

State News for NSPE Members

California MATHCOUNTS Team Gets Ready for National Competition

Congratulations to the California mathletes who will represent the state during the upcoming **2023 Raytheon Technologies MATHCOUNTS Competition** finals that will take place May 14–15 in Orlando, Florida. Access more national competition information [here](#).

The California team includes the following student members and coach:

- **Ayush Bansal** (8th grade) Hyde Middle School-Santa Clara, CA
- **Ryan Bansal** (8th grade) Miller Middle School-San Jose, CA
- **Andy Lu** (8th grade) Redwood Middle School-Saratoga, CA
- **Seabert Mao** (8th grade) Redwood Middle School-Saratoga, CA
- **P.J. Yim** (Coach) Redwood Middle School

NSPE-CA supports the next generation of PEs through engagement in the MATHCOUNTS program. These students are some of the most capable and hardworking young mathematicians in our state, and the top scoring students earn the prestigious honor of representing California at the national level.

Network and Learn at NSPE-CA Events



NSPE–California is holding in-person events once again! Below is our tentative schedule for 2023. As we finalize date and other details (including registration) we will be adding these events to our [Calendar of Events](#) listings.

April — Tour in Berkeley (in planning)

May — California Public Utilities Commission lunch topic (in planning)

June 10 — Biomethane production facility tour followed by lunch in Bakersfield

July — Member event in Pasadena with NSPE President Bill Atkinson (in planning)

September — Metropolitan Water District Pure Water Demonstration Plant at the LA CSD Plant in Carson (in planning)

California Invests \$1.1 Billion for Transportation Infrastructure

The California Transportation Commission allocated more than \$1.1 billion in March for [projects to repair and improve transportation infrastructure](#) throughout the state. The allocation includes more than \$533 million in funding from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA) and more than \$190 million in funding from Senate Bill (SB) 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

California has already received nearly \$18.5 billion since the IIJA's passage in November 2021. SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually that is shared equally between the state and local agencies. Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds, including projects that are partially funded by SB 1.

[Access more information about California transportation projects funded by the IIJA and SB 1.](#)

California Power Companies Propose Income-Based Rates

Because of [new state law](#), California's three largest power companies—Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas & Electric and Pacific Gas & Electric—have submitted a joint proposal to the state's Public Utilities Commission to simplify electricity bills to include a fixed-rate billing system based on household income.

The aim is to lower power bills, particularly for lower-income customers, while increasing transparency. If enacted, customers would see two main charges on their bills, according to a [KTLA 5 News report](#).

Put simply, the more you earn the more you pay for recurring charges (not related to energy usage):

- Households with annual income from \$28,000 – \$69,000 would pay \$20 a month in Southern California Edison territory, \$34 a month in SDG&E territory, and \$30 a month in PG&E territory.
- Households earning \$69,000 – \$180,000 would pay \$51 a month in Edison and PG&E territories, and \$73 a month in SDG&E territory.
- Those with incomes above \$180,000 would pay \$85 a month in Edison territory, \$128 a month in SDG&E territory and \$92 a month in PG&E territory.

According to SCE, the fixed rate will cover "the costs of safely building, maintaining and operating the electric grid, of providing customer support, and the cost of state initiatives to help income-qualified customers and energy-efficiency programs." [Read more.](#)

Develop Your Leadership Skills

NSPE-CA is looking for members who want to guide the future of their professional society and engage with their profession. There are several volunteer openings — with a variety of time commitments — available:

- **Help Plan Events** — Join our Event Task Force and help NSPE-CA plan events throughout the state.
- **Legislation Watch** — Help monitor bills that could affect the profession.
- **Present** — Present a topic during a Zoom lunch meeting.
- **Lead Discussion** — Lead a Zoom discussion about an NSPE webinar.
- **MATHCOUNTS** — Volunteer with MATHCOUNTS and inspire future engineers.

Interested in learning more? Email admin@nspe-ca.org.



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.

The latest California jobs are pulled from the NSPE Job Board and appear on the NSPE-CA website. New career opportunities are also posted through NSPE-CA social media profiles on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).

Featured Jobs

[Principal Civil Engineer](#)

Norwalk, CA

[Project Engineer \(Construction\)](#)

Irvine, CA

[Director of Transportation & Public Works](#)

Santa Rosa, 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](#) .

Don't Hesitate to Share Your PE Story

By Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, President 2022–2023

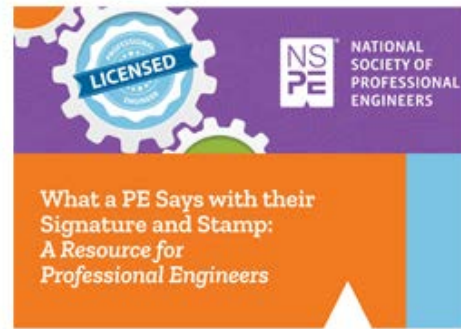


Have you ever thought about how many people will ever need to hire an engineer? Probably not very many. But as engineers, we have a huge impact on their lives and in countless ways. For example, we all expect clean water to come out of the faucet, the lights to come on when we want, the bridge we cross on the way to work to be safe, the air we breathe to be clean, and the products we buy for our kids to be safe. When engineers do their best work, most people don't even notice. Yet, as a profession we strive to make everyone's life better.

The work of our profession by design affects the lives of many people—likely tens of thousands on a daily basis. In my case, I work in the public works department in the community that I reside and that means the decisions I make don't just affect nameless strangers. The people in this community are my neighbors, my friends, and my family. [Read more.](#)

New Policy Documents: The Signature and Stamp, Key Issues for the PE

The Committee on Policy and Advocacy has released the “[What a PE Says with their Signature and Stamp](#)” document. The document provides a general awareness of the PE signature and stamp process and includes best practices and lessons learned for those considering developing or improving their own process. The committee recently updated and released the documents, “[What is a PE?](#)” and “[Key Issues for the Professional Engineer.](#)” Updated position statements can be accessed [here](#).



QBS Awards Program Accepting Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominations for the 2023 QBS Awards. The [QBS Awards program](#) promotes and recognizes the exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process.

Award winners [serve as examples of how well the QBS process works](#), and they help NSPE promote the practice of QBS in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services. A maximum of one QBS Award may be presented to the federal government sector, the state government sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, May 1** (close of business). Access the awards information and nomination form [here](#).

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