



# San Bernardino & Riverside Counties Branch

Celebrating 56 years of Service

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## President's Message

I would like to bring you attention to an issue that has far-reaching effects on construction costs, pollution, traffic jams, and resource conservation. Could it be “gas-guzzling” vehicles? The increasing cost of construction materials? How about grade separations? No, I want to bring you attention the subject of aggregate mining. Granted, in the high-profile subjects of global-warming and water shortages the unglamorous subject of aggregate mining is easily overlooked. However there is a genuine crisis in regards to the production and transportation of sand, gravel, and stone used for construction projects, particularly in Riverside County. ASCE has a policy to promote the funding and maintenance of our nation’s infrastructure. If infrastructure is the “built-environment” then aggregates is the core ingredient to making construction of our infrastructure a physical reality. Therefore advocating for continuing permitting of new and local aggregate mining operations is as essential as supporting the public awareness and funding of infrastructure projects. Consider the following;

Just 1 mile of a single-lane road requires 20,000 tons of aggregate amounting to about 850 truckloads. Think about the fuel consumption if each truck is making a two-way trip. Source; [www.distancematters.org](http://www.distancematters.org).

The product cost doubles for every 30 miles the material is transported. This is the reason that permitting of new aggregate mines should be local to areas of construction activity to reduce construction costs, fuel consumption, and traffic congestion. New permits take anywhere from 5-10 years for approval. Many of the currently permitted operations, totaling an estimated 5.3 billion tons statewide, will see their supplies exhausted in about 9 years. Southern California will need an estimated 6.7 billion tons of aggregate over the next 50 years. Every square foot of road, sidewalk, and parking lot needs aggregate. Every back-filled utility trench, concrete slab and column requires aggregate materials. I encourage you to read about the “Construction Aggregate Crisis in Riverside County” at [www.aggregatecrisis.com](http://www.aggregatecrisis.com). This website and the links provided on the Resources tab will lead to you most of the information contained in this article. Click on Take Action Tab to stay informed and offer your support.

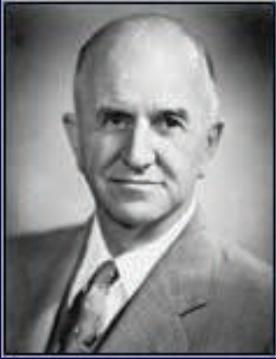
Brian D. Wolfe, PE ASCE President, San Bernardino/Riverside Counties Branch of the LA Section of ASCE



NEWSLETTER



**Renew Today  
and Your Section  
Could Win \$1,250!**



When Stephen D. Bechtel, Sr. officially retired in 1960, he had expanded annual sales of his business from \$20 million to \$463 million. Remaining an active member of the Board until his death in 1989, Bechtel helped his son Stephen Jr. guide the company. By 1997 the Bechtel Corporation, still family owned, had annual revenues of \$11.3 billion with projects ranging from transit systems and airports to semiconductor factories.

## Engineering History

### Stephen D. Bechtel, Sr. (1900—1989)

*"We'll build anything for anybody, no matter what the location, type or size."*

Stephen D. Bechtel, Sr., the well-dressed, gregarious businessman with a penchant for organizing large projects, was responsible for twentieth-century engineering marvels such as the Hoover Dam and the Trans Arabian pipeline. Throughout his 70-year career in construction, kings, presidents, and business magnates knew "Steve" Bechtel as the boldest and most visionary builder of his generation.

Born in Aurora, Indiana on Sept. 24, 1900 to Warren and Clara Bechtel, Steve and his siblings spent most of their childhood on construction sites along the Pacific coast. After serving as a motorcycle dispatch rider with the 20th Army Engineers in France during World War I, he attended the University of California at Berkeley for one year before dropping out in order to work full time with his father.

Growing prosperity in the West prompted Warren Bechtel to create the San Francisco based W.A. Bechtel Company in 1925, naming his youthful son Steve Vice President. In 1931 the father and son team helped to organize a consortium called Six Companies, Inc., which bid on and won the largest civil engineering contract of its day, the [Hoover Dam](#). Initially Steve was in charge of transportation and administration, but when his father suddenly died in 1933, the 33-year-old was thrust in the role of project chief executive. The young Bechtel met the challenge and helped to steer the project to completion two years ahead of schedule and \$1.5 million dollars under budget.

The Hoover Dam experience whetted Bechtel's appetite for large-scale construction projects, and he soon turned his growing management prowess to the task of building the landmark 8.2-mile [San Francisco-](#)

[Oakland Bay Bridge](#). During World War II Bechtel teamed up with Berkeley school friend John A. McCone to build petroleum refineries, chemical plants, and more than 460 freighters and 90 tankers for the war effort. At the same time he organized the construction of the monumental 1,580-mile Canol pipeline through Canada's Yukon Territory to Alaska, thus supplying the Pacific theater with needed petroleum for the war effort.

After the war, Steve Bechtel formed the Bechtel Corporation. Having mastered railroads, bridges, dams, and pipelines, the new company turned its attention to nuclear power. The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) contracted with Bechtel in 1949 to build the Experimental Breeder Reactor (EBR-1), the world's first fast breeder reactor. The reliability demands associated with nuclear power design and construction led to what Bechtel referred to as "turnkey" construction. Under the turnkey concept, a product would be designed, built, and fully operational by a specific date for a fixed fee. In order to achieve turnkey efficiency, Steve Bechtel developed a corporation with the technical, financial, and organizational expertise to handle projects of any size in any country.

Because so many of Bechtel's projects were tied to emerging U.S. government policies or assumed high profiles in the development of other nations, several of Bechtel's associates and employees moved on to important posts in the U.S. government. John A. McCone became Chairman of the AEC and later director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Bechtel employees such as Caspar W. Weinberger, George P. Shultz, John L. Moore, Richard Helms, Philip Habib and W. Kenneth Davis would hold prominent cabinet and diplomatic positions in various U.S. administrations.

**California bridge may need more repairs, officials say**

The San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge may need to close again for permanent repairs, according to state engineers who have daily inspections planned. The bridge reopened on Monday, and repairs include reinforced parts that reduce friction and control vibration, officials said. "We've taken care of what we believe are the big issues that led to this failure," California DOT Chief Engineer Rick Land said. Still, officials noted that they hope to create a long-term strategy that won't require day-to-day inspections. [Google/The Associated Press](#) (11/3)

**Los Alamos toxic waste could contaminate groundwater**

Nuclear waste at the Los Alamos National Laboratory has been seeping into streams near the Rio Grande in New Mexico. Around 18 million cubic feet of waste is stored at Los Alamos, and it could contaminate drinking water supplies for 250,000 residents. While Los Alamos has begun an extensive cleanup of surface sites, the cleanup does not extend to groundwater deep below the surface. [Los Angeles Times](#) (11/1)

**L.A. highway interchange regarded as work of art**

A highway interchange in Los Angeles called the Stack serves as a visual symbol of the automobile-centric city. The Stack is the first four-level connector interchange in the country and marks the intersection of the Pasadena, Harbor, Hollywood and Santa Ana freeways. The interchange has commanded new respect as a work of art, and artist Yutaka Sone even carves replicas of intersections such as the Stack in white marble. [The New York Times](#) (free registration)

**Student enrollment in engineering, computer programs jumps 8%**

Students enrolling in college are showing increased interest in computer science and engineering, according to the Computing Research Association. During the 2007-08 school year, new enrollment in such programs climbed 8%. "The economic downturn has made us turn away from some of the other fields that have been on the rise in the past; now people are going back to what really is the bottom line: production," said Amir Mirmiran, dean of the college of engineering at Florida International University. [The Miami Herald](#) (11/8)

**Conference takes engineers "From Builders to Integrators"**

The Society's 139th Annual Conference in Kansas City, Mo., ended with laughs, plus a desire to help others. Comedian, pundit and actor Ben Stein provided the laughs at the closing general session breakfast, while also stressing that investment in infrastructure, and more of it, is what has and will keep our nation great. Sunday, members volunteered their time and labor at Heartland Therapeutic Riding in nearby Stillwell, Kan., in the annual post-conference community service event. Heartland provides therapy to children and adults with disabilities through interaction with horses. Next year's 140th Conference is set for Las Vegas -- mark your 2010 calendar for Oct. 21-23. [View a photo gallery](#) of Conference highlights; more photos are being added. Review the [Conference program](#). Learn more about ways to give your time and promote the profession through [ASCE-sponsored volunteer activities](#).

**Commission OKs California solar power line**

The California Public Utilities Commission last week approved a transmission line that will carry renewable energy from the state's desert areas to coastal urban centers. Observers say the approval may speed up solar projects now in the planning stage. The \$537 million, 500-kilovolt line will span 170 miles across the state. [CleanTechnica](#) (11/29)

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## November Luncheon Meeting Recap

The branch was pleased to welcome 63rd District California State Assemblyman Bill Emmerson to our November branch luncheon meeting at Old Spaghetti Factory in Rancho Cucamonga. The 63rd district encompasses all of Redlands, Grand Terrace, Loma Linda and Rancho Cucamonga; it is also parts of Colton, Fontana, San Bernardino, Upland and Yucaipa. Bill spoke to us about recent legislative activities on the state's Water crisis.



"..California is in the midst of a serious water crisis. Our search for a secure, safe and reliable water supply delivered by an effective distribution system is the top debate in Sacramento. For too long, Californians have suffered from an inadequate, inefficient water system regulated at times by complex and overlapping local, state and federal programs. Lawmakers have debated water policies for years, but partisan bickering has only left Californians with the crisis we face..."

The water crisis is the direct result of inadequate planning for our state's water future. The state currently operates under a decades-old system that was designed to serve a population of 18 million -- not today's population of 38 million Californians. With three consecutive years of below-average rainfall compounded by federal pumping restrictions and an aging water infrastructure, California is now faced with a severe water shortage that threatens the state's economy. It's becoming increasingly important that we address this crisis in a balanced way so that we can ensure clean and reliable drinking water for Inland Empire families as well as restore jobs to Californians.

While water conservation plays a valuable role, it's clear that unless our state's entire water infrastructure system is overhauled, we simply will not be able to provide for the water needs of future generations. One solution is to expand and improve water storage in order to capture more rainfall and snowmelt during the winter. In addition, by expanding the use of recycled water, we will relieve some of the pressure on surface storage during light rainfall years. Furthermore, it's of the utmost importance that we improve the conveyance of water so we can distribute this vital resource more efficiently to Southern California. Through conveyance, we can bypass federal pumping restrictions while protecting the delta, resulting in more water for the Inland region.

If we do not implement these reforms immediately, Californians will continue to see the devastating consequences of a partisan stalemate. Already, California's farmers have been severely impacted as approximately 500,000 acres have been fallowed resulting in a nearly \$2.2 billion loss in revenue, according to the California Farm Bureau Federation. California must find a comprehensive solution to our state's water woes now. Creating another layer of bureaucracy will not produce one more drop of water.

Dear Interested Party:

On behalf of the American Society of Civil Engineers' Environmental & Water Resources Institute, I am pleased to announce the selection of Palm Springs, California for to the 2011 World Environmental & Water Resources Congress in, May 22-26, 2011. The Congress Steering Committee is putting together a program that is intellectually and professionally stimulating as well as providing plenty of opportunities for networking with your peers. The program will include outstanding plenary sessions and technical presentations that address the congress theme. It will also be the site of our annual committee meetings and offer fun social events that allow us to renew old friendships and make new ones. There will be opportunities for exhibits, co-sponsorships, cooperating organizations, student and international activities and much more.

The World Environmental & Water Resources Congress is an important opportunity for professionals in the environmental and water fields to convene and focus on topics of the day. This year's technical program focuses on the "Bearing Knowledge for Sustainability", our theme which is currently under development. It is important that the environmental and engineering community integrate sustainability, in dealing with today's issues whether they be technical, economic, social, environmental or political.

Please join us in Palm Springs and let the world benefit not only from the technical program, but also from your personal involvement.

Mark W. Killgore, M. ASCE, P.E., D.WRE (Mark.Killgore@pse.com)  
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R. Edward Beighley II, A.M. ASCE, Ph.D. ([Beighley@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:Beighley@mail.sdsu.edu))  
Technical Program Chair  
Bill Flores Jr, M.ASCE, P.E. ([bill.flores@hdrinc.com](mailto:bill.flores@hdrinc.com))  
Local Arrangements Chair

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## San Manuel Family Science Night

By Mai Son, E.I.T.

On the evening of Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, several members of the San Bernardino/Riverside ASCE Younger Member Forum in cooperation with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District volunteered to hold a booth at the San Manuel Family Science Night. The event, organized by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, was held at the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Community Center in Highland, California.



The Expo provided hands-on science activities, including a demonstration of a functional hovercraft powered by the air from a vacuum cleaner, as shown in the picture above. Participants ranged from elementary school to high school students and their parents. ASCE YMF engaged the students in a buoyancy experiment, a puzzle, and gave away several "pollution prevention" awareness items, including rulers, bracelets, pens, and baseball caps. The program provided an excellent opportunity to promote the fields of math, science, and engineering within the community.

## Disaster Preparedness

On November 6, Neil Nilchian, PE, MASCE, Certified Trainer (San Bernardino / Riverside Counties Branch) and Ziad Mazboudi, PE, MASCE, Certified Trainer (Orange County Branch and Chairman of the Disaster Preparedness Committee, ASCE-Region 9) held a Safety Assessment Evaluators training for the LA Section members at the office of Kimley Horn in the City of Orange. The training included 18 enthusiastic volunteers from different Branches including Katherine Shinkai, PE, MASCE President of Orange County Branch who completed the day long training and will receive a Cal EMA's authorization card as volunteers. Accordingly, they will be able to assist local governments in cases of a disaster to assess if buildings and others are safe for public use. Also, Jack Olson, PE, MASCE, Chairman of the Committee for the LA-Section Disaster Preparedness was present, as an observer and moral supporter of our referenced event. The committee has plans for another training event for the LA-Section in Spring/Summer 2010. Please feel free to contact Neil, Ziad or Jack for additional information by visiting the LA-Section's web site ([www.ascesection.org](http://www.ascesection.org)).

**If you have a business card advertisement in this newsletter and would like your company or public agency "Spotlighted" in future newsletters please contact the Branch Newsletter Editor, Francis Gbondo, at (951)790-9548 email: [fjgbondo@yahoo.com](mailto:fjgbondo@yahoo.com) or the Treasurer, Rita Escobar, at (714) 567-2498 email: [rita.escobar@acem.com](mailto:rita.escobar@acem.com)**

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK CELEBRATION: FEBRUARY 16, 2010

# IECES

INLAND EMPIRE COUNCIL OF ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS

*Presents*

## Inland Feeder: Enhancing Water Supply Reliability in Southern California

**John V. Bednarski**

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) \$1.2 billion Inland Feeder project, including 44-mile long series of tunnels and pipelines, fully integrates MWD's distribution system, connecting State Water Project supplies with the Colorado River Aqueduct to flow into Diamond Valley Lake. The project nearly triples MWD's water delivery take away capacity from the State Water Project's east branch.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 16, 2010

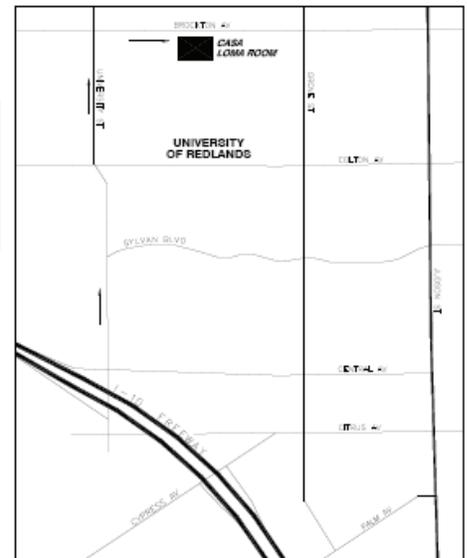
**Location:** University of Redlands, Casa Loma Room

**Times:** 6:00 p.m. Social  
 7:00 p.m. Dinner  
 7:30 p.m. Society Announcements  
 7:45 p.m. Program  
 8:45 p.m. Question and Answer Period  
 9:00 p.m. Adjournment

**No Host Bar:**  
 Wine, beer,  
 Martinelli sparkling  
 cider and soft drinks  
 by glass or bottle

**Directions:**

From **eastbound** Interstate 10: Take the University Street exit and turn left onto University Street.  
 From **westbound** Interstate 10: Take the Cypress Avenue exit and turn left. Drive two blocks to University Street and turn right.  
 Continue north on University Street 0.8 miles to the Brockton Avenue stop sign and make a right. After one block, turn right into either the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> driveway to enter the parking lot (Ted Runner Stadium will be across Brockton). The Casa Loma Room is on the east side of the lot.



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE AND MAIL BOTTOM WITH CHECK – PLEASE INDICATE YOUR MEAL SELECTION(S)

**Advance Reservations Required**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) of Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization:  AIAA  ASCE  ASME  CSPE  IEEE  SAME  APWA  Other

Meal Selection:  Roast Prime Rib of Beef  Chicken Porcini  Grilled Vegetable Lasagna (Vegetarian)

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$25 per engineer and/or guest; \$15 per student)

**Seating is limited.**

**Please mail reservations and checks (payable to IECES) for receipt on or before Feb. 12, 2010 to:**

**IECES, c/o Tom Crowley, Treasurer, 115 Hillside Way, Redlands, CA 92373**  
**Phone (909) 213-7055 E-mail: [t.j.crowley@verizon.net](mailto:t.j.crowley@verizon.net)**



**ASCE Region 9**  
**Announces the Fourth Annual**  
**California Infrastructure Symposium and Awards Ceremony**



When the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released the *Report Card for America's Infrastructure*, it raised public awareness about America's crumbling infrastructure. While the *Report Cards* and the attention they drew were effective in building public support for infrastructure renewal, civil engineers must continue to lead the discussion on viable solutions. ASCE Region 9 is taking that lead by presenting the **Fourth Annual California Infrastructure Symposium** to be held on **Tuesday, February 9, 2010**, in Sacramento. The Symposium promises to focus on key infrastructure issues as well as identifying resources and opportunities to meet demands and raise report card grades in California.

Following the Symposium, you may also register for an evening to help celebrate excellence in California Civil Engineering projects and honor the outstanding accomplishments of individuals at the 2009 ASCE Region 9 Awards Ceremony.

Please mark your calendar to join us on **Tuesday, February 9, 2010**, at the Citizen Hotel, 926 J Street, Sacramento, California for continuing education, networking, and social events you will not want to miss. Look for more information as it becomes available at <http://region9.asce.org/Region9InfrastructureSymposium2010.html>

Also, please note that the ASCE Region 9 Legislative Day will be held on Wednesday, February, 10, 2010, at the California State Capital in Sacramento.

For additional information, please contact Lori Campbell, Administrator, [lkc.consulting@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lkc.consulting@sbcglobal.net), or by telephone at 916.965.1536.

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*ASCE Region 9 represents more than 18,000 ASCE members in the State of California.*

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Any thoughts or comments about the newsletter?  
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### SmartQuote

“ In order that people may be happy in their work, these three things are needed: They must be fit for it. They must not do too much of it. And they must have a sense of success in it.”

**--John Ruskin,**  
**English author, poet and art critic**

## Branch Calendar of Events

Branch Luncheon	<b>Wednesday January 20, 2010</b> <b>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</b> <b>RSVP by January 18, 2010</b>	Mexicali Bar & Grill 1690 Spruce St. Riverside, CA 92507
Enhancing Water Supply Reliability in So Cal	<b>Tuesday February 16, 2010</b> <b>6 p.m.</b> <b>RSVP by February 12, 2010</b>	University of Redlands The Casa Loma Room
Earthquake-Induced Ground Motions	<b>January 21-22, 2010</b>	<b>San Diego, CA</b> <i>Detailed descriptions of the courses are available on ASCE's website at <a href="http://www.asce.org/conted">www.asce.org/conted</a>. For general information on ASCE Continuing Education, call 1-800-548-2723</i>
Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) for Geotechnical Engineering Features: Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations	<b>January 25, 2010</b> <b>12 Noon - 1:30 p.m. ET</b>	<i>Detailed descriptions of the courses are available on ASCE's website at <a href="http://www.asce.org/conted">www.asce.org/conted</a>. For general information on ASCE Continuing Education, call 1-800-548-2723</i>
Wind and Seismic Retrofit of Concrete Buildings	<b>February 2, 2010</b> <b>12 Noon - 1:30 p.m. ET</b>	<i>Detailed descriptions of the courses are available on ASCE's website at <a href="http://www.asce.org/conted">www.asce.org/conted</a>. For general information on ASCE Continuing Education, call 1-800-548-2723</i>

### Moote Group Founder Passes

**Paul A. Moote, Sr., age 84, passed away November 17, 2009** peacefully at Kaiser Hospital, Irvine, CA. Paul is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Adele; his sons Peter, Paul ("Paul 2") and David; his daughters Adele and Marji; his grandchildren Brian, Patrick, Kilian, Alex, Eric, Sara and Anna; and his great grandson Chase.

Paul was born in Joliet, Illinois on June 6, 1925 and was in the ROTC officer training program in high school. In 1942 he was accepted in the Navy's V-12 Program and received his B.A. in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan. He was commissioned into the Navy as an ensign in the spring of 1945; the war ended and Paul started his career as a professional engineer licensed in seven states. Paul was Kaufman and Broad's first contractor on their very first housing project in Warren, Michigan in 1957. In the mid 1960's, he designed the very first "Zero Lot Line" subdivision, which then was duplicated across the nation and earned his firm a Gold Nugget Award.

Many people knew Paul as a husband, family man, mentor and teacher, but his heart was shelling on the beach with Adele, on a tennis court, on a golf course, in a goose blind or on a lake fishing. Paul and Adele traveled to many parts of the world shelling, and during his retirement they lived 6 months out of each year in their beach pad in Waianae, Hawaii - fondly called "their little blue Hawaii."

Memorial services for Paul were held at Crystal Cathedral's Main Sanctuary on Saturday, November 28th, at 12:30 pm. Donations may be made to the Crystal Cathedral Memorial Gardens at (714) 971-4138. Condolences may be sent to [mknitter@moote.com](mailto:mknitter@moote.com) or (714) 751-5557.

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**If you'd like to have your business card or company information listed in the Professional Directory, Please Contact:**

**The Branch Treasurer, Rita Escobar,**

**at (714) 567-2498 or email at  
rita.escobar@aecom.com**

**Membership Information**

Type of Membership and Annual Dues (National)

Students: Free  
Associate Member: \$50 year of baccalaureate degree and first year after, then incremental increases to \$205 over five years.

Member: \$205 annually  
Affiliate: \$205 annually  
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## Mark Your Calendar

Don't miss this month's meeting! Topic – Perris Valley Rail Extension



### Branch Luncheon

**Date:** Wednesday January 20, 2010

**Time:** 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Location:** Mexicali Bar & Grill  
1690 Spruce St  
Riverside, CA 92507

**Cost:** \$25 Members, \$30 Non-members and  
No RSVP, \$12.5 for students w/ID

**Deadline:** January 18th, 2010

### Stormwater Committee Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday January 13, 2010

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** Mexicali Bar & Grill  
1690 Spruce St  
Riverside, CA 92507

**Cost:** Members \$35 prepaid, Members \$40 at  
door w/reservation, (Non-members  
and No RSVP \$45)

**Deadline:** January 8th, 2010



Francis Gbondo  
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