

State News for NSPE Members

Remaining Pandemic Relief Dollars Earmarked for Infrastructure, Construction

Local governments and health and human services providers can expect a second wave of grant money for infrastructure and construction projects after state lawmakers finalized a plan for how to spend the state's roughly \$124 million remaining American Rescue Plan Act dollars, the [Casper Star Tribune reports](#).

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) is a \$1.9 trillion federal package created to help US states, tribes and territories recover from the coronavirus pandemic.

As part of ARPA, Wyoming was granted \$500 million in direct relief money from the US Department of the Treasury. Unlike other kinds of federal money made available through the relief package, the state has broad discretion in deciding how to spend that \$500 million.

Lawmakers worked out where most of the money would go during last year's legislative session. But when they convened in January for the 2023 session, there was still \$124 million on the table. [Read more](#).

Wyoming Energy Authority Advances R&D, Networking

Wyoming's newly formed energy development effort is going into its third year of operations with a strong footing in the heart of the state's economy, [according to the Wyoming Business Report](#).

The Wyoming Energy Authority represents the merging of two previously existing think tanks aimed at promoting a broad spectrum of energy development and production around the state.

The WEA originally formed in 2020 via the merging of two existing entities: the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority and the Wyoming Pipeline Authority. Since its

inception, the WEA has operated with the goal of promoting the state's diverse energy resources, which include traditional sources like coal, oil and natural gas, in addition to emerging technology like hydrogen, small modular nuclear, geothermal and rare earth elements.

"The Wyoming Energy Authority advances Wyoming's energy strategy by driving data, technology and infrastructure investments," said WEA spokesperson Honora Kerr. "With abundant natural resources and deep energy expertise, Wyoming is leading the way to the next-generation energy economy." [Read more](#).

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

TVA Engineer Named 2023 FEYA Winner

Stephen Craven, Ph.D., P.E., was named [NSPE's 2023 Federal Engineer of the Year](#) for his innovative work securing Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) substations and developing improved communication architecture. Now in its 44th year, the Federal Engineer of the Year Award is the only one of its kind to solely recognize outstanding engineers employed in the federal government. Federal agency winners were honored during a ceremony held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 24.



Stephen Craven is a third-generation TVA engineer, serving at the agency's Power Service Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Among his accomplishments, Craven has helped secure substations against cyber-attacks, designing ways to keep critical equipment disconnected from external attackers and yet still be remotely monitored for anomalies. He was also instrumental in the development of a new communication architecture that is faster, more reliable, and less expensive than previous schemes. [Read more](#).

FEYA ceremony photos can be accessed on the NSPE [Flickr album](#).

WORKability Wednesdays Are Back!

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—"WORKability Wednesdays"—to support members with their professional development goals. The series covers topics impacting the industry and helps to enhance your competencies in the profession. The spring season sessions kicked off on March 8 with [Understanding](#)

[the New Requirements for Cybersecurity Insurance](#) . Register now at [NSPE's PE Institute](#) and invite a colleague to attend.

Upcoming webinars

- **March 22**—[Using Construction Manager at Risk Project Delivery to Manage the Current Challenges in Constructing Projects](#)
- **April 12**—[Doing Bad Things for Good Reasons: An Examination of Unethical Pro-Organizational Behavior Among Professional Workers](#)
- **Save the date for webinars on April 26, May 17, and May 31**

Take the Milton F. Lunch Ethics Challenge!

Match your wits and knowledge of engineering ethics with experienced professional engineers and engineering students throughout the country! All current NSPE individual members and NSPE chapters (including student members) are invited to participate in the [2023 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest](#) . Contest submissions are due by **May 12**. [View past contest winner entries](#) .

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