

State News for NSPE Members

## Amazon Backs Mississippi's First Utility-Scale Wind Farm

Amazon is backing a growing number of new renewable energy projects across Mississippi that will provide clean electricity to power local homes and businesses, create jobs, drive economic development, and also help power the company's local operations, which include fulfillment and sortation centers, delivery stations, and a Whole Foods Market location.

Amazon's newest project, the Delta wind farm, is an 184.5 MW project under construction in Tunica County, which will be the first utility-scale wind farm in the state, actionsnews5.com reports.

This new project brings Amazon to six renewable energy projects in Mississippi, including five solar farms. Once fully operational, the six projects are expected to generate more than 1,850 gigawatt-hours (GWH) of clean energy, the equivalent amount of electricity needed to power 174,600 US homes each year. Read more.

#### **Mississippi Receives \$1.2B for Broadband Expansion**

The state of Mississippi will receive \$1.2 billion from the federal government to expand broadband service to unserved and underserved parts of the Magnolia State, *The Center Square* reports.

The funds will be used to connect up to 300,000 unserved and 200,000 underserved locations that do not have high-speed internet service. The amount of funds Mississippi will receive is due to the number of areas that need service and the cost of providing service to those areas.

"I'm proud of the work we're doing to improve our residents' connectivity," Governor Tate Reeves said in a news release. "People want to live in areas where they can access broadband and that are connected. That's why we'll continue to aggressively build out broadband infrastructure to every region of our state, so all Mississippians can harness the opportunities technology provides them." The money, which originates from the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program established through the Infrastructure and Jobs Act, will be administered through a competitive grant process by the newly-created Office of Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of Mississippi. Read more.

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

## Meet the 2023 NSPE Emerging Leaders



NSPE is pleased to recognize 15 talented professionals who recently completed the Society's Emerging Leaders Program. This diverse group of young professionals was selected from around the country to take part in an intensive, unique enterprise designed to equip them as leaders in the engineering field.

- Nicholas J. Bailey, P.E. (Cincinnati, Ohio)
- Frank Block III, Ph.D., P.E. (Silver Spring, Maryland)
- Timothy Choma, P.E. (Iselin, New Jersey)
- Courtney Cunningham, P.E. (Houston, Texas)
- Steven T. Fox, P.E. (Nashville, Tennessee)
- Blane Gee, P.E. (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)
- Holly Hartley Guillaume, P.E. (Katy, Texas)
- Lingbee Chyna Lim, P.E. (Charleston, South Carolina)
- Brianne R. Jole, P.E. (Lubbock, Texas)
- Corey Kingsland, P.E. (Kansas City, Missouri)
- Carter Lytal, P.E. (Lubbock, Texas)
- Rebecca Martinez, P.E. (Cherry Hill, New Jersey)
- Alissa Neuhausen, P.E. (Rockville, Maryland)

- Victor Odili, P.E. (Conroe, Texas)
- Skylar Wierzbicki, P.E. (Grapevine, Texas)

The program is accepting applications for the next class of rising leaders until August 31.



The upcoming Professional Engineers Day (Wednesday, August 2) is an incredible opportunity to showcase the value of NSPE and your PE license. We encourage you to post on your social media accounts a highlight from your community, your work, your impact, your story and include the #IAMNSPE, #WeareNSPE, #ProudPE.

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.

### Check Out the Latest Issue of PE

#### The Chatter About AI

OpenAI's ChatGPT came on the scene in November 2022. This type of generative AI has made a noticeable impact in a brief period of time and other versions of chatbots have been released. This emerging technology is sparking discussions about what impact AI could have on the engineering workforce and in engineering practice.

#### Reaching Tomorrow's Innovators

DiscoverE has released its latest research on the views of high school students and parents on engineering and

engineering careers. The Messages Matter results were encouraging as they reveal that targeted messages and profiles of engineers can spur interest in



engineering among the very groups that will ensure a more diverse future for the field.

Members who subscribe to the digital edition of *PE* can access the current and back issues.

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