



AGC of Texas
Highway, Heavy, Utilities & Industrial Branch
E-BULLETIN

QUICK LINKS:

[August 2009 CD Request Form](#)

July 30, 2009

**SENATE DEBATING S. 1005 THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCING ACT OF 2009 - MEMBER ACTION NEEDED!**

[State Drinking Water Funding Levels](#)

[State Clean Water Funding Levels](#)

The U.S. Senate is debating S. 1005 the Water Infrastructure Financing Act of 2009. All members are urged to contact Senators Cornyn and Hutchison and ask that they vote in favor of this important legislation. The bill authorizes \$20 billion over 5 years for the Wastewater SRF program, \$14.7 billion over 5 years for the Safe Drinking Water SRF program, and \$1.8 billion for SCO grants of 5 years. This represents a significant increase in funding for water infrastructure programs.

All members are encouraged to go to the AGC of America Legislative Action Center and use the following link to write your Senators:

http://www.bipac.net/issue_alert.asp?g=AGC&issue=SRF&parent=AGC

Please review the attached charts detailing funding levels for both programs through 2014.

AGC Website Going Members-Only

The newly-renovated AGC of Texas website will become password-protected beginning in September. We hope you have had sufficient time to navigate through the site and become accustomed to it.

There will still be open access portions of the site in order for prospective members to view what AGC offers; however, many of the areas-such as the directory listings or letting results page-will now require you to have an AGC password and username to view.

Sometime between now and September, click on the "Login" link in top right-hand side of the Home page, then click "Register" and follow the directions. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Casto at ccasto@agctx.org.

Auction Donors and Gold Sponsors Needed!

For those of you wanting to show your company name at the Trade Show this year, the brochure is being finalized in two weeks. If you want to get optimum name saturation for your sponsorship, as well as get pictures of your auction donations in the brochure, be sure to get your commitments in within the next two weeks. This year, we need donations more than ever. Send your auction information or sponsor requests to Danielle Kraus at dkraus@agctx.org. Please support your AGC!

TCEQ Sends Drought Notice Reminder: TIER II CHEMICAL REPORTING PROGRAM

[Quick Start Instructions](#)

[Filing Checklist](#)

Facilities covered by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) must submit an emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form each year to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the State Emergency Response Commission (Department of State Health Services Tier II Chemical Reporting Program) and the local fire department. Texas requires the Tier II form in an electronic format that requires basic facility identification information, employee contact information for both emergencies and non-emergencies, and additional information about chemicals used or stored at the facility. Annual reporting is required by both federal and state law by March 1 of each year. The hazardous materials that you had on-site during the previous calendar year in amounts at or above the prescribed thresholds must be reported.

Attached are instructions for filing online with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

All members are reminded to file your annual report if you have not already done so for this year. For more information on the program, please contact Jennifer Newton at the chapter office 512/478-4691 or jnewton@agctx.org.

TxDOT Schedules DBE Methodology Meeting

TxDOT has called a meeting for industry partners to discuss the methodology for setting DBE Goals for FY 2010. The meeting will be held August 17 at the TxDOT Riverside Campus, 200 E. Riverside/Austin, 78704, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the availability of ready, willing and able DBEs. The more contractors who present testimony, the more accurate their information will be. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Ogden at kogden@agctx.org.

USDA Announces Round 1 of Rural Water Projects

[USDA National Backlog List](#)

[USDA ARRA Waste & Water Projects](#)

Please be advised that USDA has indicated that the attached rural water/wastewater projects in your state are ready to proceed to bid. This constitutes about 1/3 of USDA's water projects. Also attached for your use is the master list distributed some time ago. For USDA RUS contacts in your state please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/scrty/sdirs.html>

NCTCOG Currently Accepting Grant Applications for Construction Equipment

NCTCOG is now accepting applications for the replacement, repower, or retrofit of construction equipment used in the nine-county DFW ozone nonattainment area. The clean construction equipment projects, up to \$5 million worth, will be awarded based on a modified first-come, first-served basis in one week intervals. Applications are due to NCTCOG by 5 pm each Friday through March 26, 2010. Call 1.800.608.2328 or visit www.nctcog.org/aqfunding for further information on the Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Equipment Grant Program and for program materials, including application forms.

Upcoming OSHA "Safety Blitz"

This is a reminder that OSHA is conducting a "Safety Blitz" of the State of Texas. According to several sources, Houston, Dallas, Austin and San Antonio are the major cities that OSHA is targeting. Word has it that OSHA inspectors from out of State are conducting "drive-by" inspections related to the top four hazards on construction sites, commonly referred to as the "Focus Four." The accidents related to these hazards include falls, electrocution, excavation and trenching, and struck-by incidents. Reports about other violations include having no documentation for regular and frequent inspections, fire extinguishers not marked, or expired, and lack of adequate training for Competent Persons. Another rumor about the Blitz is that OSHA is especially targeting projects that were awarded using "stimulus" funds.

NOMINATIONS FOR NATIONAL AGC DIRECTORS

Contractor members should be receiving a nominating ballot from AGC of America for 2010 directors. The chapter is supporting the re-nomination of AGC of Texas members Jack Albert with Reece Albert, Inc. and Art Daniel with A R Daniel Construction Services. In addition, the AGC of Texas is supporting building contractors Terry Ray with Terry Ray Construction, Inc. and Preston McAfee with Rogers-O'Brien Construction Co. We hope you will join the chapter in active support of these individuals.

2009 Nominating Committee: In accordance with the chapter constitution and by-laws, the 2009 Nominating Committee has been appointed by President Jack Albert and consists of the seven most recent, active past presidents of the chapter. The 2009 Nominating Committee members are:

Chairman, Tracy Schieffer, A.L. Helmcamp, 903/626-5911
Jim Andoga, Austin Bridge & Road, 214/596-7320
Zack Burkett, III, Zack Burkett Company, 940/549-0436
Terry Bryant, Jones Bros Dirt & Paving Construction, Inc. 432/332-0721
Art Daniel, A.R. Daniel Construction Services, Inc., 972/291-3304
John R. Weisman, Hunter Industries, LTD, 512/353-7757
Jim Bradley, Capital Excavation Company, 512/440-1717

If you wish to make a recommendation for the chapter board of directors please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. If you would like to present your recommendation to the Nominating Committee, they will meet Wednesday, September 9 at 11:00 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. or immediately following the membership luncheon, and again Tuesday, October 20 at 9:30 a.m. All three meetings will be held at the chapter office, 300 Barton Springs Road in Austin. Members are encouraged to contact any of the committee members and make nominations for chapter directors for 2010-2011.

In addition to directors, the chapter Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for Life Members. The chapter constitution and by-laws state: Section 3. The Branch may, by affirmative vote of the members, at the recommendation of the Directors, grant the title "Life Member" to any individual who has ceased to be active in the construction industry providing the individual, firm, or corporation has been an active member for at least five years prior to nomination as a "Life Member".

Please send recommendations to the chapter office by fax, 512/478-7936, mail to P.O. Box 2185, Austin, Texas 78768, or to dkoehler@agctx.org.

Commission Results

Below are the results of the Highway Maintenance and Department Building Construction and Highway and Transportation Enhancement Building Construction contracts from the July 30, 2009 Texas Transportation Commission meeting held in San Angelo, Texas.

Highway Maintenance and Department Building Construction: Of the 9 state let highway maintenance and department building construction contracts, all were awarded except 1.

<u>District</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project No.</u>
Pharr	Hidalgo	CBC - 470400884

Highway and Transportation Enhancement Building Construction: Of the 30 Non-Arra projects, all were awarded. Of the 18 ARRA projects, all were awarded for a total of 48 projects.

August and September Letting Estimates

The August letting is estimated at \$520.22 million for 73 projects. The letting dates are August 10 and 11. The monthly luncheon will be held August 11 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Austin, with special guest David Casteel, who will go over the department's 24-month letting forecast.

The recently approved September letting (which can be found toward the bottom of the page at <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/business/schedule.htm> --make sure to view the "Delayed/Rescheduled Information" link under the Statewide FY 2010 Projects headers. The September estimate is currently \$306.90 million for 120 projects.