



North American Chinese Geotechnical Engineers Association

2 Ada, Suite 250, Irvine, California 92618; Tel: 949-727-4466; Fax: 949-727-9242;
Website: www.nac-gea.org EIN: 27-0835587 (IRS 501c3 Organization)

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8th GEOTECHNICAL WORKSHOP

Friday September 9, 2011, 12:00pm-5:00pm

A-Level Los Angeles Room, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Ph: 213-367-0942

AGENDA:

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch and Networking
1:00pm-1:25pm Opening Remarks and Sponsors' Speeches

1) Keynote Presentation (1:25pm-1:55pm) – California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Subsurface Investigation & Groundwater Cleanup Program

Invited Speaker: **Dr. Yue Rong**, Environmental Program Manager, Los Angeles Region of California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

2) Keynote Presentation (2:00pm-2:45pm) – Caltrans Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) for Retaining Walls

Invited Speaker: **Dr. Ted Liu, PE, GE**, Senior Transportation Engineer, Branch Chief, Office of Geotechnical Design - South 1, Branch C, Caltrans District 7.

2:50pm – 3:20pm **Coffee Break**

3) Keynote Presentation (3:20pm-4:05pm)– Seismic Design Approach for Large Counterfort Wall Retaining Structures

Invited Speaker: **Dr. Andy Dodds, PE**, Senior Geotechnical Engineer, Arup, Los Angeles, CA

4) Keynote Presentation (4:10pm-4:55pm) – Rock Abutments, Conservative Anchoring Schemes vs. Subsequent Analyses for the Big Tujunga Dam project

Invited Speaker: **Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola, PE, PMP**, Principal Engineer, MWH Americas, Inc. Walnut Creek, CA

4:55pm-5:00pm Closing Remarks

COST: Members:
Consulting Firms - \$45 , Government Employees and Students \$25 (RSVP before August 31)

Non-members:
Consulting Firms - \$65, Government Employees and Students -\$45 (RSVP before August 31)

RSVP after August 31, add \$20. Walk-in without RSVP: add \$30

You are a member if you attended any of our previous workshops. New members will pay \$25 annual membership fee

RSVP: Dr. Jianping Hu, PE, GE (Jianping.hu@ladwp.com or 213-367-0942)



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Prestigious Speakers for the 8th NACGEA Geotechnical Workshop



**Dr. Yue Rong, Program Manager
California Regional Water Quality
Control Board, Los Angeles Region**

Dr. Yue Rong (a.k.a. "Y.R.") is Program Manager for the Underground Storage Tank Program at the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region. He has more than 18 years experience with the Board in dealing with groundwater contamination problems in the Los Angeles area. In the first 7 years with the Board, Dr. Rong worked with the USEPA in groundwater cleanup of chlorinated volatile organic solvents pollution in the San Fernando Valley Superfund area. Now, he has been a senior staff member of the Board's multi-disciplinary team in dealing with MTBE groundwater contamination problems in the Charnock and Arcadia well fields in Santa Monica, California since 1997. He is also an Associate Editor for the peer-reviewed journal of Soil and Sediment Contamination and an Associate Editor for the Journal of Environmental Forensics.

Dr. Ted Liu spent about 10 years with engineering consulting firms and has joined Caltrans since 1998. He is responsible for geotechnical services and review for South 1, Branch C of Caltrans Office of Geotechnical Design. Dr. Liu graduated from National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan in 1982, and obtained his Master's and PhD degrees from UCLA in 1986 and 1994, respectively. He was an invited keynote speaker for NACGEA and actively provides training seminars for consulting geotechnical engineers.



**Dr. Ted Liu, PE, GE
Senior Transportation Engineer,
Caltrans District 7**



**Dr. Andy Dodds, PE
Senior Geotechnical Engineer,
Arup**

Dr. Andy Dodds, Senior Geotechnical Engineer and Associate with Arup, has over 17 years of consulting experience in the fields of civil and geotechnical/earthquake engineering, working in the USA, New Zealand, Malaysian, United Kingdom and Australia markets. He obtained his PhD from USC and is a registered Civil Engineer in the state of California. His diverse industry experience includes highway, port, underground railway station, light rail system, green field, coastal reclamation, dam remediation, rugged terrain, high speed rail, and transit-orientated development projects. In addition to his consulting skills, he is experienced in applied geotechnical research, and utilizing advanced numerical programs for engineering needs.

Mr. Iso-Ahola is a Principal Engineer at MWH Americas, Inc., serving in a lead role in MWH's dams sector and managing projects involving stability analyses, rehabilitation evaluations, geotechnical investigations, and overall design services for numerous dams in California. He holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland, MBA from UC Davis, and is a certified Project Management Professional. He is currently serving as the Project Manager for the nearly complete \$100M Big Tujunga Dam Spillway and Seismic Rehabilitation Project, which is located in the San Gabriel Mountains northeast of Sunland, CA.



**Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola, PE, PMP
Principal Engineer
MWH Americas, Inc.**



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8th NACGEA Geotechnical Workshop Presentation Abstracts

Dr. Yue Rong: This presentation will introduce Los Angeles Regional Board functions, permits, subsurface investigation in groundwater cleanup program, policies and requirements for geotechnical and geo-environmental related services.

Dr. Ted Liu: Recently, Caltrans has required consulting engineers to use LRFD methodology for retaining walls design in California. This presentation will provide Caltrans amendment and practices, detailed design procedures and examples.

Dr. Andy Dodds: This presentation will discuss a seismic design approach applied to large counterfort wall retaining structures for a port expansion project in Sydney, Australia. The approach provided a means of linking factor of safety calculations with numerical modeling using Newmark sliding block analyses. This rationalized approach to seismic design demonstrated overall adequacy in design, overcoming the initial shortcomings of the factor of safety design approach.

Mr. Vik Iso-Ahola: This presentation is about anchoring of the abutments for Big Tujunga Dam in the Sierra Madre Mountain Range, northeast of Sunland, California. The nearly complete \$100 million Big Tujunga Dam is undergoing Seismic Rehabilitation. Conservative Anchoring Schemes were considered for rock abutments during original design. The subsequent analysis results were compared with initial conservative anchoring schemes during construction. The presentation discusses the comparison of the revised design and lessons learned after construction.



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8th NACGEA Geotechnical Workshop Advertisement / Sponsorship

Company Presentation at Luncheon (Limited to 3 Companies)

- Gold:** \$500 for 5 minutes presentation.
Silver: \$300 for 3 minutes presentation
Bronze: \$100 for 1 minutes speech

Company Marketing Souvenir to Speakers Each Souvenir Limit to \$25 Value

Please contact NACGEA Secretary-General:

Dr. Jianping Hu, PE, GE
LADWP
111 North Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90051
Ph: 213-367-0942
Email: Jianping.hu@ladwp.com