

## State News for NSPE Members

### Show Your PE Pride!

NSPE-AZ members recently celebrated the contributions of the profession during the sixth annual [PE Day](#). But don't wait until next year's national event to show off this commitment to the profession. NSPE President Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, believes that proud members of the NSPE community can do so in the following ways all year round:

- Introduce yourselves as Licensed Professional Engineers
- Get to know your fellow PEs
- Use [#ProudPE](#) in your communications and social media posts

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### What's in the Infrastructure Package for Arizona?

US Senators [Mark Kelly](#) and [Kyrsten Sinema](#) released statements following the Senate's passage of the bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* to highlight the investments that will benefit Arizona.

The following are some of the investments that are featured in the legislation

- \$110 billion to repair bridges and roads and for major highway projects.
- \$65 billion to expand affordable, high-speed internet access, with at least \$100 million expected to go to Arizona.
- \$55 billion for drinking and wastewater infrastructure, with key funding for Arizona programs and projects.
- \$8.3 billion for western water infrastructure, with specific funds going towards repairing aging dams in Arizona and funding the Drought Contingency Plan (among other things).
- \$65 billion to improve grid reliability and resiliency and allow for the increased use of renewables, as well as a bill to expand the use of energy management initiatives.
- \$39.2 billion for public transit and \$66 billion for passenger and freight rail, \$884.3 million of which will go to Arizona transit systems.

- \$8.25 billion for wildfire management, including increasing firefighter pay and a bill to study and recommend wildland fire prevention, suppression, management, and rehabilitation policies.
  - \$3.85 billion for land ports of entry, including \$147 million for the San Luis Port of Entry, \$216 million for the new Douglas Port of Entry, and \$184 million for rehabilitation at the current Douglas Port of Entry.
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## Declared Water Shortage Means Cutbacks for Arizona

The federal government on Monday declared a first-ever water shortage on the Colorado River, announcing mandatory cutbacks next year that will bring major challenges for Arizona farmers and reduce the water allotments of Nevada and Mexico.

The declaration of a shortage by the US Bureau of Reclamation has been anticipated for months and was triggered by the spiraling decline of Lake Mead, which stores water used by Arizona, Nevada, California, and Mexico, according to an AZCentral.com article.

The reservoir near Las Vegas has fallen to its lowest level since the Hoover Dam was built in the 1930s and is continuing to drop after years of chronic overuse and drought intensified by climate change. It now stands at just 35% of full capacity. To try to prevent Lake Mead from falling to critically low levels, state officials from Arizona, California and Nevada announced that they've begun meeting to discuss potential additional steps, which could include more water cuts.

Federal water managers said the first shortage declaration shows how severe the drought has become and how climate change is having serious effects on the river, which provides water for about 40 million people.

[Read more.](#)

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## State Licensing Board Meeting

The Arizona State Board of Technical Registration will hold its next meeting on **Tuesday, August 24** (9 a.m.). The meeting agenda can be accessed [here](#).

Individuals that want to attend the meeting remotely must make a request in advance and are advised to read the meeting agenda prior to making a request. Contact Kurt Winter at [kurt.winter@azbtr.gov](mailto:kurt.winter@azbtr.gov) if you're interested in attending remotely.

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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.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

### **Featured Jobs**

[Deputy Director, Capital Programs](#)

Phoenix, AZ

[Traffic Engineer](#)

Prescott, AZ

*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](#).*

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## **Texas PE Takes Lead of the Society**

Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, was recently installed as NSPE's 2021–22 president during the [2021 Installation Ceremony](#) at NSPE headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. In the latest issue of *PE* magazine, he [offers a perspective](#) on the engineering workforce pipeline, climate change, and engineering licensure.



Guerra is the president and CEO of Jose I.

Guerra, Inc. a full-service, facilities engineering firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio, and Corpus Christi, Texas. The firm provides a comprehensive range of civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection engineering services to clients throughout the state.

As an active member of NSPE since 1994, Guerra has served in numerous leadership roles at the chapter, state, and national levels, including as president of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers in 2016-17 and was named a NSPE Fellow in 2018. In 2007, he was appointed by Governor Rick Perry as the licensed professional engineer member of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners, serving until 2019. He received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1982 and a master's degree in engineering in 1988, both from the University of Texas at Austin.

Guerra continues to promote the engineering profession by serving as a guest lecturer at UT Austin, acting as a high school career day host and serving as an engineering mentor for local high school students. He is also an active volunteer for his church, the Boy Scouts of America, and various other community organizations.

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## Celebrating Excellence in the Profession

NSPE members were honored on August 4 for their outstanding contributions to the profession during the 2021 Virtual Professional Engineers Conference.

### Young Engineer of the Year Award

**Stephanie Blain, P.E.** was named the 2021 Young Engineer of the Year for her outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community. She is employed with Palmer Engineering Company in Winchester, Kentucky.



### Engineering Education Excellence Award

**Scott R. Hamilton, Ph.D., P.E.**, received the Engineering Education Excellence Award, which recognizes licensed engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. He is chair of the Civil & Mechanical Engineering Department at York College in York, Pennsylvania.



The Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest winner and the QBS Award winners were also recognized during the conference.

The [2021 Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest](#) provides an opportunity for NSPE members to put their ethics knowledge to the test on topics that present ethical challenges such as artificial intelligence, climate change, and the industrial exemption. **Michael Rademacher, P.E.**, of St. Louis, Missouri (Burns & McDonnell), is this year's winner. He will receive \$2,000, a certificate, and recognition in *PE* magazine.



The **QBS Awards** are cosponsored by NSPE and ACEC to recognize public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state and local levels. The **City of San Diego** was honored in the state/city government category and the **Idaho QBS Facilitators Council** received a special recognition award.

The award winners serve as examples of how well the QBS process works, and they help promote the practice in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services.

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## Introducing the 2021 Class of Society Fellows

By demonstrating exemplary and devoted service to their profession, the Society, and their community, 12 professional engineers have been honored as the 2021 Class of Fellow members.



- **Susan Best, P.E.** (PA)
- **Lee Czor, P.E.** (KY)
- **Beth Fifield Hodgson, P.E.** (WA)
- **Erin Gates, P.E.** (WY)
- **Angela Hanz, P.E.** (WI)
- **Kiel Johnson, P.E.** (KS)
- **Sharon Kimbrough, P.E.** (AL)
- **Matt Kruse, P.E.** (NE)
- **Andy Rogers, P.E.** (SC)
- **Breck Washam, P.E.** (MO)
- **Hardy Willis, P.E.** (NC)
- **Brian Malm, P.E.** (MN)

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