

State News for NSPE Members

River Commission Inspection, Public Meetings Scheduled

The Mississippi River Commission will conduct its annual low-water inspection trip on the Mississippi River, Aug. 22 – 26, 2022. Four public meetings are scheduled aboard the Motor Vessel "Mississippi" in selected towns along the river. A meeting in Vicksburg, Mississippi, will take place on **Wednesday, August 24**, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at City Front.

Commission members will meet with local partners, stakeholders and residents and hear their concerns, ideas, and issues. Interested parties are invited to present their views on matters affecting the water resources infrastructure needs in the valley, including flood control, the Mississippi River and Tributaries project, and other water resources challenges.

Additional meetings will be held in Tiptonville, Tennessee (Riverside Park) on August 22; Memphis, Tennessee (Beale Street Landing) on August 23; and Morgan City, Louisiana (Port Commission Dock) on August 26.

Mississippi Company Commits to Green Hydrogen Standard

Hy Stor Energy, a company pioneering renewably produced green hydrogen and energy storage at scale in Mississippi, has partnered with the Green Hydrogen Organisation to become the first company in North America to advocate for the GH2 Green Hydrogen Standard, according to a [release from the company](#). By committing to this standard, which is the first of its kind globally,

Hy Stor Energy will produce hydrogen with 100% or near 100% renewable energy with close to zero greenhouse gas emissions for its Mississippi Clean Hydrogen Hub and all future projects.

The goal of establishing a standard for green hydrogen production is to help rapidly decarbonize hard to abate sectors such as steel, cement, maritime shipping, and

aviation to meet urgent net zero and decarbonization goals. Green hydrogen projects that meet the GH2 Standard will be licensed to use the label "GH2 Green Hydrogen" and will be eligible to obtain and trade GH2 certificates of origin for green hydrogen and derivatives such as green ammonia.

Also, the company said, the use of green hydrogen (that which has been produced using only renewable materials) avoids the addition of more carbon dioxide and methane in the atmosphere.

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

Honoring Excellence in the Profession

NSPE members were honored for their outstanding contributions to the profession during NSPECon22 in Philadelphia.

NSPE Award

Howard (Skip) Harclerode II, P.E., F.NSPE, F.AIChE, received the Society's most prestigious award presented to a professional engineer who has been committed to the profession, public welfare, and humankind. Harclerode, the founder and president of KBD Engineering Company Inc., based in Phoenix, Maryland, has been an active member of NSPE and the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers since 1980. He is also a past chair of the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers.



Engineering Education Excellence Award

Mohamed El-Sayed, Ph.D., P.E., a professor of mechanical engineering at Eastern Michigan University, received this award for licensed engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. El-Sayed has vast technical and industrial expertise in the areas of vehicle realization, quality, reliability, durability, and optimization. He has also worked in various positions in the automotive industry. He has several granted patents, one authored book, and over a hundred technical and educational publications.



New Professional of the Year Award

This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one's career.

Holly Ahumada, P.E., CFM, is employed with Freese and Nichols in the firm's stormwater group. Throughout her career, Ahumada has specialized in stormwater and floodplain management, as well as supporting public entities with long-term planning, and the analysis and mitigation of flooding issues. She is an active member of the Fort Worth Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers and serves as the chapter's president.



Dylan Ward, P.E., MPA, is a project manager for the City of Henderson in Kentucky and oversees the Engineering, Mass Transit, and Safety/Training divisions. For the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, he serves as vice president for the Western Region and is president of the Green River Chapter.



Fact Check: The Myths of Anti-Licensing

Time and again, calls for anti-licensing return to a handful of myths and purported problems that can only be solved by drastically weakening or outright eliminating licensing. The NSPE-led [Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing](#) takes a closer look at those myths and sets the record straight.

Myth #1: Education requirements to obtain licenses are too onerous and arbitrary.

Fact: Some occupations are rightly calling for a careful review and recalibration of the education requirements to become licensed. This is what should be done. It is not, however, what anti-licensers are calling for. What anti-licensing seeks to do is broadly and arbitrarily lower education standards for all professions. Some proposals go so far as to disallow minimum education requirements for highly complex, technical professions that impact public safety and welfare.

Myth #2: Licensing creates an undue burden for spouses of military personnel who have to contend with red tape and new costs every time they move.

Fact: Well-designed professional licensing systems already include interstate practice and mobility and provisions for military spouses. The real threat comes from "universal licensing" proposals that would dilute existing mobility systems that have been working well for military personnel and the public for decades. What's more, some of these proposals impose arbitrary residency requirements that create new barriers to practicing that would otherwise not exist. Most importantly, "universal licensing" will create a race to the bottom, hurt the public's welfare, and

create business insurance and liability implications.

Myth #3: Licensing creates barriers to employment for women, minorities, and the socio-economically disadvantaged.

Fact: Licensing helps level the playing field for women and minorities. A 2021 study by Oxford Economics finds that licensing narrows the gender-driven wage gap by about a third and the race-driven wage gap by about half. In any industry, responsible licensing systems create well-defined career paths for workers—regardless of gender or ethnicity—and opportunities to achieve higher earnings.

Myth #4: Licensing is anti-competitive.

Fact: Licensing is pro-consumer and pro-competition because it enables consumers to choose from a pool of qualified licensed professionals. These qualifications are verified upfront by independent licensing boards composed of experts in a given professional field. Licensing also helps level the playing field for women and minorities, increasing fairness, competition, and merit-based career opportunities.

[Read more on the truth about professional licensing.](#)

EJCDC Documents: 2022 Construction Manager as Advisor Series

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee has released the [2022 Construction Manager as Advisor Series](#). This series is completely new to EJCDC and is intended for projects in which the owner's primary representative during construction will be the Construction Manager as Advisor (CM).



The CM as Advisor Series is an alternative to the use of the EJCDC Construction Series, in which the engineer that prepared the design subsequently serves as the owner's construction contract administrator. The CM as Advisor Series is comprised of contract documents, administrative forms, bonds, bidding, and procurement documents.

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