State News for NSPE Members

Network and Learn at NSPE-CA Events



NSPE-California is holding in-person events once again! Here are some recent event photos.

The Engineers' Council Awards Banquet - February 25, 2023



NSPE-CA was a sponsor of the banquet.



NSPE-CA Vice-President Mike Ozatalar and his wife, Jodi.

San Diego Engineers Week Festival - February 19, 2023



Mike Ozatalar (NSPE-CA Vice President), Peter Livingston (President of the NSPE-CA Education Foundation President), and Ken Discenza (NSPE-CA Treasurer) attended the Engineers Week Festival

NSPE-CA and SWE Los Angeles Engineer Social at Upshift Brewing Co. - February 15, 2023



Access more event photos here.

Upcoming Event Schedule

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.

March 25 — Northern California State MATHCOUNTS Competition at University of the Pacific in Stockton

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)

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 Eve**nts 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.

State Licensing Board News

Check out the latest news from the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

Applicants and Licensees Required to Provide Email Addresses to the Board New laws have been enacted that require applicants and licensees to provide the board with a valid email address (if they have one) and to notify the board within 30 days of any change of their email address.

The Civil Seismic PE Exam

The Civil Seismic Principles Exam will continue to test on the 2019 California Building Code for the remainder of 2023. The 2022 California Building Code will be implemented on the 2024 Civil Seismic Principles Exam.

In addition, new test plans for the Civil Engineering Surveying and Civil Seismic Principles exams will be implemented on January 1, 2024. The current Civil Engineering Examinations Reference List, Civil Engineering Surveying Test Plan, and Civil Seismic Principles Test Plan are available on the board's website.

Board Meeting

The board will hold its next meeting **April 13-14** (1747 North Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186 Sacramento, CA 95834). Access the meeting information and agenda here.

Latest Issue of the Bulletin Newsletter

The Fall/Winter Board Bulletin is now available. Access the newsletter here.

Diablo Canyon Power Plant Needed to Support Grid Reliability

The California Energy Commission (CEC) recently approved a staff analysis recommending the state pursue extending operation of Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) through 2030 to ensure electricity reliability. The determination is based on data showing California risks energy supply shortfalls during extreme weather events driven by climate change, according to a news release.

Senate Bill 846 (Dodd, 2022) requires the CEC to determine the need to extend DCPP's license to operate beyond its expiration date of 2025. Located in San Luis Obispo County, DCPP is owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The nuclear power plant supplies about 17% of California's

zero-carbon electricity and 9% of total electricity. An extension allows the state to rely less on natural gas and more on clean resources for the electricity grid.

"As California confronts a rapidly changing climate, extraordinary heat events and record energy demand are becoming increasingly ordinary. The state needs to keep all options on the table to protect public health and safety," said CEC Vice Chair Siva Gunda. "This includes maintaining Diablo Canyon's operations to support reliability statewide in the near-term. An extension would allow more time for additional clean energy projects to come on-line as we work on the long-term transition away from fossil fuels." Read more.

California High-Speed Rail Project More Expensive Than Previously Thought

It turns out high-speed rail is more expensive than California officials previously thought. The California High-Speed Rail Authority released its revised cost projections this week and found the project is becoming more expensive, *The Center Square* reports.

Four years ago, Governor Gavin Newsom unveiled his plan for a bullet train that travels 171 miles; he said it would begin operating in 2030 and cost \$22.8 billion to construct.

However, the cost projection has risen dramatically since then. Now, the 171-mile initial segment is projected to cost as much as \$35 billion. It means the state would need to secure an additional \$10 billion to complete the project, according to CalMatters.

Furthermore, the projected cost of the entire 500-mile high-speed rail line has quadrupled since voters approved the plan in 2008. It has increased to the point where that 171-mile stretch may cost more than what the entire project was expected to cost. 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.

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

City Engineer
Palm Desert, CA

Engineer San Diego, CA

Senior Mechanical Engineer San Rafael, 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**.

TVA Engineer Named 2023 FEYA Winner

Stephen Craven, Ph.D., P.E., was named NSPE's 2023 Federal Engineer of the Year for his innovative work securing Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) substations and developing improved communication architecture. Now in its 44th year, the Federal Engineer of the Year Award is the only one of its kind to solely recognize outstanding engineers employed in the federal government. Federal agency winners were honored during a ceremony held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 24.



Stephen Craven is a third-generation TVA engineer, serving at the agency's Power Service Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Among his accomplishments, Craven has helped secure substations against cyber-attacks, designing ways to keep critical equipment disconnected from external attackers and yet still be remotely monitored for anomalies. He was also instrumental in the development of a new communication architecture that is faster, more reliable, and less expensive than previous schemes. Read more.

WORKability Wednesdays Are Back!

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—"WORKability Wednesdays"—to support members with their professional development goals. The series covers topics impacting the industry and helps to enhance your competencies in the profession. The spring season sessions kicked off on March 8 with Understanding the New Requirements for Cybersecurity Insurance. Register now at NSPE's PE Institute and invite a colleague to attend.

Upcoming webinars

- March 22—Using Construction Manager at Risk Project Delivery to Manage the Current Challenges in Constructing Projects
- April 12—Doing Bad Things for Good Reasons: An Examination of Unethical Pro-Organizational Behavior Among Professional Workers
- Save the date for webinars on April 26, May 17, and May 31

Take the Milton F. Lunch Ethics Challenge!

Match your wits and knowledge of engineering ethics with experienced professional engineers and engineering students throughout the country! All current NSPE individual members and NSPE chapters (including student members) are invited to participate in the 2023 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest . Contest submissions are due by **May 12**. View past contest winner entries .

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