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Agency:

Nevada State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

R 007-24

FOR EMERGENCY REGULATIONS ONLY
Effective date
Expiration date
Governor's signature

Classification: ☐ PROPOSED ☑ ADOPTED BY AGENCY ☐ EMERGENCY

Brief description of action:

R-file number: R007-24

Updating of existing regulations setting forth various standards of practice for professional land surveyors. (NAC 625.651-625.795).

Authority citation other than 233B:

NRS 625.140

Notice date:

October 3, 2024

Hearing date:

November 7, 2024

Date of Adoption by Agency:

November 7, 2024 (NAC 625.655, 625.670, 625.720, 625.740, 625.760, 625.775, 625.660, 625.668)

Second notice date:

May 11, 2025

Second hearing date:

June 12, 2025

Date of Adoption by Agency:

June 12, 2025 (NAC 625.666 and 625.780)

APPROVED REGULATION OF THE

STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND

LAND SURVEYORS

LCB File No. R007-24

Filed August 20, 2025

EXPLANATION - Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1-3 and 5-8, NRS 625.140 and 625.250; § 4, NRS 625.140, 625.250 and 625.350.

A REGULATION relating to professional land surveyors; removing certain duplicative requirements concerning professional land surveyors; revising requirements for positional certainty for components of certain surveys and proposed fixed works; imposing certain requirements on professional land surveyors relating to the conducting of certain surveys; revising provisions governing the preparation of a scaled drawing of a survey; revising the classifications of land boundary surveys; requiring a professional land surveyor to comply with the request of an owner's representative to provide certain materials created to support a survey; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to adopt all regulations, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this State, which are necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the Board, the regulation of the proceedings before it and the maintenance of a high standard of integrity and dignity in professional engineering and land surveying. (NRS 625.140) Existing law also requires the Board to administer certain provisions and requirements concerning professional land surveyors and requires it to do so by regulation as necessary. (NRS 625.250)

Existing regulations set forth various standards of practice for professional land surveyors. (NAC 625.651-625.790) **Section 1** of this regulation removes a duplicative requirement concerning the standards that a professional land surveyor is required to apply when engaging in the practice of land surveying in this State.

Existing regulations set forth certain requirements for positional certainty for the horizontal and vertical components of land boundary, control, geodetic and topographic surveys.

(NAC 625.666) Existing regulations divide land boundary surveys into the classifications of high urban, low urban, high rural and low rural and set forth requirements for positional certainty for the horizontal component of a land boundary survey specific to each classification. (NAC 625.666, 625.740) Section 2 of this regulation eliminates the requirements for positional certainty for the horizontal and vertical components of control, geodetic and topographic surveys. Section 5 of this regulation revises the classifications of land boundary surveys to divide such surveys into the classifications of urban, suburban and rural. Section 2 revises requirements for positional certainty for the horizontal component of a land boundary survey to set forth requirements for such positional certainty specific to each of the new classifications set forth in section 5. Section 5 additionally provides that land title surveys must be conducted using the requirements for positional certainty for the urban classification.

Section 2 additionally: (1) eliminates certain requirements for positional certainty that are measured in meters; (2) makes certain distinctions between decisions concerning monuments used for boundary determination and requirements of positional certainty; and (3) imposes certain requirements on a professional land surveyor conducting a control survey and a topographic survey and documenting certain information concerning maps, plats and surveys.

Existing regulations require a professional land surveyor to take certain actions in conducting a land boundary survey, including, without limitation, searching for and identifying monuments and other physical evidence that could affect the location of the boundaries of the surveyed property. (NAC 625.670) **Section 3** of this regulation specifies certain types of physical evidence that must be searched for and identified. **Section 3** additionally requires a professional land surveyor, in conducting a land boundary survey, to: (1) consider certain factors; and (2) include certain information on a survey map after making certain discoveries.

Existing regulations require a professional land surveyor to prepare a scaled drawing of a survey for presentation to the client and set forth certain requirements for such a drawing. (NAC 625.720) **Section 4** of this regulation revises those provisions to eliminate the requirement that such a drawing be prepared and instead sets forth various requirements for a scaled drawing when such a drawing is prepared for a client.

Existing law requires a record of survey to contain a certificate prepared by the surveyor indicating certain information. (NRS 625.350) Existing regulations set forth the required form of a certificate if a certification by a professional land surveyor is required by a statute or local ordinance. (NAC 625.720) **Section 4** specifies that the form of such a certificate set forth under existing regulations applies to a certificate for a record of survey.

Existing regulations require a professional land surveyor who conducts a construction survey to place stakes or other materials used to mark the location of certain proposed fixed works within certain specified positional certainties. (NAC 625.775) **Section 7** of this regulation: (1) revises the proposed fixed works that are subject to such requirements; and (2) eliminates certain requirements for positional certainty that are measured in meters.

Existing regulations require a professional land surveyor who conducts a construction survey to provide to the owner's representative certain materials to describe the survey conducted. (NAC 625.780) **Section 8** of this regulation instead requires such a professional land surveyor to, upon request of the owner's representative, provide the owner's representative with certain materials created to support the survey conducted.

Section 6 of this regulation makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to ensure the consistency of language used in the Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code.

Section 1. NAC 625.655 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.655 When engaging in the practice of land surveying in this State, a professional land surveyor shall apply all applicable statutes and regulations. [in addition to the minimum standards of practice for professional land surveyors established in NAC 625.651 to 625.790, inclusive.]

Sec. 2. NAC 625.666 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.666 1. [The requirements for positional] Positional certainty for the horizontal component of a land boundary [, topographic, control and geodetic surveys are as follows:

Type of Survey

Positional Certainty

	Meters	U.S. Survey Feet
Land Boundary Surveys		
High Urban	± 0.02 m	±0.05 ft
— Low Urban	±0.04 m	±0.15 ft
High Rural	±0.1 m	±0.3 ft
— Low Rural	±0.15 m	±0.5 ft

Type of Survey

Positional Certainty

	Meters	U.S. Survey Feet
Control and Geodetic Surveys	ä	
Precise Measurement Studies	±0.001 m to ±0.01 m	±0.002 ft to ±0.03 ft
— State Network	±0.02 m	±0.05-€
— County Network	±0.04 m	±0.15 ft
— Local Network	±0.06 m	±0.2 ft
Photogrammetric Control	± 0.06 m to ± 1 m	±0.2 ft to ±3 ft
Topographic Surveys		
- Engineering Design Surveys	$\pm 0.01 \text{ m to } \pm 0.1 \text{ m}$	$\pm 0.03 \text{ ft to } \pm 0.3 \text{ ft}$
Planning Study Surveys	$\pm 0.02 \text{ m to } \pm 0.05 \text{ m}$	±0.05 ft to ±0.15 ft
— Utilities Mapping	±0.15-m	±0.5-ft
Feature Mapping	±0.3 m	±1-ft
Resource Mapping	$\pm 0.5 \text{ m to } \pm 100 \text{ m}$	±1.5 ft to ±330 ft]
survey must be:		

- (a) For a land boundary survey classified as urban pursuant to NAC 625.740, plus or minus 0.05 feet.
- (b) For a land boundary survey classified as suburban pursuant to NAC 625.740, plus or minus 0.15 feet.

- (c) For a land boundary survey classified as rural pursuant to NAC 625.740, plus or minus 0.5 feet.
- 2. [The requirements for positional] Positional certainty for the vertical component of a land boundary [, control, geodetic and topographic surveys are as follows:

Type of Survey

Positional Certainty

	Meters	U.S. Survey Feet
— Land Boundary Surveys	±0.05 m	±0.15 ft
— Control and Geodetic Surveys		
Other Than		
Photogrammetric Control		
Surveys	$\pm 0.005 \text{ m to } \pm 0.03 \text{ m}$	±0.02 ft to ±0.1 ft
— Photogrammetric Control — Surveys	±0.03 m to ±0.5 m	±0.1 ft to ±1.5 ft
— Topographic Surveys	National Map Accuracy	Standards]
survey must be plus or minus 0.15 feet.		

- 3. [For the purposes of this section, the National Map Accuracy Standards, as they existed on November 14, 1997, are hereby adopted by reference. A copy of the National Map Accuracy Standards may be obtained from the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, Virginia 20192, at no cost.] The acceptance or rejection of an existing controlling monument used for boundary determination is separate and distinct from the requirements of positional certainty set forth in subsections 1 and 2.
 - 4. A professional land surveyor shall:
- (a) For a control survey, document the horizontal and vertical data, the coordinate system and the reference points used to establish the network of control points that provide control for subsequent boundary, topographic or construction surveys;
- (b) For a topographic survey made to determine the configuration of the contour of the surface of the earth or the position of fixed objects, select the equipment and procedures to obtain horizontal positional certainty and vertical positional certainty appropriate for the project; and
 - (c) Document the level of precision and positional certainty of any map, plat or survey.
 - **Sec. 3.** NAC 625.670 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 625.670 In conducting a land boundary survey, a professional land surveyor shall:
- 1. Search pertinent documents, including, but not limited to, maps, deeds, title reports, title opinions and the records of the U.S. Public Land Survey System.
 - 2. Thoroughly examine the information and data acquired [and consider:
 - (a) Junior and senior property rights;
 - (b) Retracement of the original survey;

- (c) Evidence provided by existing records; and
- (d) Proper application of the priority of calls used to determine boundaries when there is a conflict between elements within a land description.
- 3. Diligently search for and identify monuments and other physical evidence, including, without limitation, evidence of easements, lines of physical occupation and possible observed encroachments upon the property, which could affect the location of the boundaries of the property being surveyed.
- 4. Conduct field measurements necessary to relate adequately the position of all apparent evidence pertinent to the boundaries of the property being surveyed.
- 5. Make computations to verify the correctness of field data acquired and confirm that results of measurements are within acceptable limits of tolerance. Computations must be made to determine the relative positions of all found evidence.
- 6. When a material discrepancy is discovered between the record information that is reported on a map or record of survey and the measured information that is collected by the professional land surveyor, show the measured information on the survey map in addition to all pertinent record information.
 - Sec. 4. NAC 625.720 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 625.720 1. [A] When a professional land surveyor [shall prepare] prepares a scaled drawing of [the] a survey for presentation to [the] a client [. The], the drawing must [comply]:
 - (a) Comply with the provisions of NRS 625.340, 625.350 and 625.565 [.];
 - (b) Be of a scale sufficient to clearly show details; and
 - (c) Include, without limitation:

- (1) A scale, legend and north arrow;
- (2) On each sheet of the drawing, an indication of the number of the sheet, the total number of sheets within the drawing and its relation to each adjoining sheet;
- (3) All recorded, measured and mathematical information and data necessary to locate all monuments and to locate and retrace all interior and exterior boundary lines appearing thereon, including the bearings and distances of straight lines, central angle, radii and arc length for all curves and such information as may be necessary to determine the location of the centers of curves; and
- (4) A written narrative on boundary analysis when necessary to explain any material discrepancies or support unclear portions of the drawing.
- 2. In cases where a certification is required by statute or local ordinance, the professional land surveyor shall certify only those matters personally known to be true.
 - 3. The certificate *for a record of survey* must be in the following form:

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE

I, (name of professional land surveyor), a Professional
Land Surveyor registered in the State of Nevada, certify that:
1. This plat represents the results of a survey conducted under my supervision
at the instance of (owner, trustee, etc.).

- 3. This plat complies with applicable statutes of this State and any local ordinances in effect on the date that the survey was completed, and the survey was conducted in accordance with chapter 625 of the Nevada Administrative Code.
- 4. The monuments depicted on the plat are of the character shown, occupy the positions indicated and are of sufficient durability.
- 5. (Any other information that the professional land surveyor personally knows to be true concerning the land surveyed.)

(Validated seal of the professional land surveyor);

(Name and license number of the professional land surveyor printed below the seal).

- Sec. 5. NAC 625.740 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 625.740 1. [Boundary] Land boundary surveys [have been] are divided into the [following four] urban, suburban and rural classifications. [:] The:
- (a) [High] Urban [. Surveys of] classification consists of surveys performed on land lying within or adjoining a city or town, including surveys of commercial and industrial properties, condominiums, townhouses, apartments and other multiunit developments, regardless of geographic location.

- (b) [Low Urban. Surveys of] Suburban classification consists of surveys performed on land lying outside [high] urban areas and [used almost exclusively] developed for single family residential use. [or residential subdivisions.]
- (c) [High] Rural [. Surveys of] classification consists of surveys performed on land [such as]
 , including farms and [other] undeveloped land, lying outside [the low] urban and suburban
 areas. [which may have potential for future development.
- (d) Low Rural. Surveys of land normally lying in remote areas with difficult or barren terrain and which usually have limited potential for development.]
- 2. [A] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, a professional land surveyor shall use the classifications described in subsection 1 and the requirements for positional certainty for those classifications prescribed in subsection 1 of NAC 625.666 to establish the locations of monuments in a land boundary survey.
- 3. A professional land surveyor shall, when conducting a land title survey, use the requirements for positional certainty for the urban classification prescribed in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NAC 625.666 to establish the locations of monuments in the survey.
 - **Sec. 6.** NAC 625.760 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 625.760 Before beginning a construction survey, a professional land surveyor [shall] must obtain from the owner's representative a complete set of the contract drawings and specifications approved by the appropriate federal, state and local agencies and any special instructions for the proposed fixed works.
 - Sec. 7. NAC 625.775 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.775 A professional land surveyor who conducts a construction survey shall place the stakes or other materials used to mark the location of the proposed fixed works within the following positional certainties:

Proposed Fixed Works	Horizontal Positional		Vertical Positional	
	Certainty		Certainty	
	[Meters]	Feet	[Meters]	Feet
Rough Grades	[±0.03 m]	±1 ft	[±0.06 m]	±0.2 ft
Subgrades	[±0.15 m]	±0.5 ft	[±0.015 m]	±0.05 ft
Finish Grades	[±0.15 m]	±0.5 ft	{±0.015 m}	±0.05 ft
Buildings	[±0.015 m]	±0.05 ft	[±0.01 m]	±0.03 ft
[Sewer Facilities] Sewers	[±0.1 m]	±0.3 ft	{±0.015 m}	±0.05 ft
Waterlines	{±0.1 m}	±0.3 ft	[±0.03 m]	±0.1 ft
[Water Facilities Other Than				
Waterlines Hydrants	[±0.03 m]	±0.1 ft	{±0.015 m}	±0.05 ft
Street Lights [and Devices for the				
Control of Traffic]	{±0.06-m}	±0.2 ft	{±0.03 m}	±0.1 ft
Curbs and Gutters	[±0.03 m]	±0.1 ft	{±0.015 m}	±0.05 ft

Sec. 8. NAC 625.780 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.780 A professional land surveyor who conducts a construction survey shall , upon request of the owner's representative, provide the owner's representative with any sketches, cut sheets or other field notes created to [describe] support the survey conducted.

INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

LCB File Number R007-24, relating to professional land surveying standards of practice

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.066.

A. Need and Purpose of the Proposed Regulations.

The Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors proposes amending Nevada Administrative Code to remove certain duplicative requirements concerning professional land surveyors; revising requirements for positional certainty for components of certain surveys and proposed fixed works; imposing certain requirements on professional land surveyors relating to conducting certain surveys; revising provisions governing the preparation of a scaled drawing of a survey; revising the classifications of land boundary surveys; requiring a professional land surveyor to retain certain materials created to support a survey; repealing certain obsolete provisions; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

NVBPELS last updated its professional land surveyor standards of practice in 1997. The current proposed updates, **LCB file number R007-24**, **related to professional land surveying standards of practice**, align with national standards and with modern practice. In addition, minor amendments were made where necessary to clarify the responsibilities of professional land surveyors. Two regulations are proposed to be repealed as they are redundant to other regulatory requirements.

B. <u>Description of How Public Comment was Solicited</u>, <u>Response Summary</u>, and <u>Explanation of How Interested Parties May Obtain a Copy of Summary</u>.

A Regular Board Meeting relating to the regulation changes was held in-person and virtually on September 21, 2023, and was noticed according to NRS 241.020. Public comment was requested but none was received at the board meeting. The minutes of the regular board meeting are available to view at the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website, https://nvbpels.org/board/meetings.

In accordance with the requirements of NRS 233B.061 a public workshop was held virtually with inperson participation at the board's Reno office and Las Vegas office on December 6, 2023. Notice was given in excess of 15 days for the workshop, and e-mails were sent to 19,200 addresses of interested parties notifying them of the workshop and with direct links to relevant documentation. Public comment was requested but none was received at the workshop. The minutes of the workshop are available to view at the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website, https://nvbpels.org/board/meetings.

A Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations was held in-person and virtually on November 7, 2024. The hearing was noticed in excess of the 30-day public posting requirement, and e-mails were sent to 19,200 addresses of interested parties notifying them of the hearing and with direct links to relevant documentation. Public comment was received during the hearing and the public comment

resulted in further consideration of proposed changes to NAC 625.666 and 625.780. The board unanimously voted to accept the proposed changes to the following regulations:

Amend NAC 625.655	Amend NAC 625.760
Amend NAC 625.670	Amend NAC 625.775
Amend NAC 625.720	Repeal NAC 625.660
Amend NAC 625.740	Repeal NAC 625.668

Comments by Mr Art O'Connor, PE/PLS, included positional certainty for urban land boundary surveys and record retention. The board noted it had made a typographical error in changing the positional certainty for urban land boundary surveys to ± 0.10 and that we would correct and retain the positional certainty of ± 0.05 as currently stated in the regulations.

Comment was also received by Mr Douglas Schneider, PLS, pertaining to retention of survey records and possible statute of repose.

The board acknowledged Mr O'Connor's and Mr Schneider's concerns regarding record retention of survey documents and agreed to reconsider NAC 625.666 and 625.780.

The minutes of the November 7, 2024, Intent to Act Upon Regulations are available to view at the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website at https://nvbpels.org/board/meetings.

A Regular Board Meeting relating to further language changes to NAC 625.666 and 625.780 was held inperson and virtually on May 8, 2025, and was noticed according to NRS 241.020. Public comment was requested but none was received at the board meeting. The minutes of the regular board meeting are available to view at the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website, https://nvbpels.org/board/meetings.

A Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations to consider the proposed language changes to NAC 625.666 and 625.780 was held in-person and virtually on June 12, 2025. The hearing was noticed in excess of the 30-day public posting requirement, and e-mails were sent to 19,200 addresses of interested parties notifying them of the hearing and with direct links to relevant documentation. Public comment was requested but none was received at the hearing. The board unanimously voted to accept the proposed changes to NAC 625.666 and 625.780. The minutes of the June 12, 2025, Intent to Act Upon Regulations are available to view at the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website at https://nvbpels.org/board/meetings.

C. The number of persons who:

Attended each hearing—

December 6, 2023, Public Workshop was attended by five members of the public.

November 7, 2024, Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations was attended by five members of the public.

June 12, 2025, Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations was attended by four members of the public.

Testified at each hearing—

December 6, 2023, Public Workshop. No members of the public testified at the workshop.

November 7, 2024, Intent to Act Upon Regulations Public Hearing. Two members of the public testified.

June 12, 2025, Intent to Act Upon Regulations Public Hearing. No members of the public testified.

Submitted written statements—

December 6, 2023, Public Workshops. No written statements were received.

November 7, 2024, Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations. No written statements were received.

June 12, 2025, Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations. No written statements were received.

D. For each person identified in subparagraphs (2) and (3) of paragraph (c), the following information if provided to the agency conducting the hearing - Name; Telephone number; Business address; Business telephone number; Electronic mail address; and Name of entity or organization represented.

Name	Email	Phone	Entity or Organization
Art O'Connor, PE/PLS	art@oceng.com	(775) 851-7335	Self
	douglaseschneider@me.com	(520) 307-1802	Self

E. A description of how comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Referencing the requirements of NRS 233B.0608, the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors requested input from owners and officers of professional engineering and land surveying small businesses via an e-mailed survey link that was sent to 19,200 interested parties.

The survey asked for input regarding both direct and indirect adverse and beneficial economic effects on small businesses, with space to elaborate on responses. A summary of the survey responses is available for viewing on the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors website https://nvbpels.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/SBI-Survey-Results-October-2023-FINAL.pdf.

F. If the Regulation was Adopted Without Changing Any Part of the Proposed Regulation, a Summary of Reasons for Adopting it Without Change.

The following regulations proposed to be updated in LCB file number R007-24, related to professional land surveyor standards of practice, were adopted on November 7, 2024, 2024, as drafted by the LCB, at a Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations:

Amend NAC 625.655	Amend NAC 625.760
Amend NAC 625.670	Amend NAC 625.775
Amend NAC 625.720	Repeal NAC 625.660
Amend NAC 625.740	Repeal NAC 625.668

During the public process there were two public comments that requested reconsideration of document retention language that was proposed to be added to NAC 625.666 and 625.780. In addition, it was noted at the public hearing that the board inadvertently incorporated an error in the positional certainty number submitted to LCB, for urban land boundary surveys. **The positional certainty for urban land boundary surveys will be retained as ±0.05 and not the ±0.10 as mistakenly submitted to LCB.**

NAC 625.666 and 625.780 proposed to be updated in LCB file number R007-24 were further modified based on public comment and adopted by the board on June 12, 2025, at a Public Hearing for Intent to Act Upon Regulations.

G. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public. These must be stated separately, and in each case must include:

LCB file number R007-24, related to professional land surveyor standards of practice, there are no adverse or beneficial economic effects identified in the immediate or long-term.

H. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulations.

There is no additional cost to the agency.

I. A description of any regulations of other state or government agencies which the proposed regulation overlaps or duplicates and a statement explaining why the duplication or overlapping is necessary. If the regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the name of the regulating federal agency.

The Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors is not aware of any similar regulations of other state or government agencies that the proposed changes overlap or duplicate.

J. If the regulation includes provisions which are more stringent than a federal regulation which regulates the same activity, a summary of such provisions.

There are no federal regulations associated with professional land surveyor standards of practice. However, every state and US territory regulates the professions of land surveying.

K. If the regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used.

The proposed regulation amendment does not establish new fees or increase existing fees.