

PE MATTERS

STATE
NEWS

NSPE-NV™ NEVADA SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

>>>> OCTOBER 2019

State News for NSPE Members

Calling all Northern Nevada Professional Engineers!

NSPE-NV is looking for willing and able volunteers to help coordinate occasional events and PDH opportunities for Professional Engineers in northern Nevada. Please contact Brian Kalina at Brian.Kalina@swgas.com for more information.

The 2019-2020 Future City Regional Competition is fast approaching and will be held in Southern Nevada January 10, 2020. NSPE-NV is looking for Volunteers to assist with providing necessary services to help make the event a success for Nevada's middle school youth who are aiming to be successful engineers like you. Please contact Pom Jintasawang at pom.jintasawang@swgas.com to learn more about the available service opportunities. Service hours for this event will also count as acceptable PDH opportunities per the NVBPELS. See Q&A in this newsletter.

October Q & A

Question:

Can licensed engineers in Nevada, as part of their earned PDH's for biennial renewal, earn PDH's when serving as Future City judges the day of the competition or as mentors for Future City Teams?

Answer:

NVBPELS confirms Yes that is acceptable. Per <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-625.html#NAC625Sec430> you may obtain 2 PDHs for each hour spent "Teaching a course, tutorial, seminar, or workshop." Please refer to NAC 625.480 for required Proof of Completion of PDHs.

Crossing the Digital Threshold: Engineering and Survey Digital Records/Seals/Signatures Workshop Webinar

NSPE-NV recently hosted a forum for the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to reach out to the Nevada engineering and survey communities to receive feedback for improving NV Legal requirements related to Digital signatures, stamps and seals for engineering and survey maps and records.

Multiple questions from entities and engineering/surveying firms have been raised recently regarding this topic and indicate that permitting entities are enforcing electronic document requirements differently. This forum allowed multiple entities and companies to share their perspectives on this topic to provide feedback to NV BPELS who can move forward to help shape any needed revisions to Nevada law.

For more information visit the [NSPE website](#).

NSPE Builds Defense Network Against Licensure

NSPE has long played a critical role in responding to threats to professional engineering licensure. Now the Society has bolstered its efforts to protect professional licensing with the creation of the [Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing \(ARPL\)](#), a new coalition of advanced professions dedicated to informing lawmakers and the public of the importance of rigorous professional licensing standards amid growing debate around licensing laws.

In its leadership position with ARPL, NSPE will educate policymakers on the importance of maintaining standards for complex technical professions like engineering that have a clear impact on public health, safety, and welfare. The Society and ARPL partners will also highlight how professional licensing protects the public by ensuring a baseline of proven qualification and expertise that protects consumers from unqualified practitioners. This public awareness campaign aims to counter the anti-licensing interests that jeopardize public safety.

[Read more.](#)

Congratulations to the 2019 QBS Award Winners

The winners of this year's [QBS Awards](#), given by NSPE and the American Council of Engineering Companies, have been announced. Top honors go to the Portland International Jetport (state/local sector) and the Federal Highway Administration Western Federal Lands Highway Division (federal government sector) for their exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process. Merit awards were also granted to the City of Austin and the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Each year, NSPE and the American Council of Engineering Companies present the QBS Awards to entities that procure engineering services through a process that emphasizes design firms' technical competence rather than simply the lowest bid. Nominations must originate from an NSPE state society, an ACEC member organization, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector.

Award winners will receive a trophy and recognition during the ACEC Fall Conference in Chicago October 15.

Don't Miss...

- [Hear from the NSPE president](#). Read the installation speech from David Martini, P.E., F.NSPE, the 2019–20 NSPE president, about his vision for the profession and the society.
 - [Celebrating STEM teachers](#). For 13 years, the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers has honored educators who inspire students in engineering and other STEM topics.
 - [Gas Pipeline Projects Lack PE Oversight](#). A recent article showcases how few states require licensed engineers to review natural gas pipeline projects due to licensure exemptions, and quotes NSPE's manager of government relations and advocacy Stephanie Hamilton. Also see: [Hamilton's column on how NSPE members can advocate for federal pipeline safety legislation](#).
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