TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: This year marks the sixteenth-annual Earth Science Week, designated by the American Geological Institute (AGI) to help the public gain a better comprehension of and appreciation for the earth sciences; and

WHEREAS: The theme for 2013, "Mapping Our World", will promote awareness of the many exciting uses of maps and mapping technologies in the geosciences; and

WHEREAS: “Mapping Our World” engages young people and the public in learning how geoscientists, geographers, and other mapping professionals use maps to represent land formations, natural resource deposits, bodies of water, fault lines, volcanic activity, geohazards, water patterns, travel routes, parks, businesses, population distribution, our shared geologic heritage, and more. Maps help show how the Earth systems – geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere – interact; and

WHEREAS: The earth sciences are crucial to environmental and ecological issues that range from water-resource assessments and conservation to air quality and waste disposal; and

WHEREAS: Geologic factors surrounding resources, hazards, and the environment are vital to land-management and land-use decisions made in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: The earth sciences are critical to ecosystem management, to our understanding of and respect for nature, and to Arkansas’s continuing prosperity and well-being; and

WHEREAS: Knowledge of earth sciences provides the basis of preparing for and mitigating natural disasters, including floods, earthquakes, landslides, droughts, volcanic eruptions, coastal erosion, and sinkholes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BEEBE, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim October 13 through 19, 2013, as

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across the State of Arkansas, and I encourage my fellow citizens to recognize the vital role of the geosciences in our use of natural resources, in our interaction with the environment, as well as in our safety, health, economy, and welfare.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 3rd day of September, in the year of our Lord 2013.

MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR

MARK MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE