

State News for NSPE Members

Louisiana Legislation Update

NSPE successfully worked with the [Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing](#) to ensure that an occupational licensing bill ([S.B. 483](#)) would not negatively impact licensing for professional engineers and architects in Louisiana. The Society and ARPL believe that the legislation posed a significant erosion of public protection through licensure.

An article featured in the June issue of *PE Matters* failed to mention that actions were taken to ensure that licensed engineers and architects were exempt from the provisions of the legislation and incorrectly stated that the bill was referred to the governor's office by the Senate.

An additional bill ([H.B. 1062](#)) was passed by the state legislature that ARPL believes contains a subtle threat to licensure. This bill allows private citizens to sue an occupational licensing board if they believe that licensing regulations are not the least restrictive as possible. The legislation becomes effective on August 1.

Louisiana PEs also gained a legislative win with passage of a bill ([H.B. 305](#)) to define the scope of practice for architects engaging in incidental engineering. PEs have been working with architects in the state for over eight years on this issue. After many meetings and restarts, they finally got it through.

Louisiana Climate Task Force Eyes Hydrogen Energy for Federal Dollars

Eyeing billions in federal infrastructure dollars, Louisiana's Climate Initiatives Task Force is evaluating several ongoing projects including a transition to hydrogen energy and building electrical vehicle infrastructure. But the effort faces a significant obstacle to achieve its goal of net zero emissions by 2050, according to a [New Orleans City Business article](#).

The task force has already begun to pick what its members call "low-hanging fruit"

in the form of updating Louisiana's building efficiency standards. Thanks to the Louisiana Legislature's passage of Act 635 this year, a new one-time commission will review the latest international standards to propose amendments to state building codes that address energy efficiency.

Jacqueline Dadakis with the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council said at a task force meeting Tuesday that the state consistently ranks worst in the nation on total energy costs for residential buildings.

According to the Environmental Energy and Study Institute, residential and commercial buildings are responsible for almost 40% of US carbon dioxide emissions through their manufacture and assembly as well as their use of electricity for lighting, heating, cooling and running appliances.

"I think we're looking at about a 35 to 40% improvement on future buildings," Dadakis said.

University Launches Smart Oilfield Concentration

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette has launched a smart oilfield concentration for petroleum engineering majors with courses beginning in the fall. The concentration is designed to prepare students for jobs in an oil and gas industry that increasingly relies on evolving technology for efficient, safe, and environmentally sound exploration and production.

It is the only program of its kind in the country, Ahmed Khattab, dean of the College of Engineering, stated in a [news release](#). The smart oilfield concentration will integrate the college's current petroleum engineering degree program's sub-surface expertise with smart drilling, machine learning, and data analytics, he explained.

"Its addition is part of our comprehensive plan to address conventional and renewable energy by providing cutting-edge degree programs, minors and concentrations that augment our traditional energy base and meet industry and community needs," Khattab added.

The concentration features a blend of courses and labs that focus on coding, statistics, machine learning, automation, predictive capabilities, carbon capture, computational fluid dynamics, smart drilling, and the economic feasibility of exploration in specific locations.

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

Missouri PE Takes the Lead of NSPE



Britt Smith P.E., F.NSPE, has started his term as NSPE's 2022–23 president. A formal installation ceremony will take place during the Professional Engineers Conference in Philadelphia on August 2.

"I can say honestly that I could not be more humbled to be the next president of NSPE," Smith stated during the recent House of Delegates General Assembly. "I never dreamed that I would be in this position but knew that I wanted to just give back to the profession that has provided so much for me and my family."

Smith is currently the operations division director for the City of Jefferson, where he manages all aspects of operations related to streets, parking, central maintenance, city facilities, and the airport, and leverages all available resources to accomplish the varying missions of each division. He also has experience as an engineering consultant and served in the US Army. Smith graduated from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly the University of Missouri – Rolla) with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering.

Since becoming a member of NSPE and the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers in 1997, Smith has held many volunteer leadership positions with the Society including serving on the Committee on Policy and Advocacy, the Honors and Awards Committee, the Delivery System, Communication, and Technology Task Force, and as Missouri's representative to the House of Delegates. Smith was named an NSPE Fellow in 2016. In Missouri, he served in a variety of chapter and state-level leadership positions, including as the 2011-2012 state president and president of the Jefferson City Chapter in 2001.

A strong dedication to volunteering also extends into Smith's local community where he is involved with the United Way of Central Missouri and as a counselor for the Jefferson City Marriage Encounter. He has previously dedicated many years to the local Boy Scouts troop and as a volunteer baseball/softball coach.

Reconnect at NSPECon 2022

Attendance at [NSPECon 2022](#) in Philadelphia, August 1-3, is the best opportunity to engage and learn with your colleagues. The conference features multiple education tracks in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development. [Registration is open until July 28.](#)

Featured Keynote Speaker



Commander Mary Kelly, US Navy (Ret.), Ph.D., CSP, CPAE, will present “6-5-7: The 6 Stages of Any Crisis, Challenge, or Change, the 5 Steps to P.I.V.O.T. for Success, and 7 Leadership Reminders To Lead Through It.” Registered attendees will receive exclusive access to an online vault full of bonus resources from Commander Kelly.

Conference Session Highlights

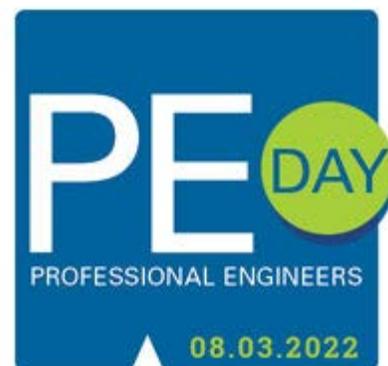
- [You Want Me to Lead WHO to do WHAT? Lessons from the Frontlines of Engineering Leadership](#)
- [Reliability and Resilience of Energy Systems under Extreme Weather Events](#)
- [Generation Next: Engaging Multi-Generational Engineers](#)
- [Defending the License](#)
- [Career Development in Practice, Not Theory](#)
- [PE Day Luncheon & Panel Discussion: Engineering Challenges of the 21st Century](#)

[Access the full NSPECon program.](#)

PE Day is Coming!

Celebrate licensure and the profession with PEs around the world on Wednesday, August 3, during the seventh annual [Professional Engineers Day](#)! Whether you plan to celebrate PE Day at home, in the office, or with your peers at the NSPECon 2022 in Philadelphia, you can show off your PE pride by sporting some PE Day logo wear for this year’s event.

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 to celebrate in style!

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