



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in all disciplines, especially the geosciences, and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto.

To require its members to uphold, develop and maintain the highest professional standards in the practice of their profession, as described in the Institute's Code of Ethics and Conduct.

2001 REPORT

To

SPONSORING BODIES

Athlone

December 5th 2001

1. INTRODUCTION

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland (“IGI”) was formed in 1999 to promote the science and profession of geology in Ireland and, *inter alia*, to raise the awareness of the importance of geology to society. It is supported and sponsored by the Irish Association for Economic Geology, International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group), Institution of Engineers of Ireland (Geotechnical Section), Irish Mining and Quarrying Society, and by the Geophysical Association of Ireland. We wish to take this opportunity to again thank these associations for this support. We also wish to thank the Geology Department, University College Dublin, for providing office space for the Institute.

2. 2001 IGI REPORT

2.1. IGI DIRECTORY

The IGI Members Directory for 2001 was launched by Minister Joe Jacob on the 29th May. It was distributed to all IGI Members, Government Departments, Local Authorities, Consulting Engineers, Mining Companies and other users of geological services.

In his speech launching the Directory the Minister recognised the value of geology and noted that *“The need for professionalism is recognised globally by geologists and many other professions. The IGI has responded to this need by setting the high standards required. The State through its agencies is committed to supporting the aims and objectives of the IGI. We recognise the Institute as the self-regulatory body for professional certification of geologists in Ireland.”*

2.2. THE PGEO TITLE AND THE “QUALIFIED PERSON” CONCEPT

The Exploration and Mining Division of the Department of the Marine and Natural Resources has announced that from 1st January 2002, all geological reports lodged in connection with State Mining Facilities must be signed by a ‘qualified person’. The ‘qualified person’ must have a recognised geoscience degree, at least 5 years experience in the relevant field, and be a member of a relevant recognised professional association, such as the IGI. The PGeo is thus one of several professional qualifications that are recognised.

The IGI has welcomed this development as a step in increasing professional standards and is in discussion with other regulatory bodies to adopt a similar approach.

The IGI has meetings planned with other regulatory and statutory bodies with the objective of promoting this policy.

2.3. EFG AFFAIRS

The IGI is affiliated to the European Federation of Geologists (“EFG”). The nations at present represented in the Federation as Full Members are; Belgium, Czech Republic,

Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. In addition to these Full Members, Bulgaria, Iceland, Norway, Romania, Turkey and Canada are present as Observer Members, while the American association is an Associate Member.

The EFG has adopted a system of multi-lateral recognition between the affiliated geological associations. All of these associations have agreed to accept each other's accredited degree courses, and have agreed a formula, which defines a professional geologist. Candidates who meet the requirements are awarded the professional title of European Geologist (EurGeol) and are entered on the EFG Register.

The European Commission, in reply to a question by Mr. Gerard Collins MEP earlier this year, confirmed that it "*fully supports this move by the EFG, since it is likely to facilitate free movement of geologists within the Community*".

In Canada the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) have now announced that they will accept a person who holds the title European Geologist for purposes of signing off reports submitted to the Canadian stock exchanges.

The IGI, as part of a new initiative by the EFG, has now been licensed to award the EurGeol title. As a result the title will be offered to all PGeo members on payment of an annual registration fee, which in 2002 will be set at the much-reduced rate of €15. It is hoped that all PGeo members will avail of this opportunity.

2.4. IGI RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS

As part of its drive to increase the value of the PGeo title as an international technical passport the IGI has entered into a reciprocal recognition agreement with the Geological Society whereby each body recognises the other's professional title. Negotiations are on-going with a number of other international geoscientific bodies.

As part of the agreement with the Geological Society IGI members can purchase GS publications and attend GS conferences on the same terms and conditions as GS members, and *vice versa*.

2.5. CODES AND GUIDELINES

2.5.1. Continuing Professional Development

The need to bring the training of geologists into line with the requirements of a modern profession was identified as one of the key issues addressed at the early meetings of the original Professional Affairs Committee, which subsequently evolved into the IGI.

Over the past 2 years the IGI has been developing its CPD policy, practice and procedures. After a number of meetings and workshops the CPD Code comes into effect

on a compulsory basis from January 2002. Details of the Code, including a Guidebook and Reporting Forms can be downloaded from the IGI website at www.igi.ie

As part of its' CPD programs the IGI recognises the courses and workshops that the Sponsoring Bodies provide to assist members to improve their technical expertise.

2.5.2. Resources and Reserves

Significant developments have taken place over the past number of years towards producing consistent standard reporting definitions for Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves. In Australia, Canada New Zealand, and South Africa similar codes for the reporting of mineral exploration results, mineral resources and mineral reserves are incorporated into stock exchange listing rules. The standard currently incorporated by the United Kingdom and Ireland stock exchanges is under review.

As part of the process to bring reporting standards into line with their international counterparts the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (IMM), the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) and the Institute of Geologists of Ireland (IGI) have adopted a Reporting Code that reflects international developments. This revised version of the Reporting Code therefore replaces the 1991 Definitions of Reserves and Resources that have been in general use in UK and Ireland. This Reporting Code is consistent with the international developments previously outlined and will be reviewed from time to time as necessary.

The Reporting Code has built on earlier versions by other CMMI participants and is more explicit in dealing with diamonds, other gemstones, coal, industrial minerals, stone and aggregates. Generic terms used in this code, their equivalents and intended meaning are also listed for clarity. As the latest version within the CMMI group, this Reporting Code will probably be taken forward as the basis for the International Reporting Code.

The Reporting Code was approved by the Council of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy on 24 May 2001, by the Board of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland on 13 June 2001, and by the Council of the European Federation of Geologists on 17 June 2001 and is binding on their individual members. Copies of the Reporting Code can be downloaded from the IGI website at www.igi.ie

2.5.3. Geological Content of Environmental Impact Assessments

An IGI Working Group is at an advanced stage in drafting proposed guidelines on the geological issues that should be considered in Environmental Impact Assessments. A Consultation Draft will be circulated for comment in early 2002.

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