

The Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) is a regional earthquake consortium in the western states organized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and funded by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Geological Survey. Members are the State Geological Survey and Emergency Management Directors of 13 western states, 3 U.S. territories, one Canadian territory, one Canadian province, and liaisons to 7 western state seismic safety councils and commissions. Its mission is to develop seismic policies and share information to promote programs intended to reduce earthquake-related losses.

The Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC) is Nevada's liaison with the Western States Seismic Policy Council. Members of NESC work to implement the Nevada Educational Seismic Network and work on mitigation of fault-related hazards.

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council members chaired and participated on the Western states seismic policy counsel's architecture, engineering and construction committee. A representative was also on the 10-member national earthquake hazard reduction program advisory committee. The group provides guidance to USGS, FEMA, NSF and NIST through the Department of Commerce on all issues relating to seismic activity and sustainability of structures.

Several scientists and NESC members participated in the 2015 WSSPC Basin and Range Province Seismic Hazard Summit III in Salt Lake City, Utah. Members shared information and helped develop geoscience based policies. Sessions included recent fault investigations from Nevada and lessons learned from the 2008 Wells, Earthquake.

A multistate sub-group of WSSPC produced a manual for handling earthquakes. This was requested by an incident commander following the 2008 Wells, Nevada Earthquake. The manual titled, "*Earthquake Emergency Handbook for First Responders and Incident Commanders*", was developed by Craig dePolo and Richard Koehler of the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology and Ron Lynn, Chairman of the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council and completed in 2016.

NESC has adopted several policies since the 2013. These policies include:

- Policy Recommendation
- 16-3 Post-Earthquake Technical Clearinghouses
- Policy Recommendation 16-12 Earthquake Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Devices
- Policy Recommendation 15-4 Identification and Mitigation of Non-Ductile Concrete Buildings
- Policy Recommendation 17-4 Identification and Mitigation of Unreinforced Masonry Structures
- Policy Recommendation 16-4 Seismic Provisions in the 2015 International Building Codes
- Policy Recommendation 15-1 Earthquake and Tsunami Planning Scenarios
- Policy Recommendation 15-3 Definitions of Recency of Surface Faulting for the Basin and Range Province

The most up-to-date version of WSSPC policies is available at the link listed below.

<http://www.wsspc.org/public-policy/adopted-recommendations/>