



The Texas Board of Professional Engineers' (TBPE) Board e-Newsletter

March 4, 2015

The TBPE eNewsletter is your quarterly update about your Texas PE License and Board activities and is a supplement to the TBPE Express annual printed newsletter.

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Board Meeting Update

The Texas Board of Professional Engineers Quarterly Board and Committee Meetings were held February 11-12, 2015. Highlights include the following:

- **Disciplinary Actions** - All enforcement actions approved in the board meeting are posted on the TBPE website. Enforcement actions are reported based on the date of the board meeting at which the actions were taken. Refer to: <http://engineers.texas.gov/disciplinary.htm>
- **Video Clips** - Streaming video of the Board Meeting is available at <https://engineers.texas.gov/recordings.htm> Viewing these recordings qualifies for continuing education credit under the category of self-directed study. A maximum of five credit hours may be accrued for self-directed study.
- **Engineering Requirements for Utility and Telephone Projects** - The Board approved Policy Advisory Opinion (PAO) #37 in the February 12th meeting concerning utility and telephone company exemptions and requirements for providing engineering plans for construction in cities and other jurisdictions. The full text of PAO #37 and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are located at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/policy.htm#pao37>

84th Legislative Session

TBPE is reviewing all bills for relevance or impact to Professional Engineering and will include bills we are tracking on this page <http://engineers.texas.gov/legislature84.html> as they are filed.

TBPE Sponsors Engineering Awards at State Science and Engineering Fair

TBPE is a proud sponsor of the senior level engineering categories at the 2015 Texas State Science and Engineering Fair (TXSEF) and will be awarding the first annual TBPE Future Engineers Award to exceptional projects demonstrating the principles and practice of engineering. The TXSEF will be held March 26-29, 2015, in San Antonio.

<https://www.txsef.org>

★ TXSEF needs qualified judges and would like to invite all interested Texas PEs to register to help out. Go to <https://www.txsef.org> for more info and to sign up!

New TBPE Flyers

TBPE has developed several high quality informational flyers to educate the public regarding the mission of the Board, the role of engineers, how to become licensed and the benefits of licensure. Feel free to share or print these flyers. Professionally printed copies are available in limited quantities upon request.

<http://engineers.texas.gov/publications.html>

Webinars and Outreach

TBPE continues to offer ethics outreach presentations both in person and in a webinar format for the convenience of our licensees. The free webinars have been so well received that we are now adding additional events as needed.

- **Online Ethics Webinars:** The next ethics webinars are March 5-6, 2015, June 4, 2015 and September 2, 2015. Each event is limited to 1,000 attendees. Registration links for all webinars are posted at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/webinar> one month prior to each event.
- **Schedule a TBPE Presentation:** If you are interested in scheduling a live TBPE ethics presentation at your workplace, refer to our outreach page at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/outreach.html>

Criminal History Record Check

If you have completed this one-time requirement you don't need to do it again. If you haven't completed this requirement, DON'T WAIT! The process takes a few weeks. For information on this requirement, instructions or frequently asked questions, go to <http://engineers.texas.gov/recordcheck.html>

When do you need a PE on a building project?

Have you ever wondered when a PE is needed on a project? Have you needed to explain to a client or a governmental body when a PE is needed?

TBPE has developed a flowchart to determine if a Professional Engineer is required when a Texas project involves the design, erection, construction, enlargement, alteration, repair of, or the creation of plans and specs for a building. Use this one page diagram to make sure your project is in compliance with the Texas Engineering Practice Act. It is a great reference for engineers, plan reviewers, city and county officials, and owners. Go to http://engineers.texas.gov/downloads/whenaeng_required.pdf to download a copy.

Computer Based Testing

The Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam is now being delivered via computer-based testing and is available year round instead of just two times per year. Please encourage all young engineers to register online and take the FE exam - they don't need to wait for April or October any more. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.ncees.org>

And more:

Give us feedback on how we are doing by filling out our customer service survey. Please visit our website at <http://engineers.texas.gov/feedback> or call us for a paper survey. We want to hear your suggestions on how we can improve agency operations and service delivery.

In keeping with our efforts to modernize and increase communication with our licensees and the public, you can now follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and via an RSS feed. Join today!

NOTE: This email was sent from an unmonitored mailbox; direct replies will not be read.
To contact the Board, please visit our website at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/>

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