Term Project
Due Wednesday March 10

Assume you received a nice job offer that requires you to move to a city that is susceptible to a geologic or environmental hazard (review the themes in the Geol 214 syllabus). You must choose a city OTHER than Seattle, Bellingham or San Francisco, CA. Larger cities are more likely to have information than small towns. The city should be susceptible to a geological hazard that is a course topic in the syllabus (e.g., landslide, floodplain, shoreline, river valley near a volcano, tsunami zone, groundwater contamination etc.). Meteorological hazards (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, storms, etc.) and wildfires are not valid hazards for this project.

Your objective is to research a hazard associated with the city (or town) before you accept the job offer by unearthing the following information.

1. Locate your city on a state map (include this as a labeled figure in your report, giving latitude and longitude of the city, and a scale) and list the hazard(s) relating to your city and why (geologically) the hazard(s) exists at this location (e.g., a nearby subduction zone, fault, hot spot, floodplain, nuclear waste, etc). Provide some detail here; don’t just use one sentence.

2. Focus on one of the hazards you have identified. What local, state, and federal government agencies would you contact to gather more information about the hazard and the risks of the hazard at this location? List the web URL addresses (or book/magazine references if you use hard-copy sources from the library) for each source, and explain why each would be appropriate for your hazard.

3. What parts of the city are susceptible to this hazard and what areas are not? In other words, are there some parts of the city that would be a better choice than others to buy a house? Explain why this is (or why it’s not).

4. What life-lines may be affected by the hazard? Explain.

5. What kind of mitigation techniques are employed to reduce the risk of damage from this hazard? Describe. Is there an evacuation plan for catastrophic events? Describe.

6. Would you accept the job offer (i.e., would you be willing to move to this city, despite the hazards)? Give reason(s) why someone may wish to accept the job offer and buy a house in this city, particularly in the most hazardous areas, regardless of the risks of the hazard.

Be sure to cite your sources for all the information you provide, with references such as journal articles, fact sheets, or URL addresses.

This project is worth 10% of your total grade. There will be a 10% loss each day it is late. The project is due at the beginning of class, Wednesday, March 10.
Project Organization

**Cover Page:** Create a cover page for this exercise using the following format. The title should reflect the city you chose and the main hazard you focused on;

Geol 214 – Term Project  
Lahars in Laytonville, WA  
Sally Jones  
W000123456  
March 10, 2010

**Page 1:** In the upper half of the page, include a state map showing the city. In the lower half of the page, provide a map of the city having the hazard. Use figure numbers and captions to identify figures. Cite the source of the figures. List pertinent facts about the city (name, population, altitude, etc.)

You can use other figures as well to help illustrate your answers (e.g., topographic maps, hazard maps etc.) but place those after the text portion of the report (after page 3). Identify them with figure numbers and cite them in your text when you refer to them: “Laytonville resides on a steep slope below a large landslide complex that is apparent in the topography (Figure 3).”

**Pages 2 and 3:** Answer the numbered questions listed above. Provide the questions (with the number) and write your answers below each question using a word processor with 12 point Times or Arial font, single spacing, and one-inch margins. You can download this Word document. Limit the text to two pages. Properly cite references when you are writing the text.

**Page 4:** List the references and URLs.

Please **NO plastic report covers or binders!** Just use a staple in the upper left corner.