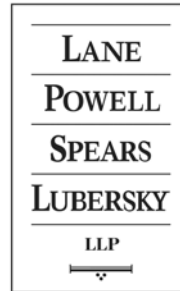
I would ask you all to support the Northwest Environmental Conference (NVEC) and especially the Environmental Conference of Washington (ECW), now in its forth year. ECW needs member support now more than ever and we hope you'll take advantage of any of the many ways to show your enthusiasm.

Lastly, NEBC's membership is at approximately 140 companies, a slight decline from recent years. We all know that our industry is volatile, with staff and companies changing on a routine basis. Take the opportunity to promote NEBC and its many benefits to your friends and coworkers. Word of mouth and personal enthusiasm will take us far further than any initiative we can implement from the NEBC offices.

Have a safe and prosperous Autumn. Take the time to meet and greet Susan to our organization. Looking forward to seeing many of you at ECW and NVEC.

~ Sean Ragain, GeoEngineers, Inc.
NEBC Board of Directors, President

- SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT -



YOUR
PACIFIC NORTHWEST
LAW FIRM®

Lane Powell Spears Lubersky LLP's environmental attorneys represent industrial corporations, major oil companies, property developers, engineering and consulting firms, financial institutions and insurance companies in environmental litigation and business negotiations. To learn more about Lane Powell, visit our website at www.lanepowell.com.

Special Thanks to all our Sponsoring Members!

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Contact your NEBC staff at 503.227.6361 to learn more about becoming a Sponsoring NEBC Member!

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- Rain for Rent

- FROM THE DIRECTOR -

I got a chuckle out of this one - for those who thought I was being politically-correct when I said "Go Bucks" in my last missive, let me clarify: I'm a graduate of The Ohio State University - not to be confused with the *other* OSU. You know, the 2002 National Football Champions! My Buckeyes started football season off right - unfortunately Pac10 people can't say the same thing (yes, I'm one of "those" Buckeyes). Let the emails fly!

On to a more relevant topic - I was thrilled with the turnout for the Olympic Chapter luncheon on Sept 1 where attendees heard from representatives of the Seattle Monorail Project, as well as receiving an introduction to Dipika Kohli, a reporter from the Daily Journal of Commerce in Seattle. Special thanks to Judy Lurvey for pulling together the topic and speakers under such short notice.

My first month has flown by and I don't anticipate that this pace will lessen anytime soon. David did an amazing job with the organization and I'm trying to get up-to-speed as quickly as possible to fill those shoes. Fortunately, you have a terrific staff in Cara Bergeson and Linda Sheeley; if you haven't had a chance to get to know them, I highly recommend that you do - they really enjoy the work that they do on your behalf.

I've been reviewing all of NEBC's programs and services, specifically the programs available through Get-Benefits. I had an enlightening conversation with Kimberly Ramsey of Neilson Research (NEBC member) regarding the health insurance program offered by Get-Benefits. "Tino is incredible - he's the most professional person we've ever dealt with from an insurance agency - we're so happy with him." Kimberly stated that the difference in rates was substantially less than they had been paying for the Southern Oregon market. She "highly recommends that all members either personally contact Tino or have their HR people do so for a rate comparison". Tino Versoza can be reached at (800) 627-5345 (medical is available in Oregon & SW Washington only).

NEBC is actively seeking names of individuals who are interested in serving at the on the Cascade Chapter, Olympic Chapter and Rocky Mountain Chapters. Please contact us if you're interested in getting involved.

Lastly, but very importantly, any names of potential members that you come across would be greatly appreciated - you, the member, are the best reference to solicit new members and we greatly appreciate any support or assistance that you can provide.

Here's hoping that September is great for you all. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions about NEBC.

~ Susan Hanf

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- GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS -

BLUE RIBBON PANEL MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE DEQ WASTEWATER PERMITTING PROGRAM

Preliminary program changes result in a significant reduction in expired or backlogged permits from a year ago.

A statewide advisory committee comprised of industry, environmental and governmental officials has made recommendations aimed at bolstering the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's ability to review and process wastewater discharge permits for large and small sources of wastewater pollution throughout Oregon. Tracy Barton, Combined Resource Solutions, was selected to represent NEBC on the advisory committee.

The Blue Ribbon Committee on DEQ's Wastewater Permitting Program, after an 18-month review of the program with input from DEQ staff, has made numerous recommendations that include processing permits on a watershed basis, improving training for DEQ permit writers, added accountability for DEQ for timely permit issuance, and proposals to increase funding and staff over a gradual, four-year period. The recommendations are in a recently released 30-page report that is available on DEQ's website at www.deq.state.or.us/wq/wqpermit/blueribbonrpt080604.pdf.

- INDUSTRY NEWS -

EMPLOYEES WILL BE ASKED TO SHARE A LARGE PORTION OF PREMIUMS OR TAKE A REDUCTION IN BENEFITS

More companies will be asking employees to take a greater share in the cost of their benefits or to take a reduction in the level of benefits offered. Preliminary results of a survey conducted earlier this year, reports that most employers are expecting increases near 13%, while they say they can only afford to pay a little less than 10% more. The difference will have to be absorbed by employees at a time when salaries are not increasing at the same pace.

NEBC members have solutions to these problems. By pooling together with other companies, NEBC members are seeing savings of up to \$100 per employee per month. This savings is for benefits that are the same or better than they currently offer. Ask your employer to take a look at the NEBC benefits as they review the future of your insurance this next year. Contact Tino Versoza with H-C and Associates, our NEBC employee benefits representative, at (800) 627-5345.

RECEIVE RECOGNITION FOR YOUR COMPANY'S ACHIEVEMENTS

The Association of Washington Business Environmental Excellence Awards are over a decade old and recognize members who go the extra mile to protect Washington's environment. These awards will be presented at an October 19 luncheon held in conjunction with our annual Environmental Conference scheduled for October 19 & 20, at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center. The nomination deadline is September 10, 2004.

Why not tell other AWB members and the public what you are doing? Hometown press releases and photos of the award ceremony will be sent to news media and the events will be featured in our magazine Washington Business. AWB will also provide you with stories and photos for your company publications.

We look forward to receiving your company's nomination form and seeing you at the award presentation! Nomination forms are available on our Web site at www.awb.org. If you would like us to fax or mail a form to you, please contact Amy Johnson at amyj@awb.org or call 800-521-9325, extension 1022.

CALL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ARTICLES

NEBC is an advocate for the use of sound science in all policy making. NEBC acts as a regional source of environmental expertise and science for local, state, and federal agencies, policy makers and the public. To that end the NEBC Board of Directors has established a working group to coordinate the collection of issues of interest to membership. The goal is to eventually maintain a collection of sources, including websites, organizations, and/or journals, that could benefit the professional development of NEBC members. The board is currently seeking input from members on which issues are of interest and a list of where individuals are looking for resources related to those topics. Please submit ideas to cara@nebc.org or via fax at 503.222.5050.

EPA'S SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is one of 12 federal agencies that participate in the SBIR Program established by the Small Business Innovation Development Act of 1982. The purpose of this Act was to strengthen the role of small businesses in federally funded R&D and help develop a stronger national base for technical innovation. An SBIR small business is defined as a for profit organization with no more than 500 employees. In addition, the small business must be independently owned and operated, at least 51 percent owned by U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted resident aliens, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is proposing, and have its principal place of business in the United States. Joint ventures and limited partnerships are eligible for SBIR awards, provided the entity created qualifies as a small business.

EPA issues annual solicitations for Phase I and Phase II research proposals from science and technology-based firms. Under Phase I, the scientific merit and technical feasibility of the proposed concept is investigated. EPA awards firm-fixed-price Phase I contracts of up to \$70,000 and the period of performance is typically 6 months. Through this phased approach to SBIR funding, EPA can determine whether the research idea, often on high-risk advanced concepts, is technically feasible, whether the firm can do high-quality research, and whether sufficient progress has been made to justify a larger Phase II effort.

Phase II contracts are limited to small businesses that have successfully completed their Phase I contracts. The objective of Phase II is to commercialize the Phase I technology. Competitive awards are based on the results of Phase I and the commercialization potential of the Phase II technology. In Phase II, EPA awards contracts of up to \$225,000 and the period of performance is typically 15 months. EPA also offers up to \$100,000 and 1 additional year as Phase II Options for firms with third party financing for accelerating commercialization or for technologies accepted into the EPA Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program.

EPA's next Phase I Solicitation will open on March 24, 2005 and close on May 25, 2005. The last [Regular SBIR Phase I Solicitation](#) is still available for reference purposes. This solicitation includes a description of the SBIR program, application requirements and research topics.

EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION TO ARC HYDRO - A NEW ARCGIS EXTENSION FOR WATER RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS

Course No. GIS-405 presented by the Northwest Environmental Training Center will be held September 15 - 16, 2004, 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. (2 Days) at the Evergreen State College CAL Lab, Lab 2 Building 2700 Evergreen Parkway, Olympia, Washington. Course Description: This two-day course provides an introduction to the Arc Hydro data model and tools for managing water resources with ArcGIS (formerly known as ArcView/ArcInfo). The course provides a brief introduction to relational database concepts and quickly transitions into using the Arc Hydro data model to build a sample model of a river basin. In the process of building up the sample model participants will learn the basic principles of the Arc Hydro data model and how the Arc Hydro tools can be used to manage and work with hydrologic data. Arc Hydro is a geospatial and temporal data model for water resources that operates within ArcGIS. This new 'framework' allows water resources professionals to do a multitude of water resource modeling. At the heart of this framework is a relational database model that provides both flexibility and power to adapt the data model to the wide array of water resources challenges and issues. Arc Hydro is a data structure that supports hydrologic simulation models, but it is not itself a simulation model. Arc Hydro comes with a set of tools to develop your database. For more information and to register call 206.762.1976.

CONTAMINANT CHEMISTRY AND TRANSPORT IN SOIL, SURFACE WATER, AND GROUNDWATER Course No. CHEM-403 presented by the Northwest Environmental Training Center on September 28 - 29, 2004, 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. at the Ecotrust Conference Center located at 721 NW 9th Avenue, Portland, Oregon. Course Description: This course provides participants with an overview of the key concepts surrounding environmental contamination and provides a foundation for understanding the release, transport and fate, sampling, analysis, and remediation of chemicals in soil, surface water, and groundwater. This material is intended for environmental professionals who are not chemists, but who require a fundamental understanding of contaminant behavior and monitoring parameters for their work. This course is recommended for all environmental professionals working with contaminated soil and water with minimal formal training in this subject. The course material will greatly enhance on-the-job training. It is also recommended for project managers seeking a review of the subject. For more information and to register call 206.762.1976.

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IN IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABILITY, FALL 2004 "Building Human Capacity for Implementing Best Practices" This integrated program provides university- level training in the concepts and tools needed to begin or enhance a sustainability program in your business, agency, or organization. The courses feature the application of key concepts and methods to your workplace. The courses are taught by practicing experts, experienced trainers, and university faculty. As part of the certificate, students develop a proposal for a sustainability-related project that will improve your organization's economic, social and environmental "triple bottom line." To register, go to www.sustain.pdx.edu/register.php

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION PROGRAM - A NEW INITIATIVE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SELECT FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES - Portland State University (PSU) offers full-time students and working adults on-line instruction, workshops and certificate programs. The long-range plan is to offer degrees in environmental, health, safety and sustainability management in partnership with select foreign universities. This program will be designed for individuals with travel and work restrictions and can be completed primarily through distance learning. To learn more, please contact Lee Kuhre at 503.725.8556 or by email at kuhrewl@pdx.edu.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY IN SINGAPORE – Environmental, Health, Safety and Sustainability (EHSS) Management Certificate Workshop will be held November 2 – 4, 2004, Singapore. This workshop will bring together experts in the environmental, health, safety and sustainability fields from Asia and the United States. They will provide valuable and practice information concerning international, regional and local issues, tools and resources. The latest environmental and safety management systems will be presented, which include strategies that not only help the environment and improve safety but also have a positive impact on the bottom line and financial stability of the organizations, regions or countries. To learn more and to register, please contact Anna Govindasamy at anna.govindasamy@mail.doc.gov.

2004 OECD TRADE MISSION TO CHINA Oregon Economic and Community Development Department will lead an Oregon trade mission to Shanghai, Zhejiang and Fujian, China in October 18 – 27, 2004. The mission goal is to offer an orientation and provide opportunities for Oregon businesses to study Eastern China market, establish potential partnerships and generate sales. All Oregon businesses are welcome; energy efficiency and environmental technology related are particularly encouraged to participate. For more information, please contact Youqing Ma, China Trade Manager, OECD, at 503.229.6062 or email youqing.ma@state.or.us

OTHER INDUSTRY EVENTS & MEETINGS

September 15, 2004, Transforming Free Trade to Fair Trade: Building Relationships for Sustainability, Oregon Natural Step Network Breakfast Meeting – Multnomah Athletic Club, 1849 SW Salmon St., Portland, 7:30 AM. Featuring Steve Smith, Founder, Tazo; David Griswold, President, Sustainable Harvest. For more information, contact ONSN at 503.241.1140 or by email at events@ortns.org or visit www.ortns.org/events.asp.

September 17, 2004, DEQ HAPS/AQ Rulemaking Public Hearing – DEQ Headquarters, Room 3A, Portland, 3:00 PM. Adopting Federal HAPs Revisions; New Source Performance Standards; and Title V Amendments. For more information, contact Jerry Ebersole, DEQ/AQ, at 503.229.6974 or by email at ebersole.Gerald@deq.state.or.us or visit www.dep.sate.or.us/qa/notices/neshaps.htm.

September 23, 2004, DEQ Air Toxics Scientific Advisory Committee (ATSAC) Meeting – 1900 Building, 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, 8:30 AM. For more information, contact Bruce Hope, DEQ/AQ at 503.229.6251 or by email at hope.bruce@deq.state.or.us.

PNCWA WATER 2004 ANNUAL CONFERENCE – Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association will host the 2004 Water Conference at Seaside, Oregon, October 24 – 27, 2004. For more information and to register, please visit www.pncwa.org.

CERCLA UPDATE

Following are two links regarding Proposed Rule from EPA: All Appropriate Inquiries that may be of interest - the first is background information and the second is a call to action from ASFE (this is for information only and individual NEBC members participate in this letter-writing campaign of their own accord):

Preston Gates & Ellis: What It Takes to Avoid Landowner Liability Under CERCLA
<http://www.prestongates.com/publications/article.asp?pubID=534>

ASFE: re campaign to request submission of letters to the EPA in support of the proposed All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI) rule http://www.asfe.org/download.cfm?file=AAI_Guidance.doc

- MEMBER-TO-MEMBER -

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

SCS Engineers: A Leader in Landfill Gas Recovery - The U.S. EPA announced on July 28, 2004, that it would join efforts with Australia, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, United Kingdom, and Ukraine to help poorer nations harvest their methane gas emissions. The immediate local benefits will be to provide clean burning fuel, reduce global warming, and improve air quality in the region. Methane emission reductions also will moderate global warming. The EPA plan would involve programs budgeted at up to \$53 million over the next five years to help the poorer nations reduce emissions of methane primarily from landfills, coal mines and oil and gas systems.

SCS Engineers (SCS) is proud to be a leader in management of LFG and the development of energy recovery systems for both the public and private sector since 1970. SCS firm has helped develop, design, install, operate, and troubleshoot LFG collection and utilization systems at more than 350 waste disposal sites in the USA, Latin America, Asia, Australia, and Africa. Since 1996, SCS has been a partner with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Air and Radiation, Methane Branch and the Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP). In general, SCS conducts educational outreach programs and provides technical assistance to potential landfill gas-to-energy (LFGTE) projects in the U.S. and developing nations.

In addition, virtually concurrent with the announcement of EPA's methane emission reduction program, the World Bank selected SCS for contract negotiations for the conduct of initial feasibility studies of LFG-to-energy at 10 landfills in 5 Latin American countries. The studies will also cover the potential for GHG emission reductions at all sites.

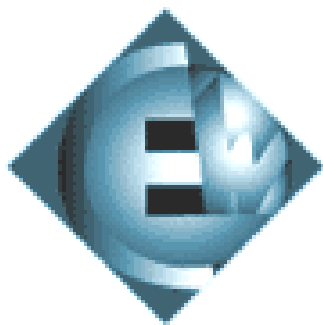
For more information and for the complete press release, please contact Scott Lester, Marketing Manager, SCS Engineers, at 425.746.4600.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

KING COUNTY COMMUNITY RELATIONS INTERN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/ROAD SERVICES DIVISION – This position is open to individuals pursuing a degree in communications, public administration, environmental education or related degree and enrolled on-half time or more for each quarter/semester for the duration of the internship (not including summer). The yearlong internship, September 2004 – August 2005, is part-time during the school year and full-time (35 hours per week) during the summer months. The primary responsibility of the Community Relations Intern is to coordinate and expand of the Adopt-a-Road program. To learn more and to apply, please contact Scott Burns at 206.263.6221.

Environmental Conference of Washington

The forum for current and emerging environmental management and policy issues
Washington State Convention & Trade Center
October 19 & 20, 2004



The Environmental Conference of Washington is part of the Association of Washington Business' (AWB) ongoing effort to keep companies informed of the numerous environmental laws, regulations and policy issues. Serving as Washington's states chamber of commerce, AWB has offered cost-effective, practical and timely information on environmental issues for over 11 years. AWB has partnered with the Northwest Environmental Business Council (NEBC) to bring you the most comprehensive forum in Washington

for in depth discussion of environmental policy, technical and regulatory issues. The conference is organized into three tracks so that you can tailor the program to meet your needs.

Interested in Exhibiting?

Reserve your booth on the tradeshow floor of this premier event now! Space is limited and the trade show has sold out the last two years in a row. The tradeshow showcases companies offering advanced environmental technologies and services. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your latest innovations and service offerings in front of decision-makers, product buyers and the regulated community. For more information, please call Cara Bergeson at 503.227.6361 or email at cara@nebc.org.

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Northwest Environmental Conference

A Forum for Practical Environmental Management



The Northwest Environmental Conference (NWEC) is the largest, most comprehensive environmental conference and tradeshow in the Pacific Northwest. NWEC's goal is to provide low-cost environmental management training to a broad range of environmental professionals.

The 2004 Conference continues more than 16 years of tradition of providing a forum to Help environmental professionals in the Pacific Northwest achieve environmental Excellence. The conference includes:

- NWEC tradeshow presented by the NEBC
- A pre-conference HAZWOPER training opportunity
- Table Talks - open discussions on hot environmental topics over breakfast

This year's conference will feature more interactive sessions, case studies, roundtable discussions facilitated breakfast table topic discussions, and plenty of networking opportunities. The conference sessions are divided into four tracks that address the needs of a diverse audience:

Tracks:

Environmental 101 – provides basic information to help businesses operate within compliance guidelines

Advanced Technical – provides practical advice on the latest technologies and techniques to improve environmental performance

Advanced Leadership and Management – highlights leading innovations in environmental management and ideas for operating “beyond compliance”

Roundtable – offers stimulating discussions on hot environmental topics

November 16 & 17, 2004

DoubleTree Jantzen Beach Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Presented by:

Associated Oregon Industries

Oregon Department of
Environmental Quality

Washington Department
of Ecology

Northwest Environmental
Business Council

www.nwec.org

Online registration coming soon.

- NEBC 2004 EVENTS CALENDAR -

October			
7	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Fifth Avenue Suites – Portland, OR
19 -20	Environmental Conference of Washington	All Day	Washington State Convention & Trade Center – Seattle, WA
November			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Legislative Update	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside – Seattle, WA
15	HAZWOPER Training	All Day	Double Tree Jantzen Beach – Portland, OR
16 - 17	Northwest Environmental Conference	All Day	DoubleTree Jantzen Beach – Portland, OR

***Events are subject change.**

- NEBC CONTACT INFORMATION -

www.nebc.org

P.O. Box 672
 Portland, OR 97207-0672
 Voice: 503.227.6361
 Toll Free: 888.609.NEBC (6322)
 Fax: 503.222.5050

Executive Director
 Susan Hanf
susan@nebc.org

Program Manager
 Cara Bergeson
cara@nebc.org

Office Manager
 Linda Sheeley
linda@nebc.org