

State News for NSPE Members

Welcome New NSPE-CA Members

NSPE-CA would like to give a warm welcome to our newest members!

June

Isaac Viscarra, P.E., mechanical engineer, Hollister

May

Nicholas Peters, P.E., of SoCo Engineering, Healdsburg

John Westmoreland, P.E., of Westmoreland Engineering, San Jose

Join NSPE-CA for Upcoming Events



Friday, July 7, 2023

California Institute of Technology Seismological Laboratory Tour and Dinner

NSPE-California members and their guests are invited to join NSPE-CA's 2023-2024 Board of Directors for a tour of the [California Institute of Technology's Seismological Laboratory](#), followed by dinner in Pasadena. Also attending will be special guest NSPE President for 2023-2024 Bill Atkinson, P.E. The tour is free, and dinner is a paid add-on at [Celestino Ristorante & Bar Pasadena](#). **Access more event information and register [here](#).**

July 8, 2023

NSPE-CA Board of Directors Meeting

Pasadena, California

Emails with registration details are coming soon for the following events!

July 27, 2023

9:30 a.m.–noon

California Institute of Technology Jet Propulsion Laboratory Tour

Pasadena, California

NSPE-CA members

September 23, 2023

Metropolitan Water District Pure Water Demonstration Plant Tour

Tour led by professional engineers

NSPE-CA members and guests

October 26, 2023

Transbay Joint Powers Authority

Updates on Downtown Rail Extension/The Portal

NSPE-CA members

NSPE-CA Renewable Energy Presentation and Plant Tour



NSPE-CA members participated in a renewable energy presentation and plant tour on June 10 in Buttonwillow, California.



[Access more tour photos here.](#)

Limited Workforce May Hinder California's Infrastructure Upgrade

After decades of neglect, California's infrastructure is poised for an upgrade. Thanks in part to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed by President Biden in November 2021, the Golden State is set to receive more than \$100 billion in federal and state infrastructure funds over the next several years, the [Capitol Weekly reports](#).

This money represents a "once-in-a-generation opportunity," according to Governor Gavin Newsom, to install and/or update a litany of critical systems serving Californians, including:

- A network of charging stations for electric vehicles;
- Broadband internet service;
- Replacement roads and bridges, designed to mitigate climate change;

- Protections against cyberattacks, wildfires and extreme weather events;
- Improved public transportation options;
- Better service lines and pipes for clean drinking water; and
- Airport upgrades.

"We have a remarkable opportunity to improve California's infrastructure planning and delivery—and to make sure infrastructure projects are built better, faster and with greater transparency," said Micah Weinberg, CEO of CA FWD, in a recent press release touting the organization's new report on maximizing the state's infrastructure dollars.

But there's a problem, according to the CA FWD report: this new funding is expected to generate 400,000 construction jobs – jobs the current California workforce can't fill. "In order to implement its infrastructure program," CA FWD says bluntly, "California will need to develop its infrastructure workforce." That won't be easy. [Read more.](#)

California's Clean Electricity Portfolio and Battery Storage Capacity Grows

The latest data from the California Energy Commission shows that in 2021 more than 37% of the state's electricity came from [Renewables Portfolio Standard](#) (RPS)-eligible sources such as solar and wind, an increase of 2.7% compared to 2020.

When combined with other sources of zero-carbon energy such as large hydroelectric generation and nuclear, nearly 59% of the state's retail electricity sales came from nonfossil fuel sources. This amount remains unchanged from 2020 despite the jump in renewables due to drought-related declines in hydroelectric generation.

"This latest report card shows California continues making significant progress toward a 100% clean electrical grid of the future that leaves dirty fossil fuels in the past," said Commissioner Noemí Gallardo, who is the lead commissioner on RPS compliance. "We remain committed to ensuring a healthier and prosperous future for all Californians. By removing barriers to new clean energy projects and funding energy innovations, we will help the state deliver on this vision by mid-century."

California's RPS program requires all load-serving entities in California to procure a portion of their electricity sales from eligible renewable resources. The program was established in 2002 with an initial requirement that 20% of electricity retail sales be served by renewable resources by 2017. Escalating requirements saw the goal increase to 33% by 2020 — a target that was met two years early in 2018. [Read more.](#)

USC Joins Consortium to Address Clean Water Access and Sustainability Challenges

A collaboration between the University of Southern California, the University of Arizona, and the University of Nevada, Reno, has resulted in the Water Reuse Consortium. This partnership has been awarded a \$12.3 million cooperative agreement for phase one of a three-phase \$38 million program with the US Army Corps of Engineers - Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (ERDC-CERL). The consortium will tackle pressing water challenges through innovative research, education, communication, and unprecedented collaborative efforts between government, local communities, industry, and academia.

Clean water scarcity is an increasingly critical issue worldwide, and effective water reuse strategies are essential in mitigating its impact. Recognizing this urgent need, the Water Reuse Consortium will focus on research and development initiatives to advance water treatment technologies, enhance the efficiency of water reuse systems, and drive sustainable policies and practices while addressing public health concerns. [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.
- **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.

Featured Jobs

[Senior Civil Engineer \(Water Resources\)](#)

Modesto, CA

[Associate Mechanical Engineer](#)

Sacramento, CA

[Public Works Director](#)

Avalon, 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](#).

Connect with Your Colleagues at #NSPECon23



Register now for NSPECon23 and connect with your colleagues in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. The conference [features multiple education tracks](#) in

leadership, trends in the industry, and career development with the opportunity to earn up to 10 PDHs. Also stay tuned for information on engineering-related tours. **Register by June 29 to take advantage of discounted rates.**

Register Now!

Keynote Speakers

Bill Samuels, Jr., Chairman Emeritus of Maker's Mark Distillery, will open the NSPECon 23 meeting. Samuels, who helped design both the Gemini and Polaris missiles and became friends with the founding administrator of NASA, will talk about the, "[Trials and Tribulations of a Failed Aerospace Engineer.](#)"



Megan Bendtzen, the CEO and founder of TheDoctorofFun.com, will give a keynote presentation on - [Beyond the Blueprint: Mastering the Most Important Project of Your Life](#) . In this clever and entertaining presentation, Bendtzen will completely shift your perspective, debunking the myth of work-life balance and revealing the single biggest lie surrounding the pursuit of happiness.



Conference Session Highlights

- [Ethical Obligations and Engineering Through a DEI Lens](#)
- [The Engineer's Blueprint: Success Principles for Winning at Work and at Home](#)
- [Lithium: The Race for North American EV Dominance But at What Cost to the Industry?](#)
- [Finding the Funds for Your Infrastructure Project](#)
- [Leaders Leading Leaders](#)
- [We Need YOU to Protect the License!](#)
- [Meeting the Challenges and Needs of The Engineering Workforce](#)
- [Speculative Technology and Exploratory Engineering for Designing the Future](#)

[Access the full conference program.](#)

Sponsor and Exhibitor Opportunities

NSPECon23 offers sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. Access the [Sponsor and Exhibitor Prospectus](#) for more information.



New Webinar: Racing Towards Excellence

A new webinar will get you ready for NSPECon23 — [Racing Towards Excellence: Enhancing Customer Experience and Improving Safety at Churchill Downs](#) .

Neil Crawford, P.E., an accomplished engineer and project manager at Qk4 Inc., offers insight into the history of Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby and its economic impacts on Kentucky. Learn about recent improvement projects to enhance the customer experience and also projects to improve equine/horsemanship safety and expand the racing operations.

The webinar is FREE for members and offers 1 PDH. [Register and watch now](#) .



ARPL Offers New Advocacy Resources

ARPL has released two new advocacy resources. A video, [Universal Licensing: A](#)

[Closer Look](#) , (featuring Rebecca Bowman, Senior Director of Ethics and Professional Practice) and an advocacy document, [The Critical Role of Licensing in Business Success](#) , based on recent research. As a sponsoring member of ARPL, NSPE has access to these resources and others on the [ARPL website](#) .

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