

Greetings, Fellow Esri Electric and Gas User Group Members!

The year 2011 was great for our group! Electric and Gas User Group (EGUG) membership is up. Electric and Gas User Conference attendance was the highest it has ever been, with over 400 electric and gas professionals. I consider this incredible in light of the challenges we have experienced as an industry: a diminished work force, limited travel budgets, and smaller budgets in general. So let me say thank you! It is your participation and enthusiasm that make working with the conference committee so rewarding.

As many of you are aware, it takes many hours and much commitment from the conference committee (made up of Esri staff, the host utility, and officers) to produce a great event. I really appreciate the leadership of Esri, 2011 EGUG president Wayne Boone, conference chair Wayne Meyer, and conference host SCANA.

The diversity of topics in the 2011 agenda shows me that our community is indeed busy. It is interesting to see the many uses of GIS. I believe this speaks to the flexibility of the platform that Esri has developed as well as to the notion that it is deeply ingrained that we consume information visually.

Last year, the committee changed the format of the conference in a few ways (the plenary format, the addition of a vendor track, etc.), and the changes were well received. It is my sincere desire for you to receive the maximum value for the investment you make in attending the conference. To that end, I have attached contact information for the conference committee. Please feel free to let us know what works for you and what could be better - your feedback matters!

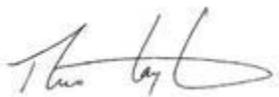
One of the best things about this community is that we share our experiences with one another. I want to make you aware of resources to stay connected between the conferences:

- [EGUG Home Page and Webinar Schedule](#)
- [Software Feedback](#)
- [Esri International User Conference](#)
- [EGUG ArcGIS Gallery](#)
- [LinkedIn Group](#)
- [Facebook Page](#)

Finally, you are receiving this letter because you are a member of the Esri electric and gas community. Please feel free to forward this to any colleagues who would be interested. Membership is free, so I would encourage you to ask them to join the EGUG community to stay up on the latest happenings.

I look forward to talking with you throughout the year.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theo Laughner".

Theo Laughner
EGUG 2012 President