

State News for NSPE Members

Hawaii American Water Reaches Settlement to Fund Infrastructure and Service Improvements

Hawaii American Water (HAW) has filed a settlement agreement with consumer advocates at the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission on new rates for its Hawaii Kai customers. This is the first time Hawaii American Water has adjusted rates for these customers since 2011 and the updated rates are expected to go into effect in July of this year, according to a [Business Wire report](#).

In the last decade, HAW has made improvements that protect the environment by adding additional disinfection, increasing renewable energy use, and reducing waste.

The new rates will provide approximately \$1.7 million in additional annual revenue for investments in local infrastructure maintenance, repair and replacement. The average increase for all customers amounts to an approximately 17%. For the average single family customer monthly rates would increase from \$67.08 to \$78.60, for multi-family customers the cost for monthly service would increase from \$57.08 to \$66.88. [Read more](#).

State Energy Office Hosts Statewide Community Workshops

To help the state reach its energy goals, The Hawaii State Energy Office is hosting a series of statewide community workshops in May to share information and gather input to empower community participation in the clean energy transition.

The Energize Kākou workshops are intended to provide community members with a better understanding of Hawaii's energy ecosystems; provide industry stakeholders with a better understanding of community concerns, interests, and aspirations; and report this collective mana'o in a manner that provides insight and guidance to communities, stakeholders, and policymakers.

Three workshops have been held since May 9 and three more are scheduled this month. RSVP for the next workshops [here](#).

- Kahuku Community Workshop-Wednesday, May 18 (6:00 p.m. – 8: 00 p.m.)- Hau'ula Community Association
- Pāhoa Community Workshop-Tuesday, May 24 (6:00 p.m. – 8: 00 p.m.)- Pāhoa Community Center
- Waianae Community Workshop-Thursday, May 26 (6:00 p.m. – 8: 00 p.m.)- Kamehameha Schools Community Learning Center, Mā'ili

University of Hawaii Gets \$20 Million for State-Wide Climate Projects

The University of Hawaii's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (Hawaii EPSCoR) has received a five-year \$20-million National Science Foundation grant to fund research and capacity building in support of actionable climate science through a collaboration called Change HI, according to a [news release](#).

Hawaii faces unique challenges as climate change impacts resource availability, ecological sustainability, economic vitality and human health in the islands. To help the state face the critical issues brought on by climate change, this multidisciplinary research effort will integrate expertise in climate and data science to enhance fundamental knowledge and develop new climate models, data products and tools.

As a collaborative program with multiple partners inside and outside the UH System, Change HI will advance education and workforce readiness in these areas for Hawaii and help build a new data-driven knowledge economy statewide, targeting the growth of computer and data science that can be applied in critical areas of state need and growth.

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

Register Now for NSPECon 2022 Reimagined



Engineers from all disciplines are invited to register for the [2022 NSPE Professional Engineers Conference](#) (NSPECon 2022) in Philadelphia, August 1-3. Invited speakers will address sustainability, emerging technology, the post-covid workplace and even, construction on the moon. Whether you are a licensed professional engineer, aspire to be one or, would like to learn more about a career as a qualified and ethically accountable professional, you are invited to join this multi-discipline community to engage with colleagues and hear more about relevant engineering topics.

Prospective conference sponsors and exhibitors will see [newly created opportunities](#) to highlight their companies and organizations throughout the conference. Sponsors can welcome attendees to the “Feel the Philly Love” opening reception, support a conference education track featuring seven unique sessions, or demonstrate how their solutions help clients overcome specific challenges by exhibiting.

On the final day of the conference, attendees can celebrate [PE Day](#) in person and raise awareness about the importance of PEs as qualified and ethical professionals. Before you go, make certain you are geared up with [PE Day logo wear](#) to show your pride on-site.

2022 QBS Award Nominations Open

ACEC and NSPE are seeking nominations for the [QBS Awards program](#), which recognizes public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state, and local levels.

Award winners [serve as examples of how well the QBS process works](#), and they help ACEC and NSPE promote the practice of QBS in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services. A maximum of one QBS Award may be presented to the federal government sector, the state government sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector.

Nominations may originate from an ACEC member organization, an NSPE state society, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector. Self-nomination is not permitted.

Nominations and supporting materials are due by **Friday, June 17** (COB). [Access the nomination form and instructions](#) .

Scholarships Open for Applications

The Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship and the William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship are accepting applications from students pursuing engineering degrees in the fall. The application deadline is **June 15**.

The [Swadesh and Om P. Popli, P.E., P.L.S. Scholarship](#) is a multi-year scholarship that will provide \$5,000 each year of the recipient's four-year education. Applicants must be a female high school senior from an underrepresented ethnic minority (African American, Hispanic, Native American, or Pacific Islander) pursuing a degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering at an ABET-accredited program.

The [William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship](#) is a \$2,500 scholarship awarded annually to an undergraduate student who is a resident of either Kansas or Missouri and enrolled as a junior in an ABET-accredited engineering program in a college or university in either Kansas or Missouri.

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