Wyoming Infrastructure News in Brief

- Cheyenne Regional Airport receives a $62 million infrastructure investment, mostly from federal sources. (WyomingNews.com)
- Governor criticizes Biden administration for hampering oil and gas development. (Casper Star Tribune)
- Business community has conflicting views on gas tax to pay for road improvements. (County 17)
- The Rocky Mountain Region will receive $31.5 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service for 90 projects in a five-year program. The funding will be used to address infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs, enhance economic benefits, and improve recreation and public access on national forests. (WyomingNews.com)

Solar Facility To Support UW’s Clean Energy Curriculum

The University of Wyoming is partnering with a clean energy nonprofit on a research facility that includes a 3 MW solar installation, reports PV magazine. The effort is one step toward creating a clean energy engineering curriculum at UW. The facility, which is under construction, will be located on the Laramie ranch of a UW College of Engineering and Applied Science alumnus who is also cofounder of the 9H Research Foundation.

The 3 MW solar installation will be powered by Series 6 modules from First Solar, the largest US solar manufacturer. First Solar made a $300,000 in-kind donation to 9H, giving more than 2,000 advanced thin film solar photovoltaic modules totaling nearly 1 megawatt of capacity.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.
FAA safety engineer goes public to slam the agency’s oversight of Boeing’s 737 MAX

Haunted by the two deadly crashes of Boeing 737 MAX jets and his agency’s role in approving the plane, veteran Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety engineer Joe Jacobsen is stepping forward publicly to give the victims’ families “a firsthand account of what the truth is.” In a detailed letter sent last month to a family that lost their daughter in the second MAX crash in Ethiopia two years ago this week, and in interviews with The Seattle Times, Jacobsen gave the first personal account by an insider of the federal safety agency’s response to the MAX crashes. Jacobsen should have been among the FAA specialists who reviewed the MAX’s critical new flight control software during its original certification, which was largely controlled by Boeing. He’s confident that he and other FAA engineers would have flagged its serious design flaws.

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Wanted: 2021 NSPE Emerging Leaders

NSPE is fostering a new generation of engineers who can think strategically, build effective teams, and lead successfully through its Emerging Leaders Program. This intensive seven-month, professionally facilitated, virtual program is now accepting applications until May 31.

Early-career professionals with 5-8 years of experience who are just beginning to lead and think strategically in the profession are encouraged to apply. The program graduated its first class of diverse, super achieving professionals in February.

Between August 2021 and February 2022 participants will learn how to be successful at higher levels of leadership responsibility. Participants will engage in 90-minute leadership training sessions each month with learning discussions and mentoring on topics such as ownership, team development, communication skills, giving/receiving feedback, and presentation skills. There will also be ample networking opportunities with peers and national NSPE national leaders.
Don’t miss NSPE’s upcoming ethics webinars on truthfulness and fidelity to employers and clients, with insight from Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq., NSPE’s senior director for ethics and professional practice and NAFE executive director, and other NSPE ethics experts.

**April 7**
**Engineering Ethics–Canon III–Truthfulness**
Learn from a variety of situations in which circumstances can tempt (and even encourage) engineers to dance around the edges of Canon III.  

**May 5**
**Engineering Ethics–Canon IV–Fidelity to Employers/ Clients**
Examine the duties to employers and clients, and circumstances under which those duties can be pre-empted by higher duties, especially to the public health, safety, and welfare.  
*Presenters: David Kish, Ph.D., P.E., Jeff Greenfield, Ph.D., P.E., F.NSPE, and Rebecca Bowman, P.E., Esq.*