Nuclear Power Could Be a Lifeline in Wyoming

A power company and individuals facing job losses in Wyoming are hoping nuclear energy will take off in the state as coal mines close. Rocky Mountain Power and nuclear developer TerraPower, in partnership with the federal government, laid plans this year to build a reactor together on an ambitious schedule, reports the Casper Star Tribune. Even if they can finish the 345-megawatt demonstration reactor by 2028, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would have to approve the plant based on many factors.

TerraPower and proponents hope nuclear can fill the gap in electricity generation and provide jobs that will be lost when four coal plants close in coming years. Several other states have been working to lift nuclear bans and partnering with the federal government to build reactors, according to Bloomberg Law.

Environmental Engineering and Technology Fields Could Help Economic Diversification

As Wyoming struggles to diversify its economy, some believe engineering and technology jobs will be a key component of that effort. At the recent Governor’s Business Forum, most attendees said they thought attracting young people to fulfilling jobs in those fields would be the best bet for diversification in the state, according to Wyoming Public Media. Innovation and finding new options for energy sources were cited as global trends influencing the importance of engineering jobs.

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I Am Innovative

Ben Amaba, P.E., LEED AP, CPIM, BD+C
CTO Digital Transformation with Technology Innovation

NSPE is “the perfect venue to learn, network, and advance your skills,” according to Ben Amaba, an innovator at IBM. It brings together a diverse set of professionals who are innovating the world, and has helped him both personally and professionally.

Honor Awards Open for Nominations

The NSPE Honor Awards promote the professional engineer’s contributions to society and recognize the achievements of the profession’s very best. The deadline for award submissions is January 31, 2022.

NSPE Award
The NSPE Award is the highest award given to an individual by the Society. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, the public welfare, and humankind. Steven Arndt, Ph.D., P.E., F.NSPE, a world-
renowned authority in the field of nuclear engineering, received the award in 2020.

New Professional Award
This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one’s career. **Stephanie Blain, P.E.**, received the award in 2021. She is employed with Palmer Engineering Company in Lexington, Kentucky.

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