



## Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

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| <b>Agency name</b>                                 | Board for Geology  |
| <b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation</b> | 18VAC70-11   |
| <b>Regulation title</b>                            | Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs)   |
| <b>Action title</b>                                | Repeal of Geology PPGs Due to Merger with the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals |
| <b>Final agency action date</b>                    | June 13, 2012  |
| <b>Document preparation date</b>                   | June 15, 2012  |

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

### Summary

*Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.*

After a comprehensive review across state government, Governor McDonnell's Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring recommended the merger of the Board for Geology with the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals. At its 2012 Session, the General Assembly passed legislation endorsing the proposal to merge the Board for Geology with the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals, and Governor McDonnell signed the bills (HB 1291 and SB 678 – Chapter 803 of the Acts of Assembly). By statute, effective July 1, 2012, these two boards will become one. Therefore, the Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs) for the Board for Geology must be repealed as the PPGs for the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals will be amended to reflect the new board name and will be in effect for the newly merged board.

**Statement of final agency action**

*Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.*

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Pursuant to HB 1291 and SB 678 (Chapter 803 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly), the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation is filing this exempt action to repeal the Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs) for the Board for Geology to conform to the new laws becoming effective on July 1, 2012.

**Family impact**

*Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.*

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A family impact has not been identified.