

State News for NSPE Members

California PEs Named Top FEYA Finalists

NSPE recently announced the top 10 finalists for the [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#). The award winner will be announced during a ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 23. Sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, this award honors engineers employed by a federal agency that employs at least 50 engineers worldwide.



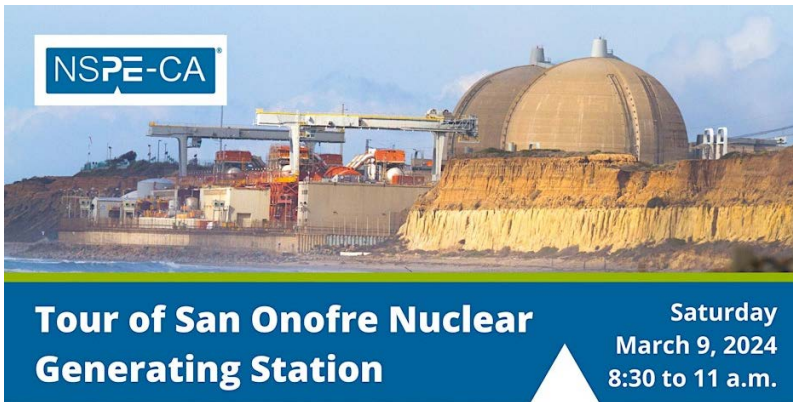
Lt. Cmdr. Timothy Dahms, P.E.
US Department of the Navy
Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC)
China Lake, California



Maj. Christopher Wittman, P.E.
US Department of the Air Force
Space Systems Command
Vandenberg Space Force Base, California

[Learn more about the FEYA finalists.](#)

Registration Open: San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Tour



NSPE-CA has set up a 1.5 mile group walking tour of the decommissioning San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station on **Saturday, March 9**, 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

[Learn more about the decommissioning of the station.](#)

Due to security requirements, the registration deadline is Friday, February 23, at 11:30 p.m. [Register now!](#)

[Save the Dates for 2024 Events](#)

April 5
(10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.)

Tour of The Geysers

Middletown, California

May 9

(10:00 a.m.)

Tour of US Army Corps of Engineers Bay Model

A scale model of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento River Delta

Sausalito, California

As details are finalized and registration opens, events and links will be listed on the [NSPE-CA home page](#).

Events Task Force Meetings

All NSPE-CA members are invited to participate in events planning sessions as their schedules allow. The next session will take place from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. on **February 27**, and **March 19**. Email Executive Director Jeanne Marie Tokunaga, CAE, at admin@nspe-ca.org to receive the Zoom login information.

Upcoming NSPE-CA BOD Meetings

All NSPE-CA members are invited to attend the board of directors meetings. Email Executive Director Jeanne Marie Tokunaga, CAE, at admin@nspe-ca.org to receive login information.

Via Zoom

April 19, 2024 — 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In Pasadena

(Zoom option)

July 13, 2024 — 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Public Service Opportunity

The Sac Metro Air District has a public service opportunity for a professional engineer on its [Hearing Board](#). The [Sac Metro Air District](#) is a local public agency designated by the California legislature to develop, implement, monitor, and enforce local air pollution control rules, regulations, and strategies. Its mission is to achieve state and federal clean air and climate goals.

The [Professional Engineer vacancy](#) on the five-member Hearing Board is open until filled. The Hearing Board serves an important role in protecting air quality and providing relief, where appropriate, to businesses and other entities that may

experience temporary difficulty in meeting regulatory requirements. The board also issues abatement orders to bring recalcitrant entities into compliance with applicable air quality regulations. The board meets 2-3 times per year.

Serving on the Hearing Board offers a unique opportunity to cultivate expertise in the application of professional knowledge and skills within the public sector. Members serve a term of three (3) years and may be re-appointed. This is a volunteer position with no salary. Members receive a \$75 stipend per meeting day.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email Virginia Muller, clerk of the Hearing Board, at VMuller@airquality.org or (279) 207-1138.

NCEES Seeks Structural Engineering Expertise

NCEES is in the process of assembling panels of licensed structural engineers and licensed professional engineers to participate in a series of two-day meetings to determine the cut score, or establish the pass point, for the 2024 Principles and Practice of Structural Engineering exam. This process requires a cross-section of engineers from various employment positions and technical specialties. NCEES asks that you consider volunteering to assist with this important work. Access more information [here](#).

Survey on Continuing Education Requirement

The [California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists \(BPELSG\)](#) is exploring the requirement for Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) through Professional Development Hours (PDHs) at the time of the biennial renewal. CPC will focus on the advancement, extension, and improvement of the technical aspects and professional skills of the licensee and on the enhancement of professional ethics. Your feedback through a survey is welcome and important. **This survey is available until March 1**, and should not take more than 5-10 minutes of your time. [Access the survey](#).

Energy Commission Approves \$1.9 Billion to Expand Zero-Emission Transportation Infrastructure

The California Energy Commission (CEC) [recently approved a \\$1.9 billion investment plan](#) that accelerates progress on the state's electric vehicle (EV) charging and hydrogen refueling goals. These investments will help deploy infrastructure for light, medium, and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) across California, creating the most extensive charging and hydrogen refueling network in the country.

The plan details how the CEC's Clean Transportation Program will spend \$1.9 billion in state funding over the next four years, with at least 50% targeted to benefit priority populations. The funding is part of the \$48 billion dollar California Climate Commitment, which includes more than \$10 billion for ZEVs and ZEV infrastructure. The state has also received billions from the Biden-Harris Administration for clean transportation.

The funds approved today will result in 40,000 new chargers statewide. Nearly 94,000 public and shared private chargers are installed today. Combined with previous investment plans, funding from the federal government, utilities and other programs, the state expects to reach 250,000 chargers in the next few years. This is in addition to private installations and home chargers.

"We need to make sure that this is zero emission refueling infrastructure for everybody," said CEC's Lead Commissioner for Transportation Patty Monahan. "By investing a bulk of funds to benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities, the state is making sure communities most in need have better access to chargers and less pollution from trucks and buses." [Read more.](#)

California Lawmaker Introduces Bill to Repeal NEM 3.0

A California lawmaker has introduced a bill to repeal damaging energy policies that have curtailed the state's solar industry, [Solar Builder reports](#).

Assembly member Damon Connolly (D-San Rafael) has introduced new legislation to reduce fees and taxes on residential solar projects and restore incentives to Californians who are helping to generate clean energy for our grid.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) implemented changes in late 2022 called Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0, which cut the incentives that utilities were required to pay homeowners with new solar panels when they sold surplus power to the grid.

These incentives were cut by approximately 75%, plummeting demand for solar adoption throughout the state. According to state data demand for solar installations declined by 90% since 2022. In addition to the projected loss of 17,000 jobs, NEM 3.0 has also jeopardized California's ability to meet its ambitious clean energy goals. Solar power has long been identified as a key tool in meeting the state's requirement to switch to 90% carbon-free electricity by 2035 and 100% by 2045. [Read more.](#)



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

Featured Jobs

[Director of Engineering](#)

Rialto, CA

[Mechanical and Electrical Facility Engineers](#)

Edwards, CA

[Civil Engineering|Project Manager](#)

San Leandro, CA

[Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the NSPE Job Board.](#)

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

NCEES Seeks PE Expertise to Update Exams

NCEES is currently seeking licensed professional engineers to participate in a professional activities and knowledge study, or PAKS, to update specifications for the PE Architectural Engineering Exam and the PE Environmental Exam.

Architectural Engineering

NCEES requires a cross section of PEs practicing architectural engineering (including those working in industry, consulting, the public sector, and academia) to complete an online survey about the tasks and knowledge required of a licensed architectural engineer with four to six years of experience to practice in a manner that safeguards the public. Access the survey [here](#) and participate by April 24.

Environmental Engineering

NCEES requires a cross section of PEs practicing environmental engineering

(including those working in industry, consulting, the public sector, and academia) to complete an online survey about the tasks and knowledge required of a licensed environmental engineer with four to six years of experience to practice in a manner that safeguards the public. Access the survey [here](#) and participate by May 5.

The 2024 Scholarship Season Opens

The NSPE Education Foundation is [now accepting applications](#) for the 2024 scholarship season through an online submission platform. The application deadline is April 1.

High School

The [Maureen L. and Howard N. Blitman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering](#) is awarded annually to a high school senior from an ethnic minority who has been accepted into an ABET-accredited engineering program at a four-year college or university. The award is for \$5,000.

Undergraduate

The [Steinman Scholarship](#) is awarded annually to undergraduates entering or continuing their junior year in a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program. The award is for \$5,000.

The [William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship](#) is awarded to an undergraduate student who is a resident of either Kansas or Missouri, enrolled as a junior in an ABET-accredited engineering program in a college or university in either Kansas or Missouri. The award is for \$2,500.

Graduate

The [George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship](#) is awarded annually to a current engineering undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in, or graduated from, an ABET-accredited engineering program. The award is for \$3,000.

PE Institute – 15 Free Webinar Package

NSPE has moved 15 on-demand webinars out from behind the paywall for viewing by members from the comfort of home or the office. Members can [add the webinar package to their account now](#). Once added, the webinars can be viewed through January 15, 2025.

Since 2022, NSPE has offered all PE Institute webinars free of charge to members. Past webinars are also available for viewing in the [On-Demand Webinars](#) section of the PE Institute website.

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