



ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Inland Empire Chapter NEWSLETTER – February 2026

Inland Empire Chapter 2026 Officers

Chair – Darin Pendergraft, Geovision
Co-Vice Chair (North) – Juan Rodelo, Geotek
Co-Vice Chair (South) – Open
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Inland Empire Chapter News

Our second meeting of the year was our first SOUTH meeting of 2026, on February 11, 2026, which featured a presentation by Dr. Nicolas Barth, Associate Professor of Geology from the University of California, Riverside who presented "Legacy and Recurrence of Bedrock Landslides in the San Gabriel Mountains, California" and we received a visit from visit from AEG's Southern Californias Director of Region 2, Mr. Gareth Mills, PG, CEG, covering the association's status (*See Page 2 of the February Meeting Summary*).

Renew your membership today! Out of 254 members only 79 have renewed. Support our chapter, gain access to publications, and stay engaged by renewing your membership today here:

Save the Date: AEG-IE Meeting March 11th

Our next meeting will be a **NORTH** event hosted at Old Spaghetti Factory in Rancho Cucamonga on March 11, 2026.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Christopher (Chris) Stohr, a 2025-2026 Richard H Jahns Distinguished Lecturer, who will be present:

"Retrospective of the Earthline Hazardous-Waste Landfill Failure, a Case Study of Legacy Landfills and Dumps and Improving Field Inspections to Reduce Groundwater Contamination With Remarks about Geoscience in Politics."

This talk describes one of the most studied hazardous waste landfill failures then follows with a way to use remote sensing to reduce leachate production from 10,000s of similarly designed legacy landfills.

Jobs Board

Earth Systems Southwest has an open position for a Senior Engineering Geologist for the Inland Empire, Perris and Bermuda Dunes offices. Apply here:

<https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/Jobs/Details/3681721>

Geocon West, Inc. is seeking a Project Geologist or Engineer with experience managing geotechnical services for public and private projects at its Murrieta office.

Send resume to: battiato@geoconinc.com

Geoadvantec is also accepting resumes for a geologist position here:

<https://geoadvantec.com/contact/>

San Bernardino County Land Use Services is recruiting for an Engineering Geologist to perform a range of mining and geology-related work. See job opportunity here:

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sanbernardino/jobs/5216026/engineering-geologist>

February 2026, AEG-IE Meeting Summary

The AEG Inland Empire Chapter's February meeting featured a presentation by Dr. Nicolas Barth, Associate Professor of Geology at the University of California, Riverside, along with a visit from AEG Southern California Region 2 Director Gareth Mills, PG, CEG. The meeting was held at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Corona.

Mr. Mills provided an update on AEG activities, emphasizing the importance of membership renewal, upcoming opportunities associated with the 2026 Annual Meeting in Chattanooga, committee involvement, and sponsorship opportunities within the organization.

Dr. Barth's presentation focused on landslides in the San Gabriel Mountains, exploring how landslide processes, geomorphology, and geochronology inform our understanding of landscape evolution and hazards. He discussed the types of landslides common to the region, including debris flows, rockfalls, and deep-seated bedrock landslides, and compared notable examples such as the Blackhawk rock avalanche and the Claremont landslide complex. The presentation highlighted the influence of fire-flood cycles, earthquakes, and extreme storm events, such as the historic 1938 flood and more recent post-fire debris flows, and on slope instability.

Dr. Barth also summarized recent advances in landslide dating techniques and inventory mapping, including lidar-supported analyses, which reveal that many San Gabriel Mountains landslides are significantly younger than previously thought. Key takeaways included the episodic nature of erosion and sedimentation in the region, the role of large landslides in reorganizing drainage systems, and the importance of understanding landslide processes across multiple temporal scales for hazard assessment.

The following pages show Dr. Nicolas Barth presenting at the SOUTH AEG-IE February meeting held at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Corona.

February 2026



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INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

MARCH 2026 MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Greetings AEG Inland Empire Chapter Members

We hope you will join us for our 3RD 2026 AEG Inland Empire meeting. The meeting will be held Wednesday, March 11th, at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Rancho Cucamonga. This a “NORTH” venue of our roving AEG-IE meeting locations. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Meeting date:

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Location: Old Spaghetti Factory

11896 Foothill Blvd
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Time: 5:30 pm Social Hour
6:30 pm Dinner
7:30 pm Presentation



Cost: \$45 per person with advance online registration for AEG members,
\$50 without registration (RSVP or at the door) and non-members,
\$10 for students with a valid student ID and current AEG Student membership.

Food: Italian

RSVP: Register and pay online at our website aeg-ie.org

Note: This is a change to paid pre-registration, and we are transitioning away from RSVPs.

Please register prior to Noon 12 p.m., Monday March 9th

Topic and speaker:

“Retrospective of the Earthline Hazardous-Waste Landfill Failure, a Case Study of Legacy Landfills and Dumps and Improving Field Inspections to Reduce Groundwater Contamination With Remarks about Geoscience in Politics.”

Dr. Christopher (Chris) Stohr, PhD, PG, CEG

2025-2026 Richard H Jahns Distinguished Lecturer

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists

Geological Society of America, Environmental & Engineering Geology Division

See more presentation details on following page 5



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“Retrospective of the Earthline Hazardous-Waste Landfill Failure, a Case Study of Legacy Landfills and Dumps and Improving Field Inspections to Reduce Groundwater Contamination With Remarks about Geoscience in Politics”

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ABSTRACT

Subject of a landmark, legal-precedent setting trial, an unlined, hazardous-waste landfill was said by experts ‘not to leak in 100 years’ however, contaminants were detected in monitoring wells 3 meters from the burial trenches only 3 years after closure. Field and lab tests, and remote sensing measurements showed causes for the ‘faster than predicted’ contaminant migration from a hazardous waste landfill, but why?

Legacy landfills are unlined, thinly-covered cemeteries of waste similarly constructed throughout the world. Most landfill inspections mostly rely upon institutional memory and traditional ‘walk over’ traverses to identify flaws and deficiencies for written reports. These defects can be better identified and mapped by image processing of freely-available airborne lidar, historical black and white photography and modern color infrared orthoimagery using GIS technology to direct low-cost, spot repairs for maintenance and custodial care to reduce undesired contamination from legacy waste structures.

SPEAKER BIO

Dr. Christopher ‘Chris’ Stohr (retired, Illinois State Geological Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Mahomet Aquifer Council, Illinois Board of Licensing for Professional Geologists, former Champaign County [IL] Board Member [3 terms], currently 2025-2026 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer. Dr. Stohr is a professional geologist with more than 40 years of experience in applied geology, remote sensing, and environmental investigations across the United States, Africa, and South America. His career includes work with state geological surveys, international fault and nuclear facility studies, and extensive research on landslides, landfills, and remote sensing applications. Dr. Stohr is a Professional and Certified Engineering Geologist, a former Fulbright Senior Specialist, and an active member of AEG, GSA, and ASPRS.