

May 28, 2014

Dear members of the NSGS and colleagues,

Over the past three years, you have received numerous updates regarding development of a closer working relationship and merger with the Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS) in a new-to-form Near-Surface Subsidiary of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG). We strongly believed that such a merger was in the best interests of NSGS and EEGS members, the SEG, and the broader near-surface geophysics community. With your support, this process was in its final phase.

To my surprise, on May 13<sup>th</sup>, I was informed by SEG President Don Steeples that, due to unforeseen budget constraints, the SEG Board of Directors had voted “to discontinue pursuit of a Near-Surface Subsidiary and the hiring of a Director, Near Surface”. This vote has effectively ended negotiations with the EEGS and thus a possible merger of the two organizations.

The NSGS Executive Committee is extremely disappointed with this decision, as a great opportunity has been lost. On behalf of the NSGS Executive Committee, I wish to acknowledge the Near-Surface Task Force members of both SEG and EEGS, whose vision and tireless efforts brought our two organizations closer together.

Despite this highly unexpected situation, the NSGS Executive Committee remains committed to our members. As we work to define our options for a path forward that will best enable NSGS to serve the near-surface community we welcome and encourage comment from you. We very much hope that you will continue to support us in this quest.

Please contact me with your thoughts and questions regarding this development and way forward.

Sincerely,

Remke Van Dam

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