

**Dr. Leslie F. Harder, Jr. , P.E., G.E.**

Dr. Harder is currently a Senior Water Resources Technical Advisor and Senior Professional Associate with HDR. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from U. C. Davis, and obtained his Doctoral degree in Geotechnical Engineering from U. C. Berkeley in 1988.

Dr. Harder has over 30 years of experience in the design and construction of earth structures. For most of this time, he worked for the California Department of Water Resources. While with the Department, he served as Division Chief for both the Division of Flood Management and the Division of Engineering, and later served as Deputy Director for Public Safety. In this latter assignment, Dr. Harder collaborated in the writing of the Proposition 1E bond measure and in landmark flood legislation passed by the legislature and signed into law in 2007.

Dr. Harder has also served on numerous post-earthquake reconnaissance investigations and was heavily involved with the emergency response to California's 1997-1998 floods. He was also involved with the four emergency construction contracts associated with repairing Jones Tract and he has served on several joint State-Federal committees on levee seepage design criteria, including the Sacramento District's 2003 Levee Seepage Task Force. More recently, Dr. Harder was part of a National Science Foundation team sent to New Orleans to examine the performance of levees following Hurricane's Katrina and Rita. He has also served on reconnaissance investigations of the performance of levees following the 2008 Midwest Flood and the 2008 Hurricane Gustav events. In 2008, Dr. Harder was appointed to the National Committee on Levee Safety by the Assistant Secretary of the Army.