New Company Will Bring Zero-Emission Energy to Mississippi

Hy Stor Energy is building a green hydrogen hub in Mississippi that will generate zero emission hydrogen energy while also creating a new industry with hundreds of jobs and economic growth for the area, the Sun Herald reports.

The project will be the largest of its kind in the United States, and will produce clean energy at scale that can be used as an alternative to fossil fuels in industries that are hard to decarbonize. Hy Stor is Jackson-based but has land across the state, all the way down to their office in Gulfport. The company has acquired over 70,000 acres from Jackson south to the Gulf Coast, which will be used for green hydrogen energy production and storage. Read more.

Licensing Board Issues Grants to University Programs

The Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors received legislative approval (HB1690) to offer one-time grants for state programs providing qualifying education in engineering and surveying leading to professional licensure. The board issued a call for grant applications for its 2023 award season to all colleges and / or universities actively operating in Mississippi with a qualifying engineering and /or surveying program as of October 2022, according to a news release.

The board awarded grants to the following programs:

- The Department of Civil Engineering at Jackson State University - $33,026.
- The Engineering Technology program at East Central Community College - $38,000
- The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Mississippi State University - $117,789.
- The Polymer Science and Engineering program at the University of Southern Mississippi - $49,335.
The University of Mississippi - $147,909 for the following departments: the Department of Electrical Engineering ($30,000); the Department of Geology & Geological Engineering ($37,500); and the Department of Mechanical Engineering ($17,834; $22,575 and $40,000, respectively).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.

NSPECon23 Call for Presentations

Share your expertise with professional engineers during NSPECon23 in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2-4. Presentation proposals are being accepted on a submissions site until January 25. The sessions will focus on three topics: amplify your leadership human skills; stay informed about issues and trends impacting the profession; and invest in your career.

Accepted presenters will receive:

- The unparalleled opportunity to give back to the professional engineer community at a nationally recognized conference.
- Recognition on the conference website with a headshot photo, biography, and session description.
- A customized press release announcing your participation and contribution to the conference to share with your employer and/or clients.
- Assistance with (and guidelines for) promoting your session on social media outlets.
- Follow-up survey results and comments related to your presentation.

Get Ready for Engineers Week: Creating the Future!

Engineers Week (February 19–25, 2023) is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce. The latest theme for Engineers Week seeks to inspire the next generation by celebrating all the way engineers are Creating the Future! A free Countdown to
Engineers Week webinar will take place on Wednesday, January 18, at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (ET). Register and attend the webinar to receive an Engineers Week planning guide and starter pack.

Access more information and resources.

New Board of Ethical Review Cases

The NSPE Board of Ethical Review (BER) annually provides advisory opinions to provide guidance on ethical dilemmas. The Board of Ethical Review (BER) has released a new set of cases on various topics including on conflict of interest, duty to report, and professional qualifications.

Check out a BER case focused on the PE role in protecting the public health, safety, and welfare.

Facts: City passes an ordinance requiring a sprinkler system in residences with less than eight feet between them and makes the ordinance effective as to all construction which has not yet received an occupancy permit. This means that projects under construction must have a sprinkler system added. Engineer A, who happens to have both structural and fire protection credentials, is hired by Homeowner to design a retaining wall system to stabilize a rear yard. Homeowner allowed Engineer A to store equipment in the integral garage. Engineer A observes that the builder routed the piping for the retrofitted sprinkler system through the unheated garage, exposing the pipes to freezing temperatures.

Questions: What are Engineer A’s obligations?

Access the full case to read the BER’s discussion and conclusion.
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