



Department of Administration

Minnesota Geospatial Information Office

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June 12, 2009

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to invite you to *Point of Beginning* on June 24, an event that will both mark the successful completion of the Governor's Drive to Excellence Enterprise GIS initiative and the public introduction of the new Minnesota Geospatial Information Office.

The legislation creating the MGIO charges it with coordinating geospatial information technology within Minnesota, emphasizing GIS implementation by state agencies that maximize benefits for state government as an enterprise. The scope of the MGIO's duties and responsibilities reflect input from hundreds of stakeholders since 2004, when the Governor's Council on Geographic Information first identified the need for a state coordinating office. Getting here is a major accomplishment for the entire GIS community that deserves celebration.



*Point of Beginning
(Public Land Survey)*

As we celebrate the emergence of the MGIO, a bittersweet provision of the legislation sunsets the Land Management Information Center after thirty years of service. But LMIC's legacy survives; its staff and resources will serve as the foundation for the MGIO and services will continue uninterrupted as LMIC is transformed into the MGIO. So rather than noting this milestone as the end of an era, it marks the beginning of a challenging journey to fulfill the potential of the MGIO's mandate.

As a member of a stakeholder community that has guided us to this milestone, we need your continued advice and help. I hope you will be able to join us as we mark this "point of beginning."

Point of Beginning will be held on Wednesday, June 24th, from 9:00 to 12:00 Noon at the Harold E. Stassen Building (Department of Revenue), Room 200, 600 North Robert Street, Saint Paul. Contact me or Fred Logman (fred.logman@state.mn.us; 651.201.2495) if you have any questions or comments to share. Please RSVP if you plan to attend or wish to receive information about the event.

Collegially,

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

David Arbeit

Director

Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis