Envisioning Sustainable Infrastructure

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ABSTRACT: The Envision® guidance and rating system for sustainable infrastructure provides a framework that addresses triple bottom line of sustainability and supports measuring results. The goal of Envision is to help owners, communities, constructors, designers, and others to create cost-effective, more resource-efficient, and adaptable long-term infrastructure investments.

The Envision Guidance Manual and online scoresheet are freely available for use in developing and evaluating infrastructure projects. Similar to LEED for green buildings by the USGBC, an Envision professional credential and project award program are available for a fee. Unlike LEED and other rating systems, Envision is flexible and adaptable for all types of infrastructure. It also addresses all lifecycle phases, realizing the opportunity to make better decisions in comprehensive planning, project design, construction practices, operations and maintenance, and even deconstruction or decommissioning.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: Denise Nelson has fourteen years' experience in design and application of best practices for water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities as well as training, marketing, and management of a non-profit organization. Her recent career focus has been on training others (primarily infrastructure professionals) in sustainable development practices. She helps professionals understand and evaluate current and emerging technologies, analyze options to meet their needs, and solve problems with respect to the triple bottom line (the economic, social, and environmental impacts). Mrs. Nelson received her Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech and her Masters of Science degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. She is a licensed engineer and active in many infrastructure professional societies.

DATE: Monday, April 17, 2017
TIME/LOCATION: 5:00 – 7:50 pm, EST; 200G Baldy Hall, UB North Campus

Professional Development: The primary audience the graduate class taking the course CIE-579 Bridge and Infrastructure Management and Public Policy but practicing engineers who are interested in receiving professional development credit (PDH) are welcome to attend, based on availability of seats. If interested in 3.0 PDH ($150), contact Jim Michalowski at (716) 645-0956.