

State News for NSPE Members

Vermont Receives Nearly \$16 million for EV Charging Infrastructure

Vermont is receiving millions of dollars in federal money for electric vehicle charging infrastructure that had been previously frozen by the Trump administration, [Vermont Public reports](#).

Governor Phil Scott and the Agency of Transportation announced in early September that the state has received \$15.8 million to deploy this infrastructure in key areas across Vermont. The money, promised through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program, had been frozen for months due to an executive order from President Donald Trump.

"This is great news and will bring more EV charging infrastructure to Vermont, which we desperately need," Scott said in a statement. "Finding ways to work with our federal partners on issues like this one is important and will pay off for Vermonters."

Earlier this year, Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark had joined other states in a lawsuit against the Trump Administration for freezing the funds. But a federal judge ruled in June that only some of those states could get their grant funds released, saying Vermont had failed to prove it would face "irreparable harm" if its funds remained frozen. [Read more](#).

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund Empowers Energy Contractors

The Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (VSJF), in collaboration with Efficiency Vermont and Vermont Gas Systems, announces the graduation of the inaugural cohort of Tools of the Trade – Business Fundamentals for Energy Pros, a business coaching program designed to support weatherization and clean energy contractors across the state, [The North Star Monthly reports](#).

The program offered participants practical training in business fundamentals tailored to weatherization contractors, energy audit businesses, electrician firms and builders who specialize in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Monthly in-person sessions, one-on-one coaching and peer learning helped contractors strengthen skills in workforce recruitment and retention, financial management, operations, customer engagement and leadership. The program was made possible through funding from the State of Vermont, Efficiency Vermont and Vermont Gas Systems.

"This program was a fantastic jump forward for me as a business owner," said David Bailey of Black Cat Builders, a Tools of the Trade participant. "I wish it had existed 10 years ago!" [Read more.](#)

Vermont's Drought is Straining Communities and Leading Residents to Suffer

In Berlin, an elder care facility that serves about 150 people saw all of its wells go dry. Now the town — which is getting 50% less water from its own wells — has to jury-rig a system to make sure Berlin Health and Rehabilitation Center stays up and running.

"I run a fire hose over to their storage tanks," said Craig Pelletier, the town's public works supervisor.

Berlin isn't alone. According to the US Drought Monitor, almost 94% of Vermont is in a severe drought, while almost 24% of the state is in an extreme drought, with Orange County, Windsor County and Rutland County being the most impacted.

Though many residents hoped recent rain would provide relief, any solace will be piecemeal. Rainfall throughout the week of September 21 is "mostly going to be a drop in the bucket," said Robert Haynes, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Burlington. After September 28, warm temperatures accompanied with a high pressure system are expected to exacerbate the drought, Haynes said.

One effect of climate change is that it often leads to a "swing between extremes," Haynes said. In 2023, Vermont had its wettest summer on record, while this year's summer has been extremely dry — a huge change in just a matter of two years, he said. According to the National Integrated Drought Information System, this past August has been the driest on record in Vermont since 1895. [Read more in the VT Digger.](#)

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

New Board of Ethical Review Cases Available

One of NSPE's key resources includes the Board of Ethical Review case studies. The five new cases (24-01 – 24-05) address the topics of balancing client directives and the public welfare, use of artificial intelligence in engineering practice, public contracting practices, community engagement for infrastructure projects, and sustainable development and resilient infrastructure. [Access the BER cases](#).

Enhance your understanding of the new BER cases by attending the upcoming WORKability Wednesdays webinar [Board of Ethical Review: Fall 2025 Case Review and Discussion](#) on October 22.

Level Up Your Career: 2025 Fall WORKability Webinars

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members —“WORKability Wednesdays”— to support members with their professional development goals through NSPE's PE Institute. The new season of webinars launched on September 10 with [Decarbonizing Concrete: Overcoming Challenges, Unlocking Opportunities](#) and on September 24 with [The Case for AI in Forensic Engineering: Enhancing Expert Testimony and Avoiding Obsolescence](#) (Recordings are available). Registration is open for these upcoming webinars.



- October 8: [Marketing & Sales Best Practices for Engineering Firms](#)
- October 22: [Board of Ethical Review – Discussion of New Ethics Cases](#)
- November 5: **TBD**
- November 12: [Ethical Dimensions of Engineering in the 21st Century](#)

Missed the 2025 Spring WORKability Series? [Register for the package to get all 6 webinars](#) – free to members!

**Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.*

Nominations Open: Federal Engineer of the Year Award

Federal engineers are at the forefront of our nation's most vital priorities from infrastructure and innovation to defense, public health, and safety. Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the Federal Engineer of the Year Award (FEYA). Nominations for the 2026 award are open until October 31, 2025. [Visit the online portal for full guidelines and submission details](#).



Why Does FEYA Matter?

Lt. Col. Brigham Moore, Ph.D., P.E., PMP, was named the 2025 Federal Engineer of the Year. Here's what Lt. Col. Moore had to say about the impact this award has had on his career: *"Being selected as Top Ten Finalist and ultimately as the Federal Engineer of the Year this past year has been an incredible highlight of my career. Within the Air Force, it has provided me opportunities to mentor and give back to the engineering community that I love. Professionally, it has reconnected me with previous advisors and engineering faculty, opening up doors and networking me with some people that I did not previously know. Finally, and personally, it served as a huge bolster to my confidence and commitment to continue making meaningful change with each project and major decision as I move forward."*

[Learn about Moore's government service and contributions to the profession.](#)



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