

THE FAULTLINE

Utah Seismic Safety Commission Newsletter

February 1995

Vol. 1 No.3

***House Bill 53
Doesn't Pass in
Committee Meeting.***

Representative Nora Stephens' Bill to create an emergency response trust fund was voted down by one vote at the State and Local Affairs Committee meeting on Monday, January 23. The Bill did not pass mainly because the Committee felt the dollar amount was inadequate to be effective. Representative Stephens mentioned rewriting the Bill, but it is uncertain if she will do so.

***"Earthquake Ground
Shaking in Utah"
Brochure Published
by UGS.***

The Utah Geological Survey has just published a free, non-technical brochure entitled "Earthquake Ground Shaking in Utah" (Public Information Series 29) explaining what causes ground shaking, how it affects buildings, where it occurs, and how Utah Deals with it.

***USGS Workshop on
Seismic Hazard
Mapping, Feb. 16-
17, 1995.***

The USGS is convening a workshop on seismic hazard mapping for the Intermountain West, Feb. 16-17, 1995 at the University Park Hotel. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input on potential seismic sources (fault slip rates, etc.) and attenuation relations for Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. Ultimately, this information will be used in the next generation of national seismic hazard maps.

***Four Trenches are
Opened in
Farmington.***

Mike Hylland of the UGS has opened four trenches on the Farmington Siding liquefaction-induced landslide to look at the timing of landslide events and their relation to Wasatch fault events and the climatic record, mechanism of failure, mode(s) of deformation, and hazard potential. The project is partially funded by a USGS/NEHRP grant. More trenches will be opened in March, and a field trip for interested parties will probably be held sometime in April.

5.0 Earthquake shakes Wyoming.

A 5.0 earthquake centered 18 miles west of Green River, Wyoming occurred Friday February 3, 1995 at 8:26 a.m. The earthquake occurred in an area of active Trona Mines. Friday afternoon two miners were reported missing. Both were rescued, but one later died from heart failure. Portable seismographs were used to register any aftershocks. The instrument deployment was funded by the USGS. As of Tuesday, February 7, no aftershocks have been recorded.

EERI Publishes second volume in Oral History Series.

The Earthquake Engineering Institute has published the second volume in Connections: The EERI Oral History Series, based on interviews with John A. Blume. EERI initiated the series to preserve some of the rich history of those who have pioneered in the field of earthquake engineering and seismic design. It chronicles the thinking of such prime figures as Henry J. Degenkolb, John E. Rinne, George W. Housner, Michael V. Pregnoff, and William W. Moore, to name just a few. Their reminiscences are a vital contribution to the understanding of development of seismic design and earthquake hazard reduction.

T. Leslie Youd and Patricia A. Bolton Are Elected to EERI Board of Directors.

On February 8, 1995, Patricia Bolton and Les Youd will begin three-year terms on the EERI Board. Bolton is a Senior Research Scientist at the Battelle Research Center in Seattle, Washington. Youd is Professor of Civil Engineering at Brigham Young University and the Chairman of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission.

Upcoming Events and Next USSC Meeting.....

- Feb. 16-17 USGS Workshop on Seismic Hazard-Mapping.
- Feb. 23-24 - Natural Hazards Workshop in Price, Utah, CEM.
- April 18, 1995 Energy Exercise, CEM.
- April 26-27, 1995 - Natural Hazards Workshop in Cedar City, CEM.

The next USSC meeting will be on April 20, 1995 at 9:00 a.m., in Room 1112 of the State Office Building.