

State News for NSPE Members

Amid \$400M Highway Funding Shortfall, Wyoming Lawmakers Reject Fuel Tax Increase

It remains unclear how Wyoming will address a \$400 million annual shortfall in the state's highway funding after lawmakers rejected a bill to raise the fuel tax.

Since Wyoming last increased its fuel tax in 2013, revenue for the Wyoming Department of Transportation has lagged and construction costs associated with maintaining the state's expansive road system have risen. The agency is responsible for roughly 6,700 miles of roads and more than 1,900 bridges, which are exposed to Wyoming's harsh and lengthy winters.

Lawmakers, meanwhile, have failed to come up with a solution.

"To try to figure out where we're going to find funding to put towards our roads, it's a very difficult thing since we don't like tolling. We don't like [a] road usage charge. We don't like all these other mechanisms that would raise a lot of money," Joint Transportation, Highways and Military Affairs Committee Co-Chairman Sen. Stephan Pappas, R-Cheyenne, stated at a recent meeting.

One of the committee's top priorities during the Legislature's off-season, also known as the interim, included studying how WYDOT is funded and exploring solutions to reduce the department's budget shortfall. [Read more in WyoFile.](#)

Wyoming To Host a Major New Carbon-Negative Digital Infrastructure Campus

Prometheus Hyperscale, Spiritus, and Casper Carbon Capture have joined forces in a strategic partnership that will deliver a pioneering carbon-negative digital infrastructure campus in Wyoming, aiming to answer AI power needs.

Referred to as Project Casper, the initiative is among the landmark digital

infrastructure sites in Wyoming, projected to become one of the largest AI-focused campuses in the Rocky Mountain region.

The novelty of it comes from the symbiotic partnership between Prometheus, Spiritus, and Casper Carbon Capture that combines a range of industry-specific expertise to create a center that can answer the rising power demand of AI data centers while also incorporating carbon removal.

As shared in its announcement, the Casper project is expected to generate up to 1.5 GW of power for digital AI operations in multiple phases, with the first batch of power supply slated for 2026. [Read more.](#)

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Call for NSPE Vice President Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominees to serve as vice president on the Board of Directors. The vice president serves four consecutive years: 2026-27 as vice president, 2027-28 as president-elect, 2028-29 as president, and 2029-30 as immediate past president. To learn more about qualifications, time and financial commitments, and how to apply, [please view the call for nominations packet in the governance section of the leadership toolbox](#).

Nominations are due to the NSPE Secretary at executive@nspe.org by **January 12, 2026**. Additional questions can be sent to executive@nspe.org.

Nominations Deadline Extended for FEYA

Federal engineers are at the forefront of our nation's most vital priorities from infrastructure and innovation to defense, public health, and safety. Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the Federal Engineer of the Year Award (FEYA). Nominations for the 2026 award have been extended until November 30, 2025. [Visit the online portal for full guidelines and submission details.](#)



Why Does FEYA Matter?

Lt. Col. Brigham Moore, Ph.D., P.E., PMP, was named the 2025 Federal Engineer of the Year. Here's what Lt. Col. Moore had to say about the impact this award has had on his career: *"Being selected as Top Ten Finalist and ultimately as*

the Federal Engineer of the Year this past year has been an incredible highlight of my career. Within the Air Force, it has provided me opportunities to mentor and give back to the engineering community that I love. Professionally, it has reconnected me with previous advisors and engineering faculty, opening up doors and networking me with some people that I did not previously know. Finally, and personally, it served as a huge bolster to my confidence and commitment to continue making meaningful change with each project and major decision as I move forward."

[Learn about Moore's government service and contributions to the profession.](#)



Engineers Week 2026 Resources and Outreach Grants

It's time to start planning for Engineers Week and Introduce a Girl to Engineering activities. NSPE members can [access resources on the NSPE website](#).

Outreach Grants

DiscoverE's grant opportunities are designed to support volunteer and educator efforts to inspire the next generation of innovators through hands-on exploration of engineering. Grants range from \$250 to \$1,000. The application period for the grants will close on November 3. [Access more information and apply](#).



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