

## State News for NSPE Members

### NSPE-CA Expanding Activity

*NSPE-CA's new leadership team has begun expanding activity throughout the state.*

#### NSPE's Leadership Team for 2023-2025

**President Mike Ozatalar, P.E.**, manager of engineering at Parsons Corp.

**Vice President Davis Flaten, P.E.**, program manager at the Cordoba Corporation

**Treasurer Ken Discenza, P.E.**, owner and principal of Site Design Associates, Inc.

**Immediate Past President Joseph Quinn, P.E.**, owner and principal of Materials FACT.

**Events Task Force Chair Harold Hartman, P.E.**, a senior associate at Eco & Associates

#### Caltech Seismological Lab Tour and BOD Meeting

NSPE-CA members and leaders took a tour of the fascinating Caltech Seismological Lab this month as part of the society's return to holding membership events in conjunction with its annual in-person Board of Directors meeting.

The Caltech Seismological Lab tour was held the afternoon of Friday, July 7, along with a membership dinner that evening. The annual in-person Board of Directors meeting and biennial installation luncheon was the following day. Members were invited to attend all activities.

Margaret Vinci, manager of the Office of Earthquake Programs, Communication, Education and Outreach, conducted the lab tour at Caltech. She expertly answered the many specific questions NSPE-CA members asked about the capabilities and process of the lab. Margaret is also the ShakeAlert SoCal Technical Engagement Regional Coordinator.

New NSPE President Bill Atkinson, P.E., attended the tour and joined NSPE-CA members and leaders for the membership dinner afterward at Celestino's in Pasadena. Bill was the installing officer for NSPE-CA's new leadership team during the membership luncheon and attended the board meeting held on the Parsons Corporation campus. Bill's insight was invaluable as the board starts working on

plans to increase membership engagement and activity for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. His presence offered an ideal opportunity to strengthen the working relationship between NSPE and NSPE-CA in order to grow the Society.

NSPE-CA leadership invites members to help build a strong presence for NSPE in California. If you are interesting in helping, please contact President Mike Ozatalar at [michael.ozatalar@parsons.com](mailto:michael.ozatalar@parsons.com) or Executive Director Jeanne Marie Tokunaga, CAE, at [admin@nspe-ca.org](mailto:admin@nspe-ca.org).



Shown in the photo (from left) are NSPE President Bill Atkinson and NSPE-CA leaders Immediate Past President Joseph Quinn, President Mike Ozatalar, Vice President Davis Flaten, Treasurer Ken Discenza, and Events Task Force Chair Harold Hartman.



Immediate Past President Joseph Quinn (left) hands off a personalized ceremonial gavel to new NSPE-CA President Mike Ozatalar.



NSPE-CA members tour the Caltech Seismological Lab.

---

## **Events Task Force Planning Full Schedule of Member Activities**

The Events Task Force is working on a number of in-person and online member

programs starting with a tour in September and is planning a full slate of engagement opportunities throughout California for the current fiscal year, which started July 1.

Plans already in place include a Metropolitan Water District Pure Water Demonstration Plant Tour (led by professional engineers) and a Transbay Joint Power Authority update on the San Francisco Downtown Rail Extension.

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

All members are welcome to participate in the Events Task Force Zoom meetings as their schedules allow. Contact Harold Hartman at [hvhartman@earthlink.net](mailto:hvhartman@earthlink.net) or Jeanne Marie Tokunaga, CAE, at [admin@nspe-ca.org](mailto:admin@nspe-ca.org) if you'd like to receive notices of the meeting dates.

---

## Welcome New NSPE-CA Members

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

### June

**Garrett Hawthorne, P.E.**, civil engineer, Las Vegas

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

### Share the Benefits of NSPE-CA Membership

NSPE/NSPE-CA is multidisciplinary engineering society that supports engineers in their service to the public. We are the right engineering society for you if:

**You care about licensure** — NSPE — more so than any other professional society — is laser focused on promoting and defending the licensure of professional engineers. NSPE tracks and defends against threats to professional licensure throughout the country. Learn more.

**You care about ethics** — NSPE prides itself on promoting and teaching professional ethics. A number of resources on professional ethics are available to help engineers gain a sound understanding in ethics before and when they face a challenge. Learn more.

**You want to advance your career** — NSPE provides the opportunity to gain leadership experience and education that can benefit your career advancement, through our annual conference NSPECon, online education, and volunteering with NSPE-CA. Learn more about education. Inquire about leadership opportunities at [admin@nspe-ca.org](mailto:admin@nspe-ca.org).

**You want to get to know your community** — NSPE-CA holds in-person and online events where you can meet other engineers and tour some of California's great engineering-related facilities. Learn more.

---

## Join NSPE-CA for Upcoming Events



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

*Registration information coming soon!*

---

## State Licensing Board Meeting

The [California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists](#) will hold its next meeting **July 27-28**. Access meeting agenda [here](#).

---

## Governor Signs Bills Package to Accelerate Infrastructure Projects

Governor Gavin Newsom recently signed into law a slate of bills to accelerate critical infrastructure projects across California to help build a 100% clean electric grid, ensure safe drinking water, and boost the state's water supply and modernize our transportation system.



The legislation represents a push to take full advantage of an unprecedented \$180 billion in state, local, and federal infrastructure funds over the next 10 years – critical to achieving California's world-leading climate and clean energy goals while also creating up to 400,000 good-paying jobs, according to a [news release](#).

By streamlining permitting, cutting red tape, and allowing state agencies to use new project delivery methods, this legislation will maximize taxpayer dollars and accelerate timelines of projects throughout the state, while ensuring appropriate environmental review and community engagement.

How will the legislation work?

- **Speeds Up Construction:** Current construction procurement processes drive delays and increase project costs. The legislation includes methods to offer a streamlined process for project delivery to reduce project timeframes and costs.
- **Expedites Court Review:** Legal challenges often tie up projects even after they've successfully gone through environmental review. This legislation speeds up judicial review to avoid long delays and advance projects without reducing the environmental and government transparency benefits of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- **Streamlines Permitting:** Makes changes to California law to accelerate permitting for certain projects, reducing delays and project costs.
- **Addresses Cumbersome CEQA Processes:** Streamlines procedures around document collection and assembly in litigation after projects have already been approved.
- **Maximizes Federal Dollars:** Establishes a Green Bank Financing Program within the Climate Catalyst Fund so that the state can leverage federal dollars for climate projects that cut pollution, with an emphasis on projects that benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities. [Read more.](#)

---

## Risk of Exposure to PFAS Chemicals Higher in Southern California

Tap water in urban areas of Southern and Central California appears more likely to be contaminated by PFAS "forever chemicals" than drinking water in many other regions of the nation, although rural Californians are far less likely to suffer similar exposure, according to new research by the US Geological Survey.

The newly released study is the latest to examine the prevalence of per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances — a vast group of manufactured chemicals that are drawing increasing scrutiny for their health risks, as well as their widespread prevalence in food, water, soil, air, and work environments, the [Los Angeles Times reports](#).

In what is considered to be the nation's first large-scale analysis of PFAS in tap water from private wells and public water supplies, researchers estimated that at least 45% of drinking water across the nation could contain one or more of the chemicals. Study authors also concluded that drinking-water exposures may be more common in Southern and Central California, as well as the Great Plains, Great Lakes, and Eastern Seaboard regions.

While study authors found an 8% probability that one or more of the chemicals would be detected in drinking water in rural areas, the detection probability skyrocketed to more than 70% in urban areas. [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**

[Principal Civil Engineer](#)

Citrus Heights, CA

[Electrical Engineer-Remote- Solar Energy](#)

El Segundo, CA

[Engineering Director](#)

Vista, 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](#) .*

---

## **Meet the 2023 NSPE Emerging Leaders**



NSPE is pleased to recognize 15 talented professionals who recently completed the Society's [Emerging Leaders Program](#). This diverse group of young professionals was selected from around the country to take part in an intensive, unique enterprise designed to equip them as leaders in the engineering field.

- **Nicholas J. Bailey, P.E.** (Cincinnati, Ohio)
- **Frank Block III, Ph.D., P.E.** (Silver Spring, Maryland)
- **Timothy Choma, P.E.** (Iselin, New Jersey)
- **Courtney Cunningham, P.E.** (Houston, Texas)
- **Steven T. Fox, P.E.** (Nashville, Tennessee)
- **Blane Gee, P.E.** (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)
- **Holly Hartley Guillaume, P.E.** (Katy, Texas)
- **Lingbee Chyna Lim, P.E.** (Charleston, South Carolina)
- **Brianne R. Jole, P.E.** (Lubbock, Texas)
- **Corey Kingsland, P.E.** (Kansas City, Missouri)
- **Carter Lytal, P.E.** (Lubbock, Texas)
- **Rebecca Martinez, P.E.** (Cherry Hill, New Jersey)
- **Alissa Neuhausen, P.E.** (Rockville, Maryland)
- **Victor Odili, P.E.** (Conroe, Texas)
- **Skylar Wierzbicki, P.E.** (Grapevine, Texas)

The program is [accepting applications](#) for the next class of rising leaders until August 31.

---





The upcoming [Professional Engineers Day](#) (Wednesday, August 2) is an incredible opportunity to showcase the value of NSPE and your PE license. We encourage you to post on your social media accounts a highlight from your community, your work, your impact, your story and include the #IAMNSPE, #WeareNSPE, #ProudPE.

NSPE's [apparel shop](#) features the PE Day logo on a variety of items including many styles of t-shirts and other apparel for men, women, and kids, as well as accessories like mugs, notebooks, tote bags, wall prints, and even phone cases. [Shop now](#).

---

## Check Out the Latest Issue of *PE*

### [The Chatter About AI](#)

OpenAI's ChatGPT came on the scene in November 2022. This type of generative AI has made a noticeable impact in a brief period of time and other versions of chatbots have been released. This emerging technology is sparking discussions about what impact AI could have on the engineering workforce and in engineering practice.



### [Reaching Tomorrow's Innovators](#)

DiscoverE has released its latest research on the views of high school students and parents on engineering and engineering careers. The Messages Matter results were encouraging as they reveal that targeted messages and profiles of engineers can spur interest in engineering among the very groups that will ensure a more diverse future for the field.

Members who subscribe to the [digital edition of PE](#) can access the current and back issues.

To update your e-mail address, visit [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here](#) to unsubscribe .

## Share with your network



**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA  
22314**

