

As a practicing Civil Engineer in the State of Oregon, I have frequently found the information provided DOGAMI extremely valuable when performing my work. There work identifying site geohazards including landslides, earthquakes, and tsunamis has been a significant help in my practice and it would be a shame to loss these services that are so beneficial to the public good.

Further, I have come to understand through there publications and public outreach the role the department plays in identifying the earthquake and tsunami hazards and vulnerabilities in our communities and working on Resiliency in our civil infrastructure. Whether we like it or not, we live in an area that has the potential to cause massive damage due to large earthquakes, ignoring that risk will not make it go away. Having a department with one of its core functions as identifying these risk and working with communities to use limited resources to target them, rather than a small group who might get lost in the priorities of a much larger department, would seem to be wise.

I know that some of the staff and capabilities will be retained, however, at a time when a pandemic is raging, significantly due to a reduction in science and response capabilities of the government, it seems unwise to reduce the science capability of the State of Oregon. I ask that you do not be pound foolish and penny wise and retain DOGAMI and their vital mission as is for the benefit of current and future Oregonians.