

State News for NSPE Members

Vermont Agency Reopens Nearly 100 Roads After Historic Floods

Historic, catastrophic floods devastated many Vermont communities last week, leaving countless roadways impassable or completely washed away. One week later, the Vermont Agency of Transportation is on track to fully reopen its 100th road since the flooding occurred. Over 200 miles of roadway were reopened statewide. At least a dozen other roads are open to partial travel, NBC5 reports.

As of 9:15 a.m. Monday morning (July 17), 12 roads remain fully closed, mainly in central and southern Vermont. You can view a full comprehensive list of the statewide road closures on this website.

Vermont to Use New Website to Help Statewide Recovery Efforts

Providing relief and recovery from last week's storm is now underway in Vermont. The Scott administration and federal officials said Monday that a new website is being established that will help individuals and businesses negatively impacted by heavy rain and flooding recover from home, vehicles, financial and business losses, [The Center Square reports](#).

Agency of Human Services Secretary Jenney Samuelson said that resource centers had been established at the Ludlow Community Center and Barre Auditorium that are open and assist people with temporary housing, food, and primary medical treatment. The sites, open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., will have professionals on hand who will help residents navigate available services.

"The resource centers serve as a one-stop location where the public and private organizations can come together to provide assistance to those who've been affected by the disasters," Samuelson said. [Read more](#).

Hydro-Québec Subsidiary Launches its 1st Battery Storage System in Vermont

EVLO Energy Storage Inc., a subsidiary of Hydro-Québec, plans to install 16 of its energy storage system units in the Northeast Kingdom this year, [according to the VTDigger](#). The project, which will be based in the Orleans County town of Troy, is the first battery system that EVLO plans to install in the United States.

The technology in the batteries — called EVLO 1000s — works by storing power during strong energy production times so it can be used during times of peak energy demand. As a result, the batteries lower rates for utility companies by making energy more accessible at critical times.

The batteries are set up to store energy from a nearby wind farm, said Martin Rheault, EVLO's vice president of business development and sales.

Troy is located in the Sheffield-Highgate Export Interface, an area of Vermont's electric grid in the northern tier of the state, said Peter Sterling, executive director of Renewable Energy Vermont. A lot of renewable power is generated in and transmitted out of that area because of the location of transmission lines. This project, and others like it, could expand the capacity for additional in-state renewable energy, Sterling said. [Read more](#).

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.



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22314**