

State News for NSPE Members

Show Your PE Pride!

NSPE members recently celebrated the contributions of the profession during the sixth annual [PE Day](#). But don't wait until next year's national event to show off this commitment to the profession. NSPE President Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, believes that proud members of the NSPE community can do so in the following ways all year round:

- Introduce yourselves as Licensed Professional Engineers
- Get to know your fellow PEs
- Use [#ProudPE](#) in your communications and social media posts

What's in the Infrastructure Package for Hawaii?

US Senators [Mazie Hirono](#) and [Brian Schatz](#) released statements following the Senate's passage of the bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* to highlight the investments that will benefit Hawaii.

The following are some of the investments that are featured in the legislation

- \$1.2 billion for federal aid highway programs over five years.
- \$225 million for bridge replacement and repairs over five years.
- \$316 million over five years to improve public transportation.
- \$18 million over five years to expand an electric vehicle charging network in Hawaii.
- At least \$100 million to expand broadband coverage across the state, providing access to at least 33,000 Hawaii residents who lack coverage.
- \$200 million for invasive species detection, prevention, and eradication.
- \$400 million in state grants to conduct voluntary ecosystem restoration projects.
- \$150 million for local governments to help firefighters train and respond to fires.
- \$100 million in grants for small water storage and groundwater storage

projects, including in Hawaii and Alaska.

- \$9 billion to demonstrate innovative energy technologies including solar and wind, energy storage, geothermal, hydrogen, and waterpower. Native Hawaiian community organizations are preferred partners for federal grants for solar and wind project development.

Hawaii DOT Releases Climate Adaptation Action Plan, Hazard Tool

As a result of severe weather events and forecasted impacts of climate change on the state's roads and bridges, the Hawaii Department of Transportation Highways Division has released its Climate Adaptation Action Plan, exposure assessments, and hazard viewer.

The [Action Plan](#) focuses on potential risks and impacts to state roads and bridges from severe weather hazards including landslides, lava flow, floods, wildfires, and sea level rise. The plan also offers strategies for a more resilient highway system going forward.

In an effort to make the visualizations of the hazard data more accessible, a [viewer tool](#) has been developed. The viewer shows the areas of the state most susceptible to various hazards such as precipitation and temperature projections; rockfall and landslide exposure; and wildfire and storm surge assessments.

[Read more.](#)

UH-Mānoa Receives \$6 Million for Wave Energy Conversion Research

A new infusion of \$6 million from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, and Expeditionary Warfare Center will allow the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, to continue to provide critical research and logistical support to the only grid-connected wave energy testing site in the nation.

The US Navy's Wave Energy Test Site (WETS), off Marine Corps Base Hawaii provides a unique proving ground for pre-commercial wave energy converters (WECs) to demonstrate performance in an operational setting and advance their technology readiness level.

Marine energy has immense potential to supply persistent power to ocean observing and monitoring, desalination, aquaculture, at-sea mineral scavenging, and electrification of remote or island communities.

"We are excited by the Navy's latest investment in our work to advance wave

energy through our support of WETS, particularly as it allows us to expand our research into new areas of relevance to offshore applications, such as autonomous vehicle recharge for ocean observing purposes," said Pat Cross, research specialist in marine energy at HNEI and principal investigator for the WETS support program, in a news release.

These funds, directed to the Applied Research Laboratory at UH, working with HNEI, will allow the university to support a number of WEC deployments planned in the 2021 to 2024 timeframe in the form of environmental monitoring, power and survivability performance assessment, and additional logistics support to the Navy and to WEC developer companies.

[Read more.](#)

NCEES October Exam Registration

Registration for the October 2021 pencil-paper exam administration will close on August 26 (3 p.m. EDT). Exams will be administered on **Thursday, October 21** and **Friday, October 22**. Registration for the computer-based FE and PE exams is open year-round.

Access the Hawaii licensing board [website](#) for more information.



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

Featured Jobs

[Assistant Program Manager \(Water Systems Operation\)](#)

Honolulu, HI

Fire Alarm Technician & Fire Sprinkler Inspector/Technician
Honolulu, HI

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).

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

Texas PE Takes Lead of the Society

Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, was recently installed as NSPE's 2021–22 president during the [2021 Installation Ceremony](#) at NSPE headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. In the latest issue of *PE* magazine, he [offers a perspective](#) on the engineering workforce pipeline, climate change, and engineering licensure.



Guerra is the president and CEO of Jose I.

Guerra, Inc. a full-service, facilities engineering firm with offices in Austin, San Antonio, and Corpus Christi, Texas. The firm provides a comprehensive range of civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection engineering services to clients throughout the state.

As an active member of NSPE since 1994, Guerra has served in numerous leadership roles at the chapter, state, and national levels, including as president of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers in 2016-17 and was named a NSPE Fellow in 2018. In 2007, he was appointed by Governor Rick Perry as the licensed professional engineer member of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners, serving until 2019. He received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1982 and a master's degree in engineering in 1988, both from the University of Texas at Austin.

Guerra continues to promote the engineering profession by serving as a guest lecturer at UT Austin, acting as a high school career day host and serving as an engineering mentor for local high school students. He is also an active volunteer for his church, the Boy Scouts of America, and various other community organizations.

Celebrating Excellence in the Profession

NSPE members were honored on August 4 for their outstanding contributions to the profession during the 2021 Virtual Professional Engineers Conference.

Young Engineer of the Year Award

Stephanie Blain, P.E. was named the 2021 Young Engineer of the Year for her outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community. She is employed with Palmer Engineering Company in Winchester, Kentucky.



Engineering Education Excellence Award

Scott R. Hamilton, Ph.D., P.E., received the Engineering Education Excellence Award, which recognizes licensed engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. He is chair of the Civil & Mechanical Engineering Department at York College in York, Pennsylvania.



The Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest winner and the QBS Award winners were also recognized during the conference.

The [2021 Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest](#) provides an opportunity for NSPE members to put their ethics knowledge to the test on topics that present ethical challenges such as artificial intelligence, climate change, and the industrial exemption. **Michael Rademacher, P.E.**, of St. Louis, Missouri (Burns & McDonnell), is this year's winner. He will receive \$2,000, a certificate, and recognition in *PE* magazine.



The [QBS Awards](#) are cosponsored by NSPE and ACEC to recognize public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state and local levels. The **City of San Diego** was honored in the state/city government category and the **Idaho QBS Facilitators Council** received a special recognition award.

The award winners serve as examples of how well the QBS process works, and they help promote the practice in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services.

Introducing the 2021 Class of Society Fellows

By demonstrating exemplary and devoted service to their profession, the Society, and their community, 12 professional engineers have been honored as the 2021 Class of Fellow members.

- **Susan Best, P.E. (PA)**



- **Lee Czor, P.E. (KY)**
- **Beth Fifield Hodgson, P.E. (WA)**
- **Erin Gates, P.E. (WY)**
- **Angela Hanz, P.E. (WI)**
- **Kiel Johnson, P.E. (KS)**
- **Sharon Kimbrough, P.E. (AL)**
- **Matt Kruse, P.E. (NE)**
- **Andy Rogers, P.E. (SC)**
- **Breck Washam, P.E. (MO)**
- **Hardy Willis, P.E. (NC)**
- **Brian Malm, P.E. (MN)**

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