

March 18, 2012

Rhode Island Society of Profession Land Surveyors
410 Tiogue Avenue
Coventry, RI 02816

Attention: Edward J. O'Brien, PLS, President

RE: Removal of "Engineering Surveys" from Model Law

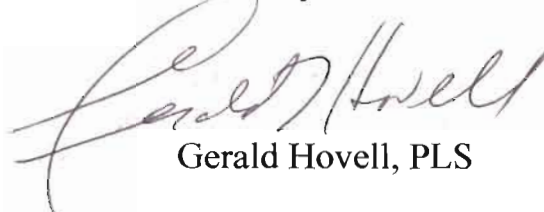
Dear Mr. O'Brien:

Your letter dated 22 August 2011 to NCEES expressing an opinion on the subject was circulated at our chapter meeting of the California Land Surveyors Association. Support for your cause was expressed across the members present and a motion was passed to express that support with a letter. In addition individual letters from the members was encouraged.

The attached letter is my contribution to the cause. Being dual licensed, I am very sensitive to the important roll of the surveyor and the loss of credibility of the plans when a surveyor did not prepare the base map and did not review the layout control.

I wish you success and hope my small contribution will assist. Good luck and we will be involved from this end.

Sincerely:



Gerald Hovell, PLS

March 18, 2012

NCEES
P.O. Box 1686
280 Sineca Creek Road
Clemson, SC 29633

Attention: Jerry Carter, Executive Director

RE: Removal of "Engineering Surveys" from Model Law

Dear Mr. Carter:

I have read a letter (Petition) to NCEES dated 22 August 2011 from the Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors urging the removal of the term "Engineering Surveys" from the NCEES Model Law. I am joining their effort and express my desire for the removal of said term.

I am a Licensed Land Surveyor in California, Arizona and Nevada and a Registered Civil Engineer in California. I have been in business as a Consultant for forty-one years in those disciplines. Construction layout is one of the services that I provide. This information is given to demonstrate the credibility of my opinion.

Many of the items noted in the definition of Engineering Surveys by the American Society of Civil Engineers are demonstrated by the information given on Grading Plans prepared by Civil Engineers. My experience gives me the opinion that the expertise shown in the layout information on the plans has suffered a heavy depreciation compared to that of the yesteryears. This information sprouts from the design survey in the first phase of the project. The topography, ties to horizontal and vertical control, location of utilities and culture and the information necessary to transfer the design to the ground is insufficient. Of course, this is not universal and the degree of lacking information varies, but the trend toward lower quality and insufficient information seems to be on a negative gradient that is increasing in that negative direction.

Time changes everything in our lives. Civil Engineering has expanded to include expertise in many topics that didn't exist a few years ago. To keep up with this engineering expertise, surveying expertise by the engineering community has been forced to suffer. I believe that is the reason for the gradual depreciation in the quality of the base information on grading plans as opposed to more sharp change in the quality.

It is time to change the Model Law criteria to the current standards and **remove the outdated Engineering Surveys**. Thank you for considering my point of view.

Sincerely,

Gerald F. Hovell, RCE, PLS, QSD, QSP
P.O. Box 394
Moorpark, CA 93202

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