

## State News for NSPE Members

### Infrastructure Upgrades Coming to Growing East Helena

Aging infrastructure and a growing community have led East Helena to invest in a new headworks building, which is funded in part through a \$6.9 million loan from the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, according to city officials, [Montana Free Press reports](#).

East Helena City Council members recently approved a resolution issuing a nearly \$7 million state revolving loan through the DNRC to fund upgrades to the community's wastewater treatment plant's headworks building.

East Helena officials began pursuing the sewer system project in 2017 because the treatment plant, which is more than 25 years old, is at the end of its life span, with city operators experiencing maintenance issues, according to East Helena Public Works Director Kevin Ore. [Read more](#).

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### Economic Development Leaders, Legislators, Weigh in on NorthWestern Energy Rate Case

Some economic development leaders said this week Montana needs the new methane-fired gas plant NorthWestern Energy built and want the Public Service Commission to greenlight its rate case, [the Daily Montanan reports](#).

"It's reliable baseload like Yellowstone (the Yellowstone County Generating Station) that keeps us in business and keeps the economy moving," said Paul Green, executive director of Big Sky Economic Development Authority.

NorthWestern Energy built the new plant, the Yellowstone County Generating Station, without preapproval by the Montana Public Service Commission, arguing it needed to move quickly to save money. The 175-megawatt plant in Laurel is a contested part of the rate case in a complex and controversial hearing underway at the regulatory agency.

The monopoly utility wants customers to pick up the tab for the plant, arguing it is necessary for reliable and affordable power supply. Opponents, though, say much more affordable options were available compared to the estimated \$320 million plant, as are sources that don't pollute as much.

Every day during the hearing, the PSC is taking public comment in advance of witness testimony, and economic development leaders and current and former legislators are among those offering perspectives.

Green, also former head of the state Department of Commerce, said he appreciates renewable options, especially the wind and solar being developed on the eastern plains. [Read more](#).

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

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## **Get Ready to Celebrate PE Day**

The annual [Professional Engineers Day](#) will be celebrated on August 6, 2025. Save the date and get ready to share your photos and selfies as part of the online virtual event using the hashtag #LicensedPEday on X (Twitter), Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

Share your reasons for being a PE and give special recognition to your colleagues and teams. Prepare for the celebration and gear up by visiting the [PE Day Logo Store](#).



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## Showcase the Contributions of PEs During National Safety Month

NSPE is recognizing [National Safety Month](#) on our social media channels during June. This is a great way to promote professional engineers and the ways in which your companies/organizations are keeping the public and employees safe in all the work that you do.

If you have any onsite/project related photos and messaging (details to summarize activities and safety philosophy) that will illustrate the following topics areas --

Employee Engagement (June 8-14), Roadway Safety (June 15-21) and Wellbeing (June 22-30)—share them on your own social media channels using the hashtag #NationalSafetyMonth and tag NSPE so we can help spread the word!

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## 2025 Spring Webinar Series Available On-Demand

Did you miss any of our spring WORKability Wednesdays Webinars? No worries! Members can access recordings of the following webinars free of charge through the [PE Institute](#). \*Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.

- [Board of Ethical Review: Case Review and Discussion](#)
- [My Way or the Highway? The Impact: Designing Flexible and Future-Ready RTO Policies That Work](#)
- [Trust Matters: Empowering Leaders to Foster Team Trust and Performance](#)
- [Design Liability in a Changing Climate](#)
- [Using Your Engineering Expertise as a Forensic Expert](#)
- [How Has Technology Shaped Workstyles Across Generations?](#)

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