

State News for NSPE Members

Utah Water Projects Awarded \$70 Million to Fix Aging System Issues

The US Department of the Interior announced an additional \$240 million in funding will go to [aging water infrastructure](#) in the West, including four projects in Utah, [KUER reports](#).

This money comes from the bipartisan infrastructure bill President Joe Biden signed last November. The Bureau of Reclamation approved 46 projects across 11 states, and now applicants can decide if they want to accept the funding or not. The Utah projects were awarded around \$70 million. [Read more](#).

Governor Releases New State Energy Plan

Governor Spencer J. Cox and the Utah Office of Energy Development (OED) released a new State Energy and Innovation Plan. Identifying six key commitments, the plan will serve as a guidepost for energy development in Utah, according to [a news release](#). The plan lives on the OED's website as an [interactive story map](#).

“At the beginning of my administration, I released the [One Utah Roadmap](#) and directed the Utah Office of Energy Development to update the statewide energy plan,” said Governor Cox. “State code requires state energy policy to have adequate, reliable, affordable, sustainable, and clean energy resources and that’s precisely what this plan does. It’s crucial that we ensure Utah’s energy future is secure, innovative, and reliable in order to maintain our high quality of life and robust economy.”

Utah Signs New Wildfires Agreement

Governor Cox and US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack signed a renewed

[Shared Stewardship agreement](#) that reaffirms a mutual commitment to build relationships and coalitions needed to confront the wildfire crisis throughout the state of Utah, according to [a news release](#).

Utah, the Forest Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have substantially increased fuel reduction and forest health treatments in places where wildfire presents an immediate risk to communities and critical water resource since the signing of the original agreement in 2019. Over four years, partners successfully treated more than 54,000 acres, funding 31 projects with more than \$20 million in state, federal, and partner funds.

Shared Stewardship is about jointly identifying priorities and combining resources to achieve cross-boundary outcomes using every available authority and tool to improve forest health. It encouraged the longstanding culture of cooperation between the state, Forest Service, and NRCS in addition to capitalizing on the shared belief that no singular agency can address the threat of the wildfire crisis.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Register Now for NSPECon 2022 Reimagined



Engineers from all disciplines are invited to register for the [2022 NSPE Professional Engineers Conference](#) (NSPECon 2022) in Philadelphia, August 1-3. Invited speakers will address sustainability, emerging technology, the post-covid workplace and even, construction on the moon. Whether you are a licensed professional engineer, aspire to be one or, would like to learn more about a career as a qualified and ethically accountable professional, you are invited to join this multi-discipline community to engage with colleagues and hear more about relevant engineering topics.

Prospective conference sponsors and exhibitors will see [newly created opportunities](#) to highlight their companies and organizations throughout the conference. Sponsors can welcome attendees to the “Feel the Philly Love” opening

reception, support a conference education track featuring seven unique sessions, or demonstrate how their solutions help clients overcome specific challenges by exhibiting.

On the final day of the conference, attendees can celebrate [PE Day](#) in person and raise awareness about the importance of PEs as qualified and ethical professionals. Before you go, make certain you are geared up with [PE Day logo wear](#) to show your pride on-site.

2022 QBS Award Nominations Open

ACEC and NSPE are seeking nominations for the [QBS Awards program](#), which recognizes public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state, and local levels.

Award winners [serve as examples of how well the QBS process works](#), and they help ACEC and NSPE promote the practice of QBS in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services. A maximum of one QBS Award may be presented to the federal government sector, the state government sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector.

Nominations may originate from an ACEC member organization, an NSPE state society, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector. Self-nomination is not permitted.

Nominations and supporting materials are due by **Friday, June 17** (COB). [Access the nomination form and instructions](#).

Scholarships Open for Applications

The Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship and the William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship are accepting applications from students pursuing engineering degrees in the fall. The application deadline is **June 15**.

The [Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship](#) is a multi-year scholarship that will provide \$5,000 each year of the recipient's four-year education. Applicants must be a female high school senior from an underrepresented ethnic minority (African American, Hispanic, Native American, or Pacific Islander) pursuing a degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering at an ABET-accredited program.

The [William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship](#) is a \$2,500 scholarship awarded annually to an undergraduate student who is a resident of either Kansas

or Missouri and enrolled as a junior in an ABET-accredited engineering program in a college or university in either Kansas or Missouri.

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