

## State News for NSPE Members

### US Supreme Court OKs Guam's Superfund Claim

Guam may pursue a Superfund cost recovery claim against the federal government for a \$160 million landfill cleanup as its action was timely, the US Supreme Court said in a significant victory for the territory, according to a *Bloomberg Law* report.

Guam and the US signed a consent decree under the Clean Water Act in 2004 requiring the territory to stop waste in the formerly Navy-owned Ordot Dump from leaching into adjacent rivers and the Pacific Ocean. Guam later filed a claim under federal Superfund law to recoup some cleanup costs from the federal government.

But the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit decided last year that the Clean Water Act settlement triggered another Superfund provision, and the statute of limitations on that had already run—preventing Guam from attempting to recover any costs.

In a unanimous decision, the justices reversed the lower court and said Guam isn't time-barred from pursuing the claim. The opinion could affect parties facing non-Superfund claims they thought were time-barred, potentially exposing them to liability if those claims are revived.

[Read more.](#)

---

### Department of Education Targets Funding on Facilities Repair, STEM Education

How will the Guam Department of Education address some much-needed repairs? Hopefully, with the assistance of over \$200 million dollars in federal funding.

Guam Education Board Chair Mark Mendiola gave the breakdown on how the department plans on using the \$287 million from the American Rescue Plan to address facility issues and ensure that the system is up to standard, according to a KUAM News report.

"We've already started fixing a lot of our facilities," he said. "There was a thing called deferred maintenance costs that was done by the Army Corps of Engineers a couple years back and they basically said it's going to take about over \$100 million to kind of put the schools bring them up to a certain standard a certain level. So obviously with the amount of money that has been coming in from Uncle Sam you know we're able to help do a lot of these repairs, but it has to be attached to safely reopening schools."

Mendiola added that with the new, modern perspective on education, GDOE also looks to place a heavy emphasis on STEM education.

[Read more.](#)

---

## Guam Students Win Design Challenge

Technology is the future of Guam, and our island's youth are proving to be up to the challenge of tackling real-world problems using science, technology, engineering, and math.

Two teams from John F. Kennedy High School participated in the 2021 Real World Design Challenge, an engineering competition sponsored by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, according to a *The Guam Daily Post* article.

The two JFK teams competed against 43 teams from around the world. One was able to advance to the final round of this year's competition alongside 20 US teams, 14 Chinese teams, five teams representing India, two teams from the Philippines, and a team each from Canada and Kenya.

[Read more.](#)

---

## Share the Value of Society Membership

Professional engineers have unique skills and knowledge and carry an obligation to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. NSPE and the [Guam Society of Professional Engineers](#) are dedicated to supporting these professionals throughout their careers.

[NSPE](#) and NSPE-GU help PEs to stay current on the latest in engineering through leadership training, networking, and ethical guidance, all to safeguard the wellbeing of the public and navigate the new challenges that engineers confront daily. NSPE-GU members are encouraged to share the value of membership at the national, state, and local levels when engaging with their peers.

[Learn more about membership benefits.](#)

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

## Register for the 2021 Virtual PECon

Registration is now open for NSPE's [Virtual Professional Engineers Conference 2021](#) (August 3–5). The [early bird registration](#) rate deadline is **July 15**.

Attendees will have access to up to 14 unique and insightful PDH sessions (live and on-demand sessions) and will have the opportunity to collaborate with peers and experts from across the country through morning “coffee chats” and Mastermind sessions. In the Mastermind sessions, attendees will address their most pressing professional issues and tap into the knowledge, experience, and advice of their peers and PE experts to help workshop solutions. There will also be virtual engineering facility tours and a celebration of [PE Day](#) (August 4).



### PECon at a Glance

- [Bridging the Gap to Leadership: Connecting the Skills You Have with the Skills You Need](#) (Shelley Row, P.E., CSP, Leadership and Decision-Making Expert)
- [Florida International University Bridge Failure, A Study in Ethics](#) (Susan Sprague, P.E., F.NSPE, Senior Associate, and Eric Tappert, P.E., Consultant)
- [AI and the Evolving Role of the “Traditional” Engineer: An Engineer’s Perspective from NASA to Infrastructure and Beyond](#) (Kimberly Johnson, P.E., Founding Principal)
- [Reaching New Heights in Engineering](#) (Alan Mallory, P.E., PMP, Speaker, Author, and Performance Coach)

### Registration Options

A **Day Pass** for NSPE members is \$99 until July 15 and \$149 after July 15. The pass provides access to four PDH sessions, networking morning “coffee chat” roundtables of your choice each day, and evening post-session discussions.

The **All Access Pass** for NSPE members is \$249 until July 15 and \$299 after July 15. This pass provides access to 14 PDH sessions, access to daily networking morning “coffee chat” roundtables, and evening post session discussions.

Student members can register for a Day Pass or the All Access Pass for free until July 15. The rate for both passes is \$50 after July 15. Nonmembers can join NSPE for \$299 and receive member pricing.

---

## Women in Engineering Event to Explore Gender and Racial Equity

DiscoverE and the Congressional Women in STEM Caucus will co-host an event on **June 23**, in celebration of [International Women in Engineering Day](#). The event will include a lively panel discussion exploring the factors that attract girls to engineering, why women persist in the field, and the role you can play in achieving gender and racial equity in engineering and technology.

NSPE Government Relations staff coordinated the participation of the Women in STEM Caucus for the event. The Women in STEM Caucus seeks to bring public and congressional awareness to policies, programs, and initiatives that support women in STEM fields, and develops the next generation of women leaders. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Rep. Debbie Lesko (R-AZ), Rep. Haley Stevens (D-MI), and Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN) serve as caucus co-chairs.

NSPE [recognizes](#) the benefits of a diverse population of licensed engineers in shaping the future of engineering. Diverse backgrounds foster unique contributions and capabilities and create an inclusive community ultimately leading to a more creative, effective and technically respected community.

[Register here.](#)

---

## 2021–22 Call for Volunteers

NSPE needs your knowledge, expertise, and time to help the Society carry out its [vision and mission and meet the goals of the strategic plan](#). Volunteer positions begin in mid-August and end at the 2022 Professional Engineers Conference.

There are three types of volunteer opportunities:

- **Level 1 (Highest Engagement)–Standing Boards and Committees**  
Often includes attending at least one in-person meeting. Most meetings held

via video conference. Terms may be up to three years.

- **Level 2 (Intermediate Engagement)–Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces**

Activities primarily include online correspondence and video conference meetings.

- **Level 3 (Lowest Engagement)–Ad Hoc Volunteer**

Volunteer on a project-by-project basis.

[Submit forms by July 9 to be considered for a 2021-22 term.](#)

You received this e-mail because you are subscribed to *PE Matters* e-newsletter.

To update your e-mail address, visit [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here to unsubscribe](#) .

## Share with your network



**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA  
22314**

