

State News for NSPE Members

Get Ready for Engineers Week: Finale Banquet, Order of the Engineer Ceremony

NSPE-NV Engineers Week Banquet

This year's **Engineers Week Finale Banquet** will be held on **Saturday, February 25** (starting at 6:00 p.m.) at the Orleans Hotel & Casino. The banquet will be followed by an afterparty. **The registration deadline is Friday, February 10.** Access banquet information and the registration form on the NSPE-NV [website](#).

Order of the Engineer Ceremony

Please join us for the **Engineers Week Order of the Engineer Ceremony** on **Saturday, February 25** at 5:00 p.m. The last day for registration is Friday, February 10.

This is a separate event from the Engineers Week Finale Banquet and participation in the banquet is not required to join the Order of the Engineer Ceremony.

The Order of the Engineer was initiated in the US to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a visible symbol identifying the engineer. The Order is not a membership organization; there are never any meetings to attend or recurring dues to pay. Instead, the Order fosters a unity of purpose and the honoring of one's pledge to the engineering profession.

NSPE-NV Meeting Recap —Assessing Multi-Objective Projects in the Tijuana River Valley

NSPE-NV held a luncheon meeting on Tuesday, January 17, featuring a presentation on Multi-Object Projects in the Tijuana River Valley by Mark Seits, P.E., a certified floodplain manager and vice president at HDR Inc.



Meet the Presenter – Mark Seits, P.E.

Mark Seits is a vice president at HDR Inc., and has more than 41 years of experience exclusively in flood control and water resources engineering, planning, and design. His background includes extensive FEMA floodplain processing assignments, levee evaluation and certification, scour analyses and erosion control, hydraulic analyses of bridges and roadways, retention/detention basin design, flood damage reduction feasibility studies, water supply/irrigation studies, and storm drain, channel and energy dissipating structure designs. Seits is a certified floodplain manager and is an expert on NFIP regulations and FEMA guidelines.

Thanks to our Sponsor! Floodplain Management Association (FMA)

State Licensing Board News

Get the latest [Nevada Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors](#) news in the January 2023 issue of the *Nevada Connection*. Access the issue [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings

The licensing board has scheduled committee meetings on **Monday, January 23** (PLS standards of practice) and **Tuesday, January 31** (legislative). Access meeting and virtual attendance information [here](#).

Nevada Transportation Board Approves Projects, Creating Hundreds of Jobs

The Nevada Transportation Board of Directors has approved multiple highway projects that will create and collectively support 413 jobs for a year, according to a [news3lv.com report](#).

According to the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), the upcoming construction projects will provide an improved transportation system to keep

Nevada safe and connected.

Some approved projects include upgrading concrete barrier rails, improving aging roadside drainage, and installing landscape and aesthetics and other improvements on Interstate 80 from the Nevada/California border to western McCarran Boulevard in Washoe County.

Other approved agreements will help support construction engineering services for numerous highway improvements, including southbound truck climbing lanes and median widening on Interstate 15 between Speedway Boulevard and the US 93 Garnet interchange in Clark County, NDOT says. [Read more.](#)

USDA to Make \$300 Million Available for Local Renewable Energy

The USDA will make available \$300 million for the state of Nevada to invest in renewable energy for rural areas. The funding will include \$250 million from the Inflation Reduction Act, according to a [kolotv.com report](#).

"The Inflation Reduction Act is a monumental opportunity for making energy investments in rural Nevada," USDA Rural Development Nevada State Director Lucas Ingvaldstad said.

"Climate-smart investments are priorities for the Biden-Harris Administration and USDA Rural Development. We are ready to bring this historic funding to the Silver State to further build this growing industry and to create jobs," he continued.

The USDA is now seeking applications for the fiscal year 2023. Changes will include an increase in the maximum Federal grant share from 25% to 40% of total project cost and an increase of maximum grant amounts from \$250,000 to \$500,000 for energy efficiency projects and an increase from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 for renewable energy systems. [Read more.](#)

MATHCOUNTS: Call for Volunteers and Events

MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition

NSPE-NV needs 20 volunteers to grade exams for the upcoming **MATHCOUNTS Chapter Competition** on **Saturday, February 11**. No need to fear...no experience is necessary and answer keys will be provided. The competition will take place at the UNLV School of Engineering from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Volunteers will be provided a t-shirt and there will be snacks and fun for all. Please contact Brook.Demitropoulos@Jacobs.com if you're interested in volunteering.

MATHCOUNTS Sporting Clays Tournament & Fundraiser

The **MATHCOUNTS Sporting Clays Tournament & Fundraiser** (a 50-clay shoot) will take place on **Friday, May 5**, at the Pro Gun Club located in Boulder City starting at 10:00 a.m. Food and beverages will be provided by a taco food truck. Stay tuned for more event and registration details!

Are You Ready to Lead Within NSPE-NV?

NSPE-NV is seeking individuals to serve as vice president at the Southern Nevada chapter level and secretary for the state society/foundation boards.

Please contact Trisha Sakaguchi (Trisha.Sakaguchi@atkinsglobal.com), Christian Herrera (Christian.Herrera@swgas.com), Martin Jensen (MJensen@UniversalEngineering.com) or Bob Thomsen (Bob.Thomsen@gesnevada.com) if you are interested.

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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