

## State News for NSPE Members

### NSPE-GU Back on Track with Monthly Luncheons

The Guam Society of Professional Engineers restarted its monthly meet up on Tuesday, July 14 at 3Squares Restaurant.

During the luncheon, Elizabeth “Betty” Gayle, P.E., F.NSPE, was recognized for her recent elevation to the NSPE Fellow membership grade. She was presented with a certificate and pin.



Our guest speaker was Killy Kunimoto, R.A., principal of Kunimoto Architects Inc., who presented on the Don Don Donki Shopping Center project in Guam. Don Don Donki is one of several store brands under Japan-based Pan Pacific International Holdings Corp. and its subsidiaries. The new shopping center lot area is 600,000 square feet and will stand several stories tall at the corner of airport road and Marine Corps Drive intersection in Tamuning, according to a [Guam Daily Post article](#). The center is scheduled to open in 2021.

Stay tuned for information on the next luncheon.



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## At Your Fingertips: Guam PE Laws and Rules

As a service to members, state societies, the engineering community, and the public, NSPE offers a number of reports on state professional engineer laws and rules. They cover topics such as continuing education requirements, digital signing and sealing of engineering documents, PE exam timing, and more.

NSPE members can easily view report information by state. Access all the information for Guam on one convenient page or easily see information related to a particular topic for a state or jurisdiction.

Go to the [state reports page](#) to search via the interactive map or search portal.

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## We Want to Hear from You!

Do you know of engineering news in Guam that would be great for this newsletter? Maybe it's a project you or your firm is working on, or perhaps you read some interesting engineering news in your local newspaper. Or maybe you know of a fellow PE or student who deserves a little recognition. If so, we want to hear from you. Email your ideas to [pemagazine@nspe.org](mailto:pemagazine@nspe.org).

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## NSPE Urges Veto of Structural Engineering Bill

In a letter to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, NSPE encouraged the veto of a bill to establish a separate licensing system for structural engineers.

President-Elect Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, wrote that creating a new licensing system for structural engineering does not improve the public health, safety, or

welfare. “Instead, it muddies the water, creating confusion and requiring regulatory authorities to make arbitrary distinctions to define structural engineering,” she added. “Rather than reducing regulatory burdens, the change would add a new layer, requiring one engineer to obtain multiple licenses in order to do work that, previously, required only one.”

Instead of creating a separate licensing system, NSPE recommends a certification process that occurs after the professional engineering license has already been obtained. “This system would allow for the SE designation, if required or requested by potential employers or RFPs, without drawing the same, hard line between structural and other types of engineering,” Hatley wrote.

[Read the full letter.](#)

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## Take Action on Federal Infrastructure Bills

You have an important opportunity to add your voice to the debate around pending infrastructure legislation.

The first two bills are the House and Senate’s surface transportation infrastructure reauthorization bills—The INVEST in America Act ([H.R. 2](#)) and the America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019 ([S. 2302](#)). This is an opportunity to communicate to members of Congress the importance and value of having PEs involved in engineering decisions to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

[Take action on surface transportation reauthorization!](#)

The third bill, the SMART Infrastructure Act ([H.R. 4687](#)), would take decision-making authority away from professional engineers and instead give it to state and local authorities, allowing them to select “appropriate” construction materials. The bill would establish that these entities would have the flexibility to select appropriate construction materials that meet the performance requirements of the contract and enhance the service life, sustainability, and resiliency of the project.

NSPE opposes this bill because its enactment would prevent PEs from making the final decision on the appropriate construction materials for a project. Additionally, it establishes a federal interagency task force charged with deciding whether state and local procurement practices have artificial barriers to competition for new and innovative materials and recommending actions that can be taken to remove barriers. Their decisions could put the public at risk should these new and innovative materials present unforeseen harms to the public.

[Voice your opposition to H.R. 4687!](#)

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## Celebrate PE Day!

NSPE is celebrating licensed professional engineers with the [fifth annual Professional Engineers Day](#) on Wednesday, **August 5**. Join the Society in raising awareness about what it means to be a PE and showing appreciation for the work they do every day.

In lieu of in-district meetings with legislators, like those conducted last year, NSPE members will be able to participate in a series of panel discussions. The discussions will include members of Congress and/or their staff, who will share information on pending legislation that impacts the engineering profession. NSPE members will have opportunities to ask questions and to take action on the bills that are discussed by the panel.

PE Day falls within the week of the Virtual **PECon** (August 3–7). As a highlight of PE Day, NTSB Chairman Robert Sumwalt III, will discuss [“The Role and Responsibility of Professional Engineers in Ensuring Safety of Our Nation’s Infrastructure.”](#) His presentation will touch on the NTSB’s recommendation for eliminating the PE license exemption for public utility work, and the requirement for a professional engineer’s seal on public utility engineering drawings, stemming from the tragic pipeline explosions and fires in the Merrimack Valley of Massachusetts.

IBM’s Global Chief Technology Officer Ben Amaba, is also featured as a keynote speaker and will cover the [professional engineer’s role](#) in artificial intelligence and technology.

[Register for the Virtual PECon.](#)



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