

State News for NSPE Members

NSPE-CA Virtual Presentation: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Engineering



Please join NSPE-CA on **Friday, November 18** (12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. PST) for a [FREE lunchtime Zoom presentation](#) discussing how NSPE is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the engineering profession.

NSPE seeks to create a diverse and welcoming environment for everyone interested in the licensed practice of engineering and recognizes the benefits of a diverse population of licensed engineers in shaping the future of engineering. This interactive session will be presented by **Jacquelyn Brooks, P.E.**, former Chair of NSPE's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee, and **Ken Discenza, P.E.**, treasurer of NSPE-California, and a former member of the DEI Advisory Committee.

Registration is required and is open to current and prospective members. [Reserve your spot today!](#)

Here are other events in the 2022-23 schedule.

- December — Joint Event with IEEE in Los Angeles Metro Area
- January — Social Event with SWE in Southern California

February – National Engineers Week Events in San Diego

- March — College Campus Visit to Promote PE Licensure

State Licensing Board Meeting

The [California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists](#) will hold its next meeting **December 8-9**. Access the meeting information and agenda (including virtual attendance information) [here](#).

UCLA Launches Free STEM Program for High School Students

The UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science recently launched the [Mathematics Achievement Program](#) (MAP), which aims to provide a robust STEM curriculum for students from underserved high schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Free of charge for admitted students, MAP will also provide complimentary transportation, meals, and school supplies for the students who will visit UCLA's campus on the weekends to engage in advanced math lessons and hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The engineering school's [Center for Excellence in Engineering and Diversity](#) is spearheading the program as part of its continued commitment to building a more sustainable, quality STEM program for K-12 students. [Read more](#).

Voters Reject Tax for Electric Vehicles

California voters rejected a measure that would have raised taxes on millionaires to help more people purchase electric vehicles and fund wildfire prevention efforts across the state, [The Sacramento Bee reports](#). The defeat of Prop. 30 marked a major victory for Governor Gavin Newsom, the measure's most prominent opponent.

The measure asked voters to support raising the income tax by 1.75% on Californians earning more than \$2 million a year — or about 35,000 of the wealthiest people in the state. The funds raised by the initiative would go toward boosting subsidy programs for the purchase of electric vehicles, building more charging stations, and allowing Cal Fire to hire more firefighters. [Read more](#).

CA Sues Manufacturers of Toxic "Forever Chemicals"

California Attorney General Rob Bonta [filed a lawsuit](#) on November 10 against the manufacturers of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (commonly referred to as PFAS) for endangering public health, causing irreparable harm to the state's natural resources, and engaging in a widespread campaign to deceive the public.

In the lawsuit, Attorney General Bonta alleges that these manufacturers, including 3M and DuPont, knew or should have known that PFAS are toxic and harmful to human health and the environment, yet continued to produce them for mass use and concealed their harms from the public. As a result, these toxic "forever chemicals" are pervasive across California's bays, lakes, streams, and rivers; in its fish, wildlife, and soil; and in the bloodstream of 98% of Californians. [Read more.](#)

Public Utilities Commission Issues Solar Tariff Modernization Proposal

The [California Public Utilities Commission](#) has issued a proposal to modernize the Net Energy Metering (NEM) solar tariff to promote solar and battery storage, grid reliability, and control electricity costs for California residents. The update launches the solar industry into the future so that it can support the modern grid by incentivizing solar paired with battery storage and the adoption of electric vehicles, heat pump water heaters, and other electrification appliances while making rates more affordable for Californians.

The proposal:

- Supports the solar and battery storage industry;
- Saves a residential solar customer \$100 a month on average, and a residential solar plus battery storage customer at least \$136 a month on average;
- Controls electricity costs for all Californians; and
- Has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers, who maintain their existing compensation rates.

The proposal improves the pricing structure and credits customers for the electricity they export based on its value to the grid. The tariff also works together with an additional \$900 million of state funding approved by the state legislature in upfront incentives for residential solar plus battery storage adopters, with 70% of the incentives going directly to low-income customers. The proposal has no impact on existing rooftop solar customers and maintains their current compensation rates.

[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

[Project Manager – Electrical Engineer](#)

San Diego, CA

[Senior Structural Engineer](#)

Paso Robles, CA

[Principal Engineer](#)

Hemet, 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](#) .

NSPE Stays Focused on Sustainability and Resilience

The United Nations Climate Change Conference ([COP27](#)) kicked off in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt last week. As the conference takes place, NSPE will [provide conference highlights](#) of interest to professional engineers.



NSPE believes licensed PEs should be good stewards of the environment to preserve and protect our world for future generations. The Society recognizes that

attention to sustainable and resilient design practices is critical to the health of the planet and is an integral part of the practice of engineering. PEs are uniquely positioned to be a positive and driving influence in creating, maintaining, and renewing sustainable communities.

In early 2022, the NSPE Board of Directors endorsed “The Role of the Engineering Community in Addressing Climate Change.” The statement was prepared with input from a working group of 16 organizations, including NSPE, and facilitated by ECL-USA. It is intended to unite, energize, and motivate people within and across organizations, and to fulfill their desires for meaning and purpose in their professional lives.

The Role of the Engineering Community in Addressing Climate Change:

Climate change is real – the impacts are serious, and they are accelerating. There is an urgent imperative for the Engineering Community to take informed and intentional actions now to both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate. It is our duty and purpose to contribute our skills and knowledge of human-centered technologies and of the natural world to lead humanity out of the climate crisis with a focus on sustainable, resilient, equitable, and innovative approaches. [Learn more](#).

Honor Awards Open for Nominations

The [NSPE Honor Awards](#) promote the professional engineer’s contributions to society and recognize the achievements of the profession’s very best. The deadline for award submissions is **January 31, 2023**.

NSPE Award

The NSPE Award is the highest award given to an individual by the Society. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, the public welfare, and humankind. **Howard (Skip) Harclerode II, P.E., F.NSPE, F.AIChE**, received the award in 2022. He is the founder and president of KBD Engineering Company Inc., based in Phoenix, Maryland, and has been a tireless advocate for the engineering profession.



New Professional of the Year Award

This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the Engineering Profession and the community during the early years of one’s career. **Holly Ahumada, P.E., CFM**, and **Dylan Ward, P.E., MPA**, received the award in 2022. Holly Ahumada specializes in stormwater and floodplain management at Freese and Nichols in Fort Worth, Texas. Dylan Ward is

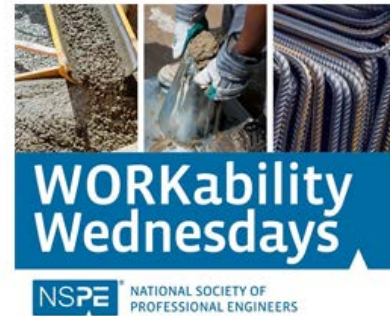
a project manager for the City of Henderson in Kentucky.



Upcoming Webinar: Election Recap

Join your colleagues for the next Workability Wednesdays webinar: [Election Recap: How Can PEs Prepare for the 2023 Legislative Session](#) (November 30).

Register now for these FREE webinars for NSPE members and earn PDHs before the end of the year. If you missed any recent webinars? No problem.... [check out the recordings](#) .



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