

MEMO

DATE: November 22, 2010

TO: Member Board Administrators and Testing Services

FROM: Tim Miller, P.E., Director of Examination Services

RE: Notice of Future Changes to NCEES Exams and Supporting Materials

In the October 2011 exam administration, NCEES will implement changes to two examinations. This letter provides Member Boards and testing services with the 1-year notice required by the NCEES *Manual of Policy and Position Statements*, Exam Development Policy 9. Also included are reminders about upcoming changes to the April 2011 exams, first reported to Member Boards and testing services in April 2010.

October 2011 Administration

In the October 2011 exam administration, NCEES will implement changes to the following Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exams.

- **PE Control Systems**—The PE Control Systems exam has revised specifications. The new exam specifications are attached and are also posted online at ncees.org.
- **PE Civil Geotechnical**—The PE Civil Geotechnical afternoon module has revised specifications. Several topic areas have been reorganized. No knowledge areas were added or deleted; they were simply reorganized to provide clarity during item development. The reorganized specification is attached. The specification will be posted online 6 months before the October 2011 exam.

April 2011 Administration

In the April 2011 exam administration, NCEES will implement changes to the following exams. The new exam specifications, design standards, and *Sample Questions and Solutions* are available online at ncees.org.

- **PE Chemical**—The PE Chemical exam has revised specifications.
- **PE Civil**—The design standards for the Construction, Transportation, and Structural modules of the PE Civil exam have been revised.
- **PE Environmental**—The PE Environmental exam has revised specifications.
- **Structural Engineering**—The 16-hour Structural Engineering exam will be offered for the first time in the April 2011 administration.

The Structural Engineering exam is a two-component exam with the Vertical Forces component offered on Friday and the Lateral Forces component offered on Saturday. Examinees may take either or both

components in any exam administration. They must obtain acceptable results on *both* components before passing the exam.

NCEES will use the Examinee Management System to track the attempts each examinee makes on a component and report results to the boards. Once an examinee receives acceptable results on both components, NCEES will send an exam pass notice to the board to indicate the candidate has passed the Structural Engineering exam.

Examinees will be required to select either or both components of the Structural Engineering exam in the Examinee Management System when they register with NCEES. They will also be required to select Buildings or Bridges for the PM module of each component. Examinees will not be allowed to change components or modules on exam day.

Additional information about the Structural Engineering exam is posted on ncees.org.