

State News for NSPE Members

NSPE-CA Partners with State to Provide PPE to Members

NSPE-CA helped California's Office of Emergency Services (OES) provide 10,000 masks and 18 gallons of hand sanitizer to members in need of personal protective equipment (PPE).

OES invited NSPE-CA and other associations serving essential industries to help distribute personal protective equipment to make sure the PPE would end up with people in those industries.

NSPE-CA emailed members a link to an application. The association then used the applications to place orders into the OES online portal and worked with members to justify and quantify their need for PPE. Three applications were completed, and the state ended up providing 10,000 masks and 18 gallons of hand sanitizers to NSPE-CA members and their companies.

NSPE-CA is proud to have been able to participate in this program that directly helped our members.



Welcome New Members!

Margaret Bacon, P.E.

Professional Engineer, Airbnb
San Francisco

Natsuki Okuda, P.E.

Biggs Cardosa Associates
Oakland

Richard Remillard, P.E.

Senior Mechanical and Electrical Engineer, EBI Consulting
Irvine

Rejoining

Margaret Cortes, P.E., PMP

Principal, Engineering Next
Walnut Creek

Dr. Meredith Sellers, P.E.

Managing Engineer, Exponent
Menlo Park

Upcoming Free Virtual Meeting—Root Cause Analysis

Join your NSPE-CA colleagues and **Robert (Bob) Latino, CEO of Reliability Center, Inc.**, for a free virtual meeting examining root cause analysis on **Tuesday, June 23** at 10 a.m.

In the time of COVID-19, Bob Latino believes that the ability to properly investigate undesirable outcomes is more than important. In this presentation, he will emphasize the need to merge the physical sciences as well as the social sciences in order to eliminate the risk of recurrence of these bad outcomes.

[Register for the meeting.](#)

NSPE-CA Member to Present on Water Reuse at 2020 Virtual PECon

NSPE-CA member **Medi Sinaki, P.E.**, will be a presenter during the 2020 Virtual Professional Engineers Conference on Tuesday, August 4 in a session on [RO Concentrate Management: Challenges of Expanding Potable Reuse in Santa Clara County](#).

Valley Water continues towards expansion of potable reuse in Santa Clara County,

which generates Reverse Osmosis Concentrate (ROC). Due to the sensitive nature of the San Francisco Bay and lack of access to an ocean outfall, proper management of ROC requires thorough analysis and innovative solutions.



Medi Sinaki, P.E., is a senior engineer in the Valley Water's Recycled and Purified Water Unit. He currently leads the Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management program and manages the research, special studies, and projects pertinent to the expansion of recycled and purified water. Sinaki has over 24 years of experience in water/wastewater, stormwater, recycled water, chemical manufacturing, and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S). He has worked for both public and private water utilities, and his experience spans from managing large Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects to Operations and Maintenance of large potable water, wastewater, and recycled water systems.

Sinaki has a master's degree in Engineering with a concentration in Water Resources from San Jose State University and a bachelor's degree in Chemistry and a minor in Engineering from San Francisco State University. He possesses registration as a chemical engineer in California and environmental engineer in Nevada. Sinaki is also a certified T3 Water Treatment Operator and D2 Water Distribution Operator in the state of California.

[Learn more about the Virtual PECon, August 3-7.](#)

California Assembly Passes Expedited Dam Safety for Silicon Valley Act

In an effort to move forward a \$576 million Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project, the California State Assembly passed AB 3005, the Expedited Dam Safety for Silicon Valley Act, facilitating the construction of the project, according to an *Engineering News-Record* article.

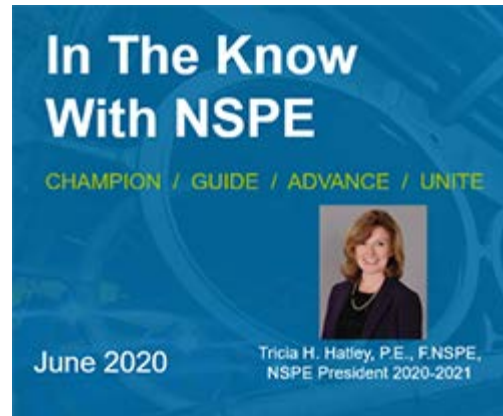
Assemblyman Robert Rivas, who wrote the bill, says the overwhelming vote of bipartisan support shows the importance in fixing the dam. "The clock is ticking on a catastrophic dam failure in case of a large earthquake," he says, "and we can't allow bureaucratic delay to increase risks to public safety, water security and

environmental protections.”

[Read more.](#)

Are You “In the Know”?

Members who want to get a quick overview of the Society’s news should check out the June “[In the Know with NSPE](#)” video on YouTube. The 15-minute presentation by President-Elect Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, covers topics like the reopening of licensing and certification exams, *PE* magazine highlights, a breakdown of the Society’s [strategic plan](#) , [advocacy efforts](#) on behalf of PEs, the upcoming [Virtual Professional Engineers Conference](#) , the Society’s [statement](#) on social injustice, and the [Emerging Leaders Program](#) .



Register for the *Virtual* PECon 2020

Registration is now open for the 2020 Virtual Professional Engineers Conference (PECon) on **August 3–7** with events centered around the annual celebration of [PE Day](#) on August 5.

Virtual PECon sessions can be experienced in a live virtual environment or by accessing recordings at a more convenient time. The virtual conference will also provide networking and social connection with colleagues by region and areas of practice in addition to professional development opportunities.



PECon at a Glance

- Keynote sessions featuring IBM’s Global Chief Technology Officer and the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board
- Session: [Ensuring Successful Stakeholder and Community Involvement](#)
- Session: [Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning: Compliance Guidelines for Your Facility](#)

- Session: [Professional Engineer's Role in Artificial Intelligence and Technology](#)
- Session: [Ethics of Sustainable Design](#)
- Session: [Shrinking the Distance for Virtual Teams to Succeed](#)

There are three registration options:

1. **Single Session** provides individual one PDH sessions for \$39 (\$99 for nonmembers);
2. **Day Track** provides access to three PDH sessions, networking morning “coffee talk” roundtables, and evening post session discussions for \$99 (\$279 for nonmembers); and
3. **All-Access Pass** provides 15 PDH sessions with networking morning “coffee talk” roundtables each day and event post session discussions for \$249 (\$1,149 for nonmembers).

Nonmembers can join NSPE for \$299 and receive member pricing.

Virtual PECon 2020 Free for Students

NSPE is providing the opportunity for student members to participate in the upcoming **Virtual Professional Engineers Conference 2020** for free on August 3–7.

Student members who register for the conference can sign up for a track or an all-access pass and can also attend networking events, including morning coffee talks and evening round table discussions.

[Register now.](#)

[Register now to customize your attendance package for live events August 3–7.](#)

Call for 2020–21 Volunteers

NSPE needs your knowledge, expertise, and time to assist our organization carry out its [vision, mission, and meet the goals of the strategic plan](#) . Volunteer positions begin in August and end at the annual conference in 2021.

These opportunities are organized into three types with various levels of engagement.

Engagement Level 1: Standing committees and select committees require the highest engagement level. They often involve attending at least one in-person meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting. Most meetings are held via conference call.

Engagement Level 2: These volunteer positions are responsible for organization activities and involve assignment to a committee, task force, or other group. Activities primarily include e-mail and conference calls.

Engagement Level 3: Ad hoc volunteers take part in activities on a project-by-project basis.

[Submit forms by July 15 to be considered for a 2020–21 term.](#)

Aiming for Leadership? This Program's for You

If you're starting your engineering career and looking toward a future of leadership, NSPE is excited to offer an opportunity to participate in the Emerging Leaders Program.

The NSPE Emerging Leaders Program is an intensive seven month, professionally facilitated, focused, practical, virtual program for emerging leaders. Between August 5 (Professional Engineers Day) and February 27 (National Engineers Week) participants will receive specific, relevant training and application on how to be successful at higher levels of leadership responsibility.

The target audience for the Emerging Leaders Program is for promising early-career professionals with 5-8 years of experience who are just beginning to lead and think strategically in the profession and their careers. The reality-based curriculum focuses on the core skills necessary to think strategically, build effective teams, deliver great service for their most valued clients, and lead successfully.

[Learn more and apply by July 1, 2020.](#)

Advocacy Opportunity: Speak Out for Future PEs

You have an opportunity today to advocate for the future of the engineering profession!

H.R. 5339 ([Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act](#)) amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow students with 529 Education Accounts to use those funds for expenses related to obtaining a post-education credential—including the PE license. Funds could be used for expenses associated with both exam prep and

the exam itself.

The bill needs additional cosponsors in order to move forward. As NSPE's Government Relations team continues talking with House offices, your support of H.R. 5339 is crucial. The more support we have from NSPE members, the stronger position we're in to ask House Representatives to sign on.

You have the opportunity to take multiple actions if you'd like, [starting with writing a letter](#) , then following up with either a Tweet or a phone call. Or all three, if you're feeling especially ambitious!

Feel free to contact Stephanie Hamilton if you have any questions, or if you'd just like to talk about advocacy! Hamilton can be reached at 703-684-2844 or shamilton@nspe.org .

[Take action on H.R. 5339.](#)

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