

Doug Roberts
Honorary Membership of the ASEG
Adelaide August 2016

CITATION

ASEG Honorary Membership has been conferred upon South Australian branch member Doug Roberts, in recognition of his distinguished career and outstanding contribution and leadership in geoscience spanning 40 years, and for his most valuable contributions to the ASEG over many years.

After graduating from Adelaide University with a BSc (Hons) in geology and geophysics in 1971, Doug worked initially as a geologist with Gold Copper Exploration Ltd in the Flinders Ranges and North Queensland, and as a demonstrator in geophysics at Adelaide University with Professor David Boyd. From 1974-1978, he worked as a geophysicist with the SA Department of Mines, prior to joining the SA Oil & Gas Company, leading to his long association with the SAGASCO/Boral/Origin Energy group from 1978 to 2000. He became Chief Geophysicist and subsequently Manager – Exploration Operations during this time.

He worked as a consultant geophysicist from 2000 - 2003 before joining Beach Energy as Operations co-ordinator and subsequently in 2012 was appointed Manager for Geophysics and Land Access.

During his career, he has contributed to the development of seismic acquisition and processing techniques suitable for a variety of Australian conditions, and he has worked to improve the quality and resolution of the resulting seismic data. At the same time Doug has pioneered various methods to minimise the environmental impact of seismic operations in remote areas of Australia (particularly the Cooper/Eromanga Basins), and in more densely populated rural areas of Australia (notably the South Australian and Victorian Otway Basin).

He has also endeavoured and succeeded in fostering very good working relationships with the Native Title groups associated with the exploration activities. He is a long-term member of the Petroleum Data Consultative Group, composed of representatives from Government, Industry and APPEA, and for many years a contributor to APPEA's Exploration Committee Data Working Group.

During his entire career Doug has been an active supporter and participant in many ASEG committees and activities, and has striven to promote the aims of the society. He has been a Member since 1973, and served on the SA Branch committee from 1975 to 1990 including secretary for several years.

He has contributed directly to ASEG Conferences through his roles on the organizing committees for all seven ASEG conferences held in Adelaide since 1979, up to and including the 2016 conference. He is one of the white jacket brigade, those rare members who have attended all 25 ASEG conferences in Australia so far. Doug has

also served on the ASEG Research Foundation committee since 1990, and has undertaken the important role of secretary since 1995.

Doug was awarded an ASEG Service Certificate in 1998 in recognition of his significant contributions to the society at that time. It is very fitting that the ASEG now recognises Doug's continuing outstanding contributions to the ASEG, and to the geophysics profession, with the award of Honorary Membership of the ASEG.